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LIBYA

DAILY REPORT

July 27, 2023

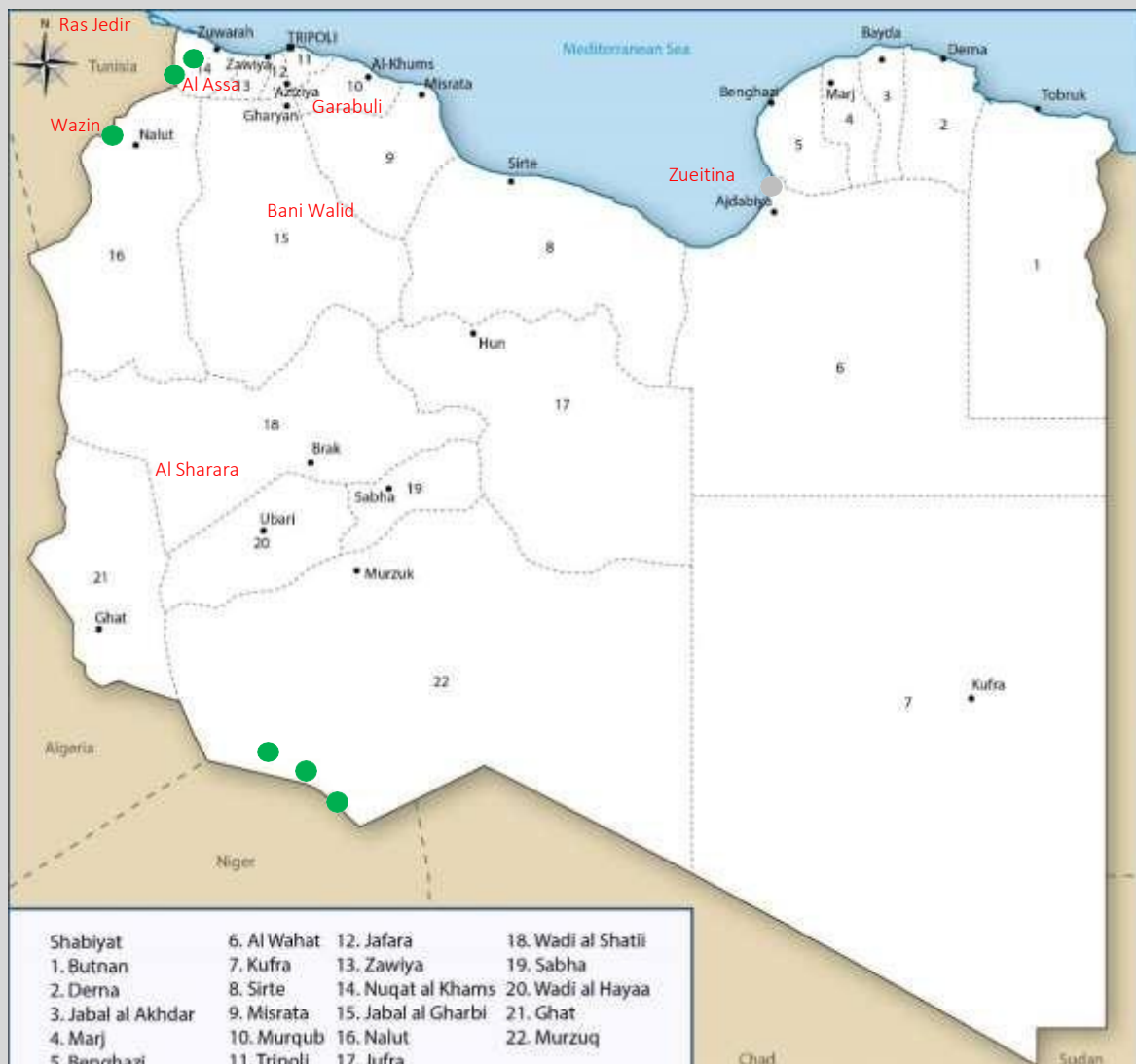


OVERVIEW



Legend

- Social unrest / political tensions
- Arrest
- Airstrikes
- IED / landmines
- Crime
- Kidnapping
- Terrorist activity or action
- Gunfire / Artillery fire
- Armed clashes
- Militia-linked incidents
- Security forces operations
- Health issues / natural disaster





