

Libya daily security analysis report

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Latest Developments

Political Developments

- The HoRs Fact-Finding Committee on the Violations of International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law met to discuss the report recently released by the UN Independent Fact-Finding Mission. The HoR announced that the committee would release a statement and was examining the means to improve coordination between the UN FFM mission and the HoR's committee.
- SRSB Bathily congratulated the Libyan people on the occasion of Eid al-Fitr. He used the message to call on "political actors, military and security leaders, notables, societal representatives, institutions and authorities to come together in a spirit of compromise for the sake of establishing a clear and unified pathway towards lasting peace, stability, and prosperity."
- The European High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Joseph Borrell, announced the appointment of Italian diplomat Nicola Orlando as head of the European Union mission to Libya. Orlando, who succeeds Spain's José Sabadell, is currently serving as Italy's special envoy to Libya.

Regional Developments

- Traditional media outlets have continued to report on LNA support being provided to the Rapid Support Force in Sudan. The most recent reporting also claims that this includes support being provided through Wagner Group at Jufra and Khadim airbases. Other reports claim Kufra is also being utilized. The reporting concentrates on the movements of an Illyshin 76 cargo aircraft that was recorded travelling between Latakia (Syria), Jufra and Khadim. Wagner group was also reported as air-dropping surface-to-air missiles to RSF forces in Northern Sudan. **COMMENT:** The reporting is based primarily on the movement of one single Il76 aircraft, however, movement between Latakia and Eastern airbases has been a pattern since the entry of Wagner group into Libya as Russia maintains a large airbase in Latakia. Wagner Group's founder, Yevgeny Prigozhin published an open letter via telegram offering to mediate between the two sides in the conflict. He also offered to send flights with medical supplies and other humanitarian cargo. Prigozhin then claimed that Wagner group has not operated in Sudan for more than two years. Claims by Prigozhin are rarely based on fact, and while the current media accusations of Wagner Group resupplying RSF forces cannot be verified and are currently based on limited evidence, the conflict does present an opportunity to Wagner to shape the conflict to their advantage given their existing relationships with both RSF commander Hemedti Dagalo and the head of the Armed Forces Abdel Fatta al Burhan. **COMMENT ENDS.**

Eid Developments

- The occasion of Eid has resulted in a divide in the country, with areas outside Tripoli seeing Apr 21 as the start of Eid and the majority of those in Tripoli seeing Apr 21 as the last day of Ramadan. The development has led to confusion, with the Tripoli-based religious Fatwa Council announcing that Eid falls on Saturday as the Shawwal crescent moon was not sighted. However, the General Authority of Endowments and Islamic Affairs in Libya's east said the moon was visible and Eid would be on Friday. This dispute is not limited to Libya, with Iran, Oman, Morocco, Pakistan and India all marking the start of Eid as Saturday. However, Libya is the only nation where Eid is being celebrated at different times within the same country, with many remarking that the dispute is yet another example of the deep rifts in the country and the politicization of issues outside the political realm.

Security Developments

- Libya's Public Prosecution agreed to pardon 1075 inmates. This comes in the implementation of the Supreme Judicial Council's decision No. 55 of 2023, granting amnesty to inmates who meet the conditions set by the judicial authorities. In a statement, the Public Prosecution said that the conditions stipulated that inmates "must serve at least half of the sentence, while one-third of the term sufficient for convicts who suffer from chronic diseases, require special medical care, or are over sixty years of age."

Oil and Gas Developments

- The NOC announced that Mellitah Oil and Gas Company has succeeded in completing the drilling of the second well for this year, oil well No. FC25. It reported that the new well has a production capacity of 7,500 barrels of oil per day (bpd). The NOC commended Mellitah Oil and Gas Company for these impressive successes which it said reflect the achievement of the goals that the NOC seeks to achieve in increasing oil and gas production.

Significant Incidents

Tripolitania Region



1. Security Operation - Apr 20, Tripoli Province, Twaisha: 444 Brigade were reported as taking over the Albaryat VCP in al-Twaisha.

Cyrenaica Region



2. Armed Clash - Apr 19, Al-Butnan Province, Tobruk: An armed clash was reported between two families of the Masameer tribe. The incident resulted in 3 killed and 9 injured.

