



Whispering Bell

# Libya Daily Report



Strictly Confidential & Exclusive for ConocoPhillips Libya

# KEY DEVELOPMENTS



**11 June 2023**

## Tripoli

- Al-Tekbali Camp: 444 reinforcements amid rumoured tensions with SDF
- Hamza Camp: 111 Brigade conduct drills

## Nationwide / General

- Al-Zawiya: Body found
- Al-Qalaa: “Libyan Revolutionaries Union” statement
- South Misrata: Patrols & checkpoints
- Al-Kufra: GNS PM visit
- Lebanon: Saif Al-Islam denounces brother’s imprisonment
- HNEC: Russia offered technical support in electoral process

## Oil & Gas Update

- Nothing Significant To Report (NSTR)

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# SUMMARY

## Key Points

- 6+6 Committee delay electoral laws announcement
- GNU commence 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of west security ops.
- Political tensions continue to escalate

## Political

*Whispering Bell continues to assess presidential elections are unlikely in 2023, despite momentum towards the polls. In the current context, Libya stands at the political crossroads of new government announcements.*

*Political divisions over the way forward in Libya remain centred around the need to form a new government, and whether this must be a brand new executive to supervise the elections, or a government formed via a Government of National Unity (GNU) cabinet reshuffle and/or merger with the parallel Government of National Stability (GNS).*

*The 6+6 committee tasked with formulating electoral laws concluded meetings in Bouznika, Morocco, and a final agreement on the electoral laws is expected to be announced on 06 June in a signing ceremony attended by the heads of Libya's two chambers.*

*Regardless of the potential consensus reached during the inter-parliamentary discussions, it is assessed the electoral laws will require the final approval of the eastern-based parliament, which will likely delay the path towards elections in favour of a new government.*

*Meanwhile, it is anticipated all stakeholders will continue to pay lip-service to elections whilst pursuing specific political agendas and securing their interests. A key escalation trigger in the next few weeks will be the 6+6 committee's potential publication of electoral laws that compel presidential candidates to resign from their positions and/or exclude specific candidates.*

## Security

*Stable atmospherics prevail across the country. Political tensions are expected to increase the frequency of sporadic low-impact security incidents across the western region, though the overall operating environment will remain permissive for foreign businesses.*

*There is mounting evidence to indicate the wave of security incidents in Al-Zawiya is part of a sophisticated anti-GNU campaign to weaken Dbeibah's foothold in the city, expel pro-GNU forces, and make the case for a new interim government. The political nature of the demands by the local protesters lend credence to this assessment. This week the GNU announced the commencement of the second phase of its security operations in the west coast region, which will include a crackdown on wanted suspects. Beyond Al-Zawiya, locals could resort to various forms of civil disobedience in protest of the GNU's operations in their respective areas, including targeting critical infrastructure and disrupting vital operations.*

## Oil & Gas

*Disruptions to production are likely despite evidence the LNA is yet to support a coordinated oil blockade. In his latest visit to Libya, US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Burns allegedly reiterated to Haftar the importance of safeguarding oil and gas facilities and production.*

# TRIPOLI

- **Report n°6427:** Al-Tekbali Camp: 444 reinforcements amid rumoured tensions with SDF

WB sources monitored a military convoy of approximately 150 technicals affiliated with the 444 Fighting Brigade on Tripoli's Khallat Al-Furjan main road, heading northwards, at approximately 1700hrs on 10 June. Reports indicate the convoy came from Tarhunah and was stationed at the Brigade's stronghold; Al-Tekbali Camp in Salah Eddien. Unconfirmed reports allege the brigade's commander, Mahmoud Hamza, ordered a number of his forces to return to Tripoli from Tarhuna in anticipation of any possible attack by the Special Deterrence Force (SDF) following rumours over the latter planning to expel the 444 Fighting Brigade from the capital. It will be recalled that skirmishes involving the use of heavy artillery were reported between the two sides in central Tripoli on 28 May.

**Analysis/Comment:** Rumoured growing tensions between the SDF and the 444 Fighting Brigade suggest that long-standing alliances among Tripoli's most prominent armed formations could be shifting. Of note, members of both armed formations hail mostly from Tripoli's Souq Al-Jumaa area. It will be recalled that 444 Fighting Brigade commander Mahmoud Hamza was the former commander of the SDF's 20/20 Company until late 2020.