GENERAL SITUATION

- **DIPLOMACY/EU:** The Libyan Prime Minister, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, made a phone call with the European Union's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell, on Wednesday and discussed cooperation in immigration, security and regional stability files, in addition to clean energy. Dbeibah, accompanied by the Head of the Presidential Council Mohammed Menfi, participated in the Immigration and Development Conference last Sunday in the Italian capital, Rome. Dbeibah called for Libya's right to international support in this security, political and financial file, stressing that Libya's vision didn't include any proposals on resettling illegal immigrants in transit areas.
- **DIPLOMACY/TURKEY:** The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Government of National Unity, Najla Al-Mangoush, has met with her Turkish counterpart, Hakan Fidan, in first meeting after assuming his position, in the Turkish capital, Ankara. The two sides discussed aspects of joint cooperation and ways to enhance them in various fields, in addition to discussing developments in the regional and international situation and the efforts exerted in this regard.
- **DIPLOMACY/GERMANY-AUSTRIA:** National Unity Government Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dabaiba discussed during his meeting on Wednesday with German Ambassador to Libya Michael Unmacht and Austrian Ambassador to Libya Christoph Minneorg the latest developments in the situation politics in the country. Preparations needed for meetings of the International Security Working Group were also discussed, particularly in light of its recent recommendations aimed at providing a secure environment for the holding of elections. Dabaiba reiterated to the ambassadors of Germany and Austria the will of the Government of National Unity to hold the next elections, in accordance with fair and impartial laws, and within the framework of an organized process which contributes to putting an end to the stages transition that the country has been going through for years.
- **DIPLOMACY/IRAN:** Foreign Minister Najla Al-Manqoush led a delegation to Tehran, the Iranian capital, to discuss issues of common interest between Libya and Iran.



The ministry said the two sides held a series of talks, focusing on steps to resume diplomatic representation and develop economic cooperation between the two countries. They agreed to activate the joint Libyan-Iranian committee and strengthen cooperation in the health, technical and industrial fields, as well as encourage an exchange of official visits.



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Al-Manqoush affirmed his government's position by supporting the initiative of the Saudi Kingdom regarding the start of a new phase of Arab-Iranian relations based on the common interests of the countries and nations of the region.

FM Al Manqoush arrived in Tehran on Tuesday for an official working visit, the first of a high-level Libyan delegation to Tehran in 16 years.



REGIONAL SITUATION

TRIPOLI

- Tripoli: Fairly reliable sources reported that, early on Thursday morning, the GNU declared a state of emergency in Tripoli. The reason behind this measure is likely the call for protests by Abu Obayda Al Zawy, as reported by Aldebaran on 26 July. Al Zawy reiterated the protests will be peaceful. Citizens in Tripoli will converge towards Martyrs Square, according to Al Zawy. Protests are expected to take place in other unspecified cities of Tripolitania, possibly including Zawiyah and Zuwara.
Al Zawy said the protests count on the political cover of HCS Head Khalid Al Mishri. This suggests the protests will likely be against the GNU. Actors might use the protests as a pretext to call for a reshuffle of the GNU, or the removal of PM Dbeiba. Such actors include armed groups from Zawiyah and Zintan. In this case, pro-GNU militias might intervene to disperse the protests, which might cause an escalation of tension.
Comment: Shaaban Hadiya, known as "Abu Obaida al-Zawi", former leader of the Libyan House of Revolutionaries, issued a statement on the circumstances of the start of the uprising to save Libya, denying rumors that the movement was following certain armed formations.
Knowledgeable sources have pointed out that the uprising movement organized by Shaaban Hadiya is a peaceful phenomenon.
The sources pointed out that the main objective of the movement is to overthrow Dabaiba's government or carry out a cabinet reshuffle.
Furthermore, sources said that Osama Juwaili would intervene in the events, through some of the armed factions affiliated with him in the western region and opposed to the government of Dabaiba, such as Muammar Al-Dawi, commander of the 55th battalion infantry, and Haitham Al-Tajouri, commander of the 777th brigade", adding that "Juwaili and some commanders loyal to him, would have received support from Khalifa Haftar.
The sources added that "the armed factions would work to close the roads in the area of Al-Assa - Ras Ajdir, in order to eliminate Muhammad Bahroun, commander of the Al-Far militia".
- Tripoli: The Tripoli Court on 27 July ruled that the head of the Audit Bureau, Khaled Shakshak, is unable to meet the requirements for his position. The communication was shared with the HoR, the Rada SDF, the SSA and other military bodies. It is currently unclear if this means that Shakshak has been dismissed.
If Shakshak was dismissed, the ruling might result in tensions between groups wanting Shakshak to remain in place, and others trying to enforce the decision of the Court and remove Shakshak from his post. The tensions would likely take place at or near the Audit Bureau building in Tripoli. This might be a deliberate attempt to cause confusion in Tripoli, as the ruling is issued on the same day in which Abu Obaida Al Zawy called for protests in the city.
- Tripoli: The head of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary, Moftah Al-Qawi, inspected the headquarters of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, after the attack on it yesterday Wednesday, stressing: We will open an investigation into the 'incident.

TRIPOLITANIA

- NSTR



CYRENAICA

- Zueitina: Sources are reporting that on the afternoon of 26 July, protesters blocked the access to the Zueitina terminal. They are asking for better working conditions and opportunities. Currently there are no reports of operational disruptions at the terminal.
- Sirte: In one week, in Sirte, 5 electrical installations were vandalized. The last one was last night.
- Ajdabya: Head of Land Forces Operations in the National Army, Brigadier General Saddam Khalifa and Prime Minister-designate Osama Hammad briefed on river pipeline maintenance plan in Ajdabiya and how to eliminate illegal connections on the river line artificial.