Fezzan Region

NSTR

Offshore

NSTR

Outlook

Short Term Outlook

- Libya remains locked in a political impasse with two governments, both of which are slowly weakening. The House of Representatives (HoR) and the High Council of State (HCS) continue to dominate the current political scene, with their efforts to resolve key issues like the constitution taking centre stage. SRSB Abdoulaye Bathily is attempting to wrest some control away from the two entities in a bid to make progress towards elections in 2023, however, they continue to enjoy the support of key regional and international backers. Various factions are beginning to position themselves for expected change in 2023 as the UN continues to push towards elections, while regional and global issues, not least the Ukraine offensive, continue to shape the international communities' agendas in Libya.
- The security situation in and around Tripoli remains fundamentally unstable. After significant changes to the capital's security makeup in August and September 2022, new faultlines are emerging as militia commanders continue to consolidate their positions. This includes expanding their influence through ministries and other state apparatus. In addition, plans to reconstruct Tripoli International Airport threaten to destabilise the delicate balance of power in the city with Misratan entities looking to claim significant influence over the location. The resurgence of Jihadist Salafism in Tripolitania is also a potential source of destabilisation, one which is currently being felt in Tajura and along the north-west coastline. This instability along the coastline may be positively impacted by efforts in Zawiyah to reorganise armed groups which could increase cooperation. Armed groups in Tripoli continue to be empowered via financial, military, and political means, ensuring they will continue to exert significant influence over the political situation.

Medium to Long Term Outlook

- The solution to Libya's political impasse remains elections for many stakeholders with UNSMIL attempting to develop a new pathway. Realistically, the path to elections in 2023 will be fraught with difficulties however, there is a real chance that much-needed groundwork could be achieved. While UNSMIL heads efforts towards elections, other international stakeholders are prioritising more short-term objectives as they look to shape not just Libya, but regional and global issues.
- Terrorist groups remain active but contained in Libya. Islamic State (IS) will continue to present a threat to security forces, primarily in the south, and may re-establish the capability to mount sporadic attacks along the coastline in the future. The group continues to suffer from years of attrition and is more likely focused on providing support for more active IS theatres in sub-Saharan Africa. Al-Qaeda-aligned groups remain active in the country with their integration into societies in the south and some armed groups in the Tripoli area potentially posing a longer-term issue for Libya.

Key Dates

Date	Occasion	Comment
April 21 - 24, 2023	Eid Al-Fitr (+/-)	Public Holiday
May 01, 2023	May Day	Public Holiday
June 27, 2023	Arafat Day	
June 28 – 30, 2023	Eid Al-Adha	Public Holiday
July 19, 2023	Islamic New Year	Public Holiday
September 16, 2023	Martyrs' Day	Public Holiday
September 27, 2023	The Prophet's Birthday	Public Holiday
October 23, 2023	Liberation Day	Public Holiday
December 24, 2023	Independence Day	Public Holiday

Acronym List

AQ - Al-Qaeda
BDB – Benghazi Defense Brigade (Al Qaeda-aligned – AAS and RSCB associated/umbrella group)
CBL – Central Bank of Libya
CESF - Constitution and Election Support Force
CNI – Critical National Infrastructure
DACOCT - Deterrence Apparatus for Combating Organized Crime and Terrorism (SDF)
DDR - Disarmament, demobilising and reintegration
GASO – General Administration of Security Operations
GACS – General Administration of Central Support
GECOL – General Electricity Company of Libya
GMMR – Great Man-made River
GNA – Government of National Accord (2016)
GNC – General National Congress (2012)
GNS – Government of National Stability (2021)
GNU – Government of National Unity (2021)
GTUC - Greater Tripoli Union Council (Tripoli militias and others, established in June 2020)
HCS – High Council of State (Tripoli-based)
HNEC – High National Elections Commission
HoR – House of Representatives (Tobruk-based)
IDF – Indirect Fire (mortars/rockets)
IDP - Internally Displaced Persons
IED - Improvised Explosive Device
IOC - International Oil Company
IS - Islamic State
ISA – Internal Security Agency
JMC – Joint Military Commission
LIFG – Libyan Islamic Fighting Group
LNA – Libyan National Army
LPA – Libyan Political Agreement (2015)
LPDF - Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (2020)
LROR - Libyan Revolutionary Operations Room
MoD - Ministry of Defense
MoF - Ministry of Finance
MoFA - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoI - Ministry of Interior
MoJ - Ministry of Justice
MoO - Ministry of Oil
MoT - Ministry of Transportation
NFDK - No Further Details Known
NGO - Non-Governmental Organisation (aid/charity)
NOC – National Oil Company
NSTR - Nothing Significant To Report
P3+2 – France, Germany, Italy – UK, US
PC – Presidency Council
PG – Presidential Guard
PFG - Petroleum Facilities Guard
RPG - Rocket Propelled Grenade
RTA - Road Traffic Accident
TIP – Tripoli International Airport
SSA – Stability Support Authority
SAF - Small Arms Fire
SDF – Rada Deterrence Force/ Special Deterrence Force/ Rada
UXO - Unexploded Ordnance

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SECURE EVERY DAY

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