



Weekly Libya .Xplored report preview

16 June, 2017

Prepared by Risk Analysis Team, Libya

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACTIVITY MAP..... 3

OUTLOOK..... 4

Short term outlook 4

Medium to long term outlook 4

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS..... 4

Governance..... 4

Security 4

Oil and gas 5

KEY DATES 5

THREAT MATRIX..... 5

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS 5

Governance..... 5

 Saif Gaddafi released from prison 5

 UN developments 5

 Dutch national released from custody 6

WEEKLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT 6

Tripolitania 6

Cyrenaica 7

Fezzan..... 8

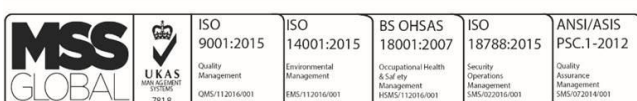
ACRONYM LIST..... 9

GARDAWORLD INFORMATION SERVICES 10

GARDAWORLD 10

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ACTIVITY MAP



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MSS GLOBAL		ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management OHS/112016/001	ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management EMS/112016/001	BS OHSAS 18001:2007 Occupational Health & Safety Management HSM/112016/001	ISO 18788:2015 Security Operations Management SOS/022016/001	ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012 Quality Assurance Management QAS/022016/001					
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OUTLOOK

Short term outlook

- Tripoli is likely to remain calm in the short term. Pro-GNC militia has left the city making armed clashes less likely.
- BDB fighters that have moved north from Jufra are likely to be targeted by LNA forces. This could lead to escalations and tensions between the LNA and BAM/GNA forces in northern Libya.
- The LNA continues its assault against Sabri and Suq Al-Hout in Benghazi. Defensive IEDs, extensive debris and tunnels are expected to complicate the advance.

Medium to long term outlook

- The plans for Zintani militia and IDPs to return to Tripoli could increase tensions within the city in the coming weeks. Tripoli-based militias have already issued warnings against armed groups returning to the area.
- The political outlook remains unclear in the long term. A series of meetings in early May led to hopes that political breakthroughs might be made. However, clashes in the Southern region between the LNA and GNA aligned troops have set the process back. It remains hopeful Fayeze al-Sarraj's visit to the White House later this month might provide some motivation to achieve progress before the visit.
- The LNA now controls much of the east, south and central region. The addition of Jufra Airbase to the LNA's growing list of assets provides a significant increase in reach for the group. As BDB forces move north towards Bani Waleed, Sirte and Misrata it is likely that LNA strikes will follow, with the LNA potentially trying to take control of territory around Bani Waleed in the future.
- IS fighters are regrouping in Libya. Possible activity has been reported in Sabratah, Abu Grain and the area of Bani Waleed. Small groups are also thought to be establishing a presence in remote southern areas of Libya.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Governance

- The head of UNSMIL, Martin Kobler, has indicated that he will soon be replaced. There has been no official statement yet on the identity of his replacement.
- Saif Gaddafi, the son of former leader Muammar Gaddafi, was released from prison in Zintan. His lawyer has indicated that he will have a key part to play in Libya in the future. The ICC has demanded that Gaddafi be re-arrested and surrendered to the international courts for trial.
- A UN Panel of Experts has published a 299-page report on Libya, reviewing the current situation in Libya and evidencing allegations of possible breaches of the arms embargo.
- The UN Security Council has extended its maritime interdiction operation, aimed at enforcing the arms embargo, for another year.
- The leader of the HCS has been named on a terrorist list, produced by the HoR. This raises further challenges for future peace agreements.
- Libyan social media users have expressed anti-Italian sentiment over what appears to be a satirical posting, by the Italian embassy in Libya, on the subject of terrorist lists produced by the HoR. The Italian embassy later retracted the posting and issued an apology.

Security

- There has been a general decrease in kinetic activity across all regions this week. This is not necessarily indicative of a long-term reduction of the threat throughout Libya. However, increased dominance of the southern region by the LNA and of Tripoli by the pro-GNA militia has led to some stabilization of these areas in the short term.
- A large VBIED has detonated in Benghazi, targeting the local Mayor. The Mayor was not hurt, but six people were injured in the blast.
- The LNA has ordered that the Abu Baker Sediq Brigade in Zintan, previously responsible for guarding Saif Gaddafi, be disbanded and amalgamated into the LNA Western Region Command.

16 June 2017

- The LNA has increased operations in Sabri, taking control of a headquarters building in the Sabri area.

Oil and gas

- Sharara Oilfield has reopened following two days of protests.
- The NOC and oil producer Wintershall has agreed on a deal which should see oil production in Libya increase in the coming months.
- The NOC has warned the eastern government against illegal oil exportation after it threatened to block Glencore from operations, due to Qatari links.

KEY DATES

Date	Occasion	Comment
25 – 27 June 2017	Eid al-Fitr	End of Ramadan
20 August 2017	Anniversary of the Liberation of Tripoli	
01 – 03 September 2017	Eid al-Adha	Feast of Sacrifice
16 September 2017	Martyrs Day	
22 September 2017	Hijri New Year	
23 October 2017	Liberation Day	National holiday

THREAT MATRIX

Region	Political	Terrorism	Militancy	Crime	K&R
Tripolitania	High-Extreme	High	High	High	High
Cyrenaica	Moderate	High-Extreme	Moderate	High	High
Fezzan	High	Moderate	High-Extreme	High	High

Threat Scale	Minimal	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
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LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Governance

Saif Gaddafi released from prison

On June 09, Saif al-Islam Gaddafi, the son of the deposed former leader Muammar Gaddafi, was released from custody in Zintan. Gaddafi originally received the death sentence in 2015 but was released under an amnesty law issued by the HoR in 2016. However, he is still wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC), who subsequently demanded that he be handed over for trial.

UN developments

It has been a busy reporting period for the UN in Libya. Towards the end of last week, the head of UNSMIL provided a full update on progress in Libya and the challenges ahead. This was followed by a UN Panel of Experts report on Libya’s international arms embargo, which received significant media coverage primarily over alleged breaches from the United Arab Emirates (UAE). There was an also apparent confirmation that the head of UNSMIL, Martin Kobler, would soon be leaving his position, raising speculation of who might replace him in the role.

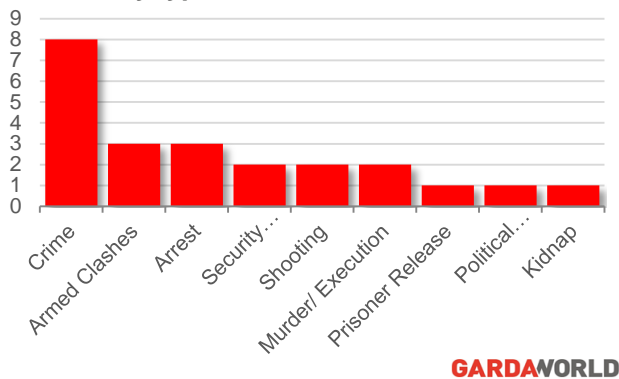
Dutch national released from custody

A Dutch national was released from custody earlier this week and has returned to the Netherlands. On June 12, the Dutch Ambassador to Libya, Eric Strating tweeted: “Yvonne Snitjer, who was arrested in Libya, has left the country.” News reports have confirmed that Snitjer was held by the Rada Special Deterrence Forces for taking photographs and videos of recent clashes in Tripoli.

