

Libya daily security analysis report

May 05, 2023

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Latest Developments

Political Developments

- Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar has met with the Italian Minister of Interior, Matteo Piantedosi and Italian Minister of Defence, Guido Crosetto in Rome. This comes after the field marshal met with Italian Prime Minister, Giorgia Meloni on May 04.
- Minister of Foreign Affairs (GNU) Najla Mangoush has met with her Algerian counterpart, Ahmed Attaf in Algiers. Attaf reaffirmed Algeria's commitment to supporting the stability of Libya and backed any efforts to "achieve a consensus among its people to move forward in holding parliamentary and presidential elections."
- Speaker of the House of Representatives (HoR), Aquila Saleh, issued a decision to disband the council of scholars and wise men of Misrata. The decision calls for the mayor to form a new council.

Military Developments

- The US has commended the efforts of "Libyan military leaders toward building a unified military capable of protecting the Libyan people and defending the country's sovereignty." This came after the US Embassy's defence attaches met with Libyan leaders this week in Tripoli.
- The National Security Advisor, Ibrahim Bushnaf, met with the head of the Civil Society Commission, Mabrouka Gumaa and MP Abu Bakr al-Ghazali. They concluded that "it is necessary to adhere to the controls and standards set by the commission with the National Security Council, especially with regard to the work of foreign organisations in Libya."
- The LNA has announced that 115 Battalion, based in Marj, will be dissolved and merged into 106 Brigade.

Assessment

Political Developments

HoR: Disbanding Misratan Council of Elders

Speaker of the HoR, Aquila Saleh, issued a decision to disband the council of scholars and wise men of Misrata. The decision calls for the mayor to form a new council.

COMMENT: 'The decision was allegedly taken after a request by Prime Minister (GNS) Fathi Bashagha who is from Misrata. It is unclear if the decision will find traction in the city where Prime Minister Bashagha continues to compete with his rival, Prime Minister (GNU) Abdulhamid Dbeibah for influence.' **COMMENT ENDS.**

Military Developments

National Security Advisor discussed the work of civil society organisations in Libya

The National Security Advisor, Ibrahim Bushnaf, met with the head of the Civil Society Commission, Mabrouka Gumaa and MP Abu Bakr al-Ghazali. The meeting discussed the work of a number of international organizations and institutions in Libya and the latest developments with regard to the proposed law which regulates the work of civil society organisations. The law has been presented to the HoR. The men discussed the working mechanisms of civil society organisations in Libya "in a way that does not prejudice the country's national security constraints." The men concluded that "it is necessary to

adhere to the controls and standards set by the commission with the National Security Council, especially with regard to the work of foreign organisations in Libya.”

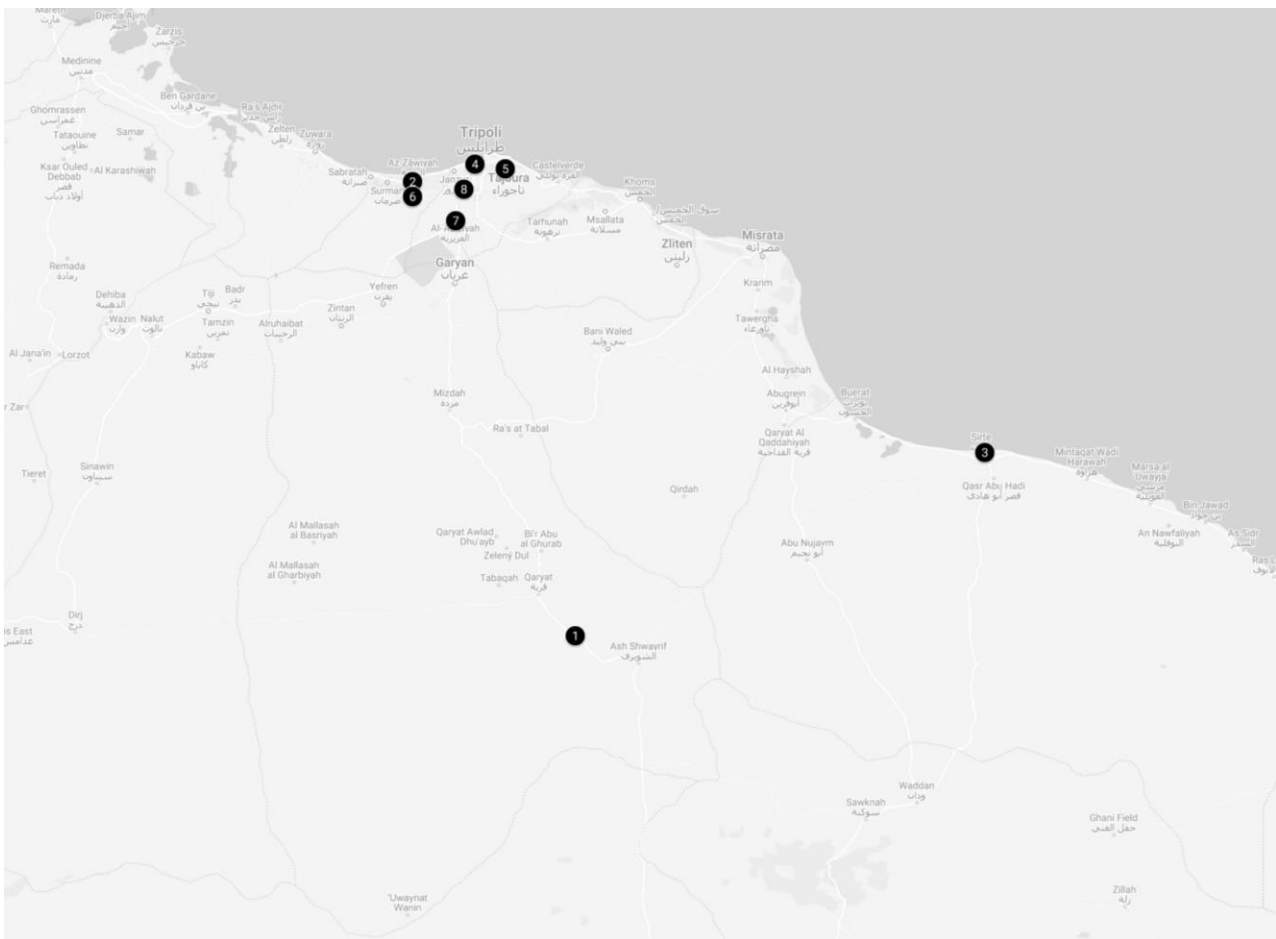
LNA: 115 Battalion dissolved

Abdul Fattah al-Nadori has stated that he will step away from military duties after his battalion, 115 Battalion, was dissolved and merged into 106 Brigade (LNA).

COMMENT: ‘Nadori is the son of the LNA chief of staff, Abdul Razek al-Nadori who previously commanded the Al-Marj based 115 Battalion before handing over to his son. The once capable battalion had become diminished under Abdul Fattah’s command, largely due to rising tensions with Saddam and Khalid Haftar. Abdul Fattah was given command of the battalion in late 2018 at the age of 27 as Saddam and Khalid were also establishing their own military careers. The dissolution of 115 Battalion suggests that the long-running rivalry between the Haftars and Nadori has largely played out in the former’s favour with Nadori’s power base in Marj now increasingly coming under the influence of Sadam Haftar.’ **COMMENT ENDS.**

Significant Incidents

Tripolitania Region



1. Security Operation - May 03, Al-Jabal Al-Gharbi Province, Wadi Abujaila: The Western Mountains Joint Operations Room carried out counter-smuggling and trafficking operations in areas between Fezzan and Gharyan. Units were based in Wadi Abujaila.

Outlook

Short Term Outlook

- The political process remains stalled, despite the best efforts of SRSG Bathily and his new initiative. The recently created 6+6 committee, created by the HoR and HCS to resolve the outstanding issues related to the election laws and constitutional basis for the elections has made no progress. The committee was viewed by many as a further attempt to delay the election process, and its actions to date would support this belief. Bathily has continued to engage with various political actors throughout the country, however, his new initiative remains ill-defined and as such appears to have received vocal approval but limited results.
- 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
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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