- Sirte: For the first time since 2012, it was proposed to hold a very large military parade in Sirte, including soldiers from the east, west and south, and under the supervision of Al-Haddad and Al Naduri...



- Benghazi: Commander-in-Chief Marshal Khalifa Haftar issues a decision establishing the General Command's Information and Mobilization Department and appoints the official spokesperson for the Commander-in-Chief, Major General Ahmed Al-Mismari, to the post of director.

FEZZAN

- Libya-Nigeria Border: According to military sources, the Tariq bin Ziyad Brigade (LNA) would mobilize its units in the southwest and direct them towards the border with Niger in order to secure it and avoid any incident following the current events in the country.



MISCELLANEOUS

- Malta Offers to Train Libyan Coast Guard

The Maltese army is providing search and rescue training to the Libyan General Administration for Coastal Security (GACS), at its maritime base in Xatt it-Tiben.

This training was discussed during a meeting between Malta's Home Affairs Minister, Byron Camilleri and his Libyan counterpart, Emad Al-Trabelsi.

According to Malta's Independent newspaper, the two discussed the importance of bilateral cooperation, specifically in addressing irregular migration.

Camilleri emphasized the strengthening relationship between Malta and Libya, particularly through the training provided to Libyan Coast Guard officers. He noted that the training "would help prepare officials for search and rescue operations at sea, as well as combatting human traffickers."

Al-Trabelsi expressed his satisfaction with the training, which he believes will "put Libyan authorities in a better position to enforce the law, and eliminate criminals involved in human trafficking."

The statement noted that this Libyan-Maltese cooperation is a prelude to the implementation of joint maritime exercises.

The training will cover rescue and vertical search, pollution, firefighting, ship boarding, and combating organized crime.

- NOC, Schlumberger strike deal to drill three wells

Libya's National Oil Corporation (NOC) announced yesterday that in the first of its kind for Libya, a "turnkey contract" to drill three wells has been signed between the NOC's National Well Drilling Company (NWD) and US-based Schlumberger.

The NOC said this entails Schlumberger providing the NWD with the necessary support for drilling the three wells for the benefit of Spain's Repsol Exploration Murzuq S.A. (REMSA).

Explaining the aim of this contract, the NOC explained that the purpose of the three wells is to increase oil production and enhance collaboration between national and international companies.

The two well concessions (NC 115 and NC 186) are in the Murzuq Basin.



ACRONYM LIST

AAS – Ansar al-Sharia	LPDF – Libyan Political Dialogue Forum
AFRICOM – United States Africa Command	LSM – Libyan Stock Market
AQ – Al-Qaeda	MoD – Ministry of Defence
AV – Armoured Vehicles	MoF – Ministry of Finance
bpd – Barrel per day	MoFA – Ministry of Foreign Affairs
BPMC – Brega Petroleum Marketing Company	MoH – Ministry of Health
CP/(I)VCP – Check Point / (Illegal) Vehicle Check Point	MoI – Ministry of Interior
CBL – Central Bank of Libya	MoJ – Ministry of Justice
CID – Criminal Investigation Department	MoO – Ministry of Oil
Col – Chief of Intelligence	MoT – Ministry of Transportation
ERW – Explosive Remnants of War	NCDC – National Centre for Disease Control
EU – European Union	NGO – Non-Governmental Organization
EUDEL – Delegation of the European Union to Libya	NOC – National Oil Company
FACT – Front for Alternance and Concord in Chad	O&G – Oil and Gas
GECOL – General Electrical Company of Libya	PAX – Person or Passenger
GNA – Government of National Accord	PC – Presidency Council
GNC – General National Congress	PFG – Petroleum Facilities Guard
GNS – Government of National Stability	PM – Prime Minister
GNU – Government of National Unity (unified executive authority)	PMCs – Private Military Contractors
HCS – High Council of State	RADA SDF – RADA Special Deterrence Forces
HNEC – High National Election Commission	RPG – Rocket Propelled Grenade
HoR – House of Representatives	SSA – Stabilization Support Authority
HVT – High-Value Target	TPF – Tripoli Protection Force
ICC – International Criminal Court	TRB – Tripoli Revolutionaries Brigade
IED – Improvised Explosive Device	TURAF - Turkish Air Force
IDP – Internally Displaced Person	UAV – Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
IOM – International Organization for Migration	UN – United Nations
IS – Islamic State	UNSMIL – United Nations Support Mission in Libya
JMC – Joint Military Commission (5+5)	UAE – United Arab Emirates
JTF – Joint Task Force	USA – United States of America
LIA – Libyan Investment Authority	UXO – Unexploded Ordnance
LNA – Libyan National Army	WHO – World Health Organization



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