**Location:** Al-Tekbali Camp  
**Incident Date:** 10 June  
**Timestamp:** 1700hrs  
**Source:** WB  
**Veracity:** A  
**Actors:** 444 Fighting Brigade  
**Impact:** Low

**Recommendations:**  
 Continue to closely monitor signs of growing tensions between the two aforementioned armed formations.

- **Report n°6428:** Hamza Camp: 111 Brigade conduct drills

WB sources reported sporadic gunfire heard in Tripoli's Al-Hadba Al-Mashro', Airport Road, and Al-Kremiya areas as a result of the 111 Brigade conducting drills at Hamza Camp located in Al-Hadba Al-Mashro' area at approximately 1245hrs on 11 June.

**Analysis/Comment:** No further information.

**Location:** Hamza Camp  
**Incident Date:** 11 June  
**Timestamp:** 1245hrs  
**Source:** WB  
**Veracity:** A  
**Actors:** 111 Brigade  
**Impact:** Low

**Recommendations:**  
 Identify the motives behind gunfire heard across the capital.

# NATIONWIDE / GENERAL

## ▪ **Al-Zawiya: Body found**

An unidentified body of a handcuffed man was found dumped on a beach in Al-Zawiya's Al-Mutrud area in the evening on 10 June, according to reports. There are no further details available.

## ▪ **Al-Qalaa: “Libyan Revolutionaries Union” statement**

Dozens of men self-identifying as the “Libyan Revolutionaries Union” rejected the formation of a new legislative or executive body prolonging the Libyan crisis and demanded that controversial figures be excluded from running in elections in a video statement issued in Al-Qalaa on 09 June. Of note, the Union represents several cities including Tripoli, Misrata, Zintan, Kikla, Al-Khoms, Al-Ajaylat, Msallatah and Bani Walid, as well as the Tebu tribe.

## ▪ **South Misrata: Patrols & checkpoints**

The General Department of Security Operations conducted patrols south of Misrata to crackdown on fuel and human smugglers through the establishment of checkpoints in the Dufan area on 10 June, according to the GNU Ministry of Interior (MoI).

## ▪ **Al-Kufra: GNS PM visit**

GNS Prime Minister Osama Hammad, Minister of Local Government Sami Al-Dhawi, Minister of Water Resources Mohamed Doma, several House of Representatives (HoR) members, and technicians and engineers arrived in Al-Kufra on 10 June. The visiting delegation was received by dignitaries and elders of the city, as well as service sector officials. Hammad conducted an inspection tour of several sites including Omar Al-Mukhtar Health Centre, Qadr Health Centre, and the Libyan Customs headquarters. Hammad ordered that health centres are provided with necessary supplies and to settle the contracts of medical staff, while also ordering the commencement of maintenance work on Al-Kufra Airport runway and the completion of Al-Kufra-Bouzreq Road.

## ▪ **Lebanon: Saif Al-Islam denounces brother's imprisonment**

Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi referred to his brother Hannibal's nine-year imprisonment in Lebanon as “inhumane and illegal” as he has been detained without a trial in media statements on 10 June. Gaddafi expressed his surprise over the charges against Hannibal on withholding information on the disappearance of Lebanese Shiite cleric Musa Al-Sadr while on a trip to Libya in 1978, stressing that Hannibal was an infant at the time of Al-Sadr's disappearance.

Meanwhile, the Media Office of Lebanese Prime Najib Mikati denied contact with any Libyan party including GNU Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah and stated that Hannibal's file is

being dealt with by the judicial authority and is followed up by appropriate judicial procedures. Of note, Dbeibah recently appeared in an Instagram live during which he confirmed that his government is in contact with Lebanese authorities regarding Hannibal's case.

**Comment:** Saif's remarks come shortly after Hannibal's lawyer stated that his client began a hunger strike to protest his imprisonment without a trial on 03 June

▪ **HNEC: Russia offered technical assistance in electoral process**

High National Election Commission (HNEC) Chairman Emad Al-Sayeh stated that Russia offered to provide technical assistance to facilitate the electoral process in Libya, including inviting Russian organisations specialised in monitoring elections on 10 June. Al-Sayeh stated that the 14 May visit to Tripoli by a delegation from the Russian Embassy in Libya came within the framework of supporting the political process and particularly the elections, while noting HNEC was invited to visit the Central Election Commission (CEC) in Moscow. Al-Sayeh added that HNEC intends to invite several international organisations that can provide similar assistance in monitoring the electoral process.

# OIL & GAS UPDATE

## Terminal Status

Es-Sider	Operational
Ras Lanuf	Operational
Mellitah	Operational
Zawiya	Operational
Zueitina	Operational
Marsa	Operational
Brega	
Marsa	Operational
Hariga	
Bouri	Operational
Jurf	Operational

**Es-Sider: Stable terminal operations and security atmospheric reported as of 1700hrs LT.**

- **Report n°6429:** Nothing Significant To Report (NSTR)

**Analysis/Comment:** N/A

**Location:** N/A  
**Incident Date:** N/A  
**Timestamp:** N/A  
**Source:** N/A  
**Veracity:** N/A  
**Actors:** N/A

**Impact:** N/A

**Recommendations:**  
N/A

# VERACITY SCALE

## **A – Reliable:**

**This information is almost certainly true.** A is Reliable, "No doubt of authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency; has a history of complete reliability". It is reported by one or more credible publications, and if an author is listed we have no reason to suspect them to be biased. The reporting is sourced based on widely available or verifiable information. The information is consistent with everything our team knows about this subject.

## **B – Fairly Reliable:**

**This information is probably true. This information is possibly true.** B is "Fairly Reliable" for "minor doubt". It is reported one or more mostly credible publications, and if an author is listed we have no reason to suspect them to be biased on this subject. The reporting is primarily based on verifiable information. The information is mostly consistent with everything our team knows about this subject, but may contain new or surprising information given credibility on the strength of the publication or author.

## **C – Unreliable:**

**This information is probably false.** This information is almost certainly false. "not usually reliable" for "significant doubt," and "unreliable" for "Lacking in authenticity, trustworthiness, and competency; history of invalid information". It appears in social media or an unreliable publication, and may be written by an author that is not known to us or is known to be less reliable. The reporting is thin, largely dependent on anonymous sources or unverifiable accounts from social media or limited access areas. The information is consistent enough with our knowledge of the subject to be possible, but contains sufficient discrepancies to make it seem unlikely. The information is mostly or entirely inconsistent with our knowledge of the subject.



# ACRONYM LIST

AQ	Al-Qaeda
BAM	Al-Bunyan Al-Marsous
BCP	Border Crossing Point
BEN	Benghazi International Airport
BDB	Benghazi Defence Brigade
BPMC	Brega Petroleum Marketing Company
BRSC	Benghazi Revolutionary Shura Council
CBL	Central Bank of Libya
CESF	Constitution and Elections Support Force
CNI	Critical National Infrastructure
CDA	Constitutional Drafting Assembly
DACOCT	Deterrence Apparatus for Combating Organized Crime and Terrorism
DDR	Disarmament, demobilising and reintegration
DF	Direct Fire
DMSC	Derna Mujahideen Shura Security Council
GACS	General Administration of Central Support
GASO	General Administration of Security Operations
GECOL	General Electricity Company of Libya
GMMR	Great Man-Made River
GNA	Government of National Accord
GNC	General National Congress
GNS	Government of National Stability
GNU	Government of National Unity
GTUC	Greater Trpoli Union Council
HCS	High Council of State
HNEC	High National Election Commission (HNEC)
HoR	House of Representatives
IDF	Indirect Fire
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IOC	International Oil Company
IS	Islamic State
JMC	Joint Military Commission
LAB	Libyan Audit Bureau
LIFG	Libyan Islamic Fighting Group
LNA	Libyan National Army
LPA	Libyan Political Agreement
LPDF	Libyan Political Dialogue Forum
LROR	Libyan Revolutionary Operations Room
MJI	Mitiga International Airport
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MOGC	Mellitah Oil and Gas Complex
MoI	Ministry of Interior
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoO	Ministry of Oil

MoT	Ministry of Transportation
MRA	Misrata International Airport
NEE	No Expected Exposure
NIEE	No Immediate Expected Exposure
NFDK	No Further Details Known
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NOC	National Oil Company
NSTR	Nothing Significant To Report
P3+2	France, Germany, Italy, UK, US
PC	Presidential Council
PFG	Petroleum Facilities Guard
RASCO	Ras Lanuf Oil and Gas Processing Company
RPG	Rocket-Propelled Grenade
RTA	Road Traffic Accident
SAF	Small Arms Fire
SSA	Stabilisation Support Agency
SDF	Special Deterrence Force
TPF	Tripoli Protection Force
UNSRSG	United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General
UNSMIL	United Nations Support Mission in Libya
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
WOC	Waha Oil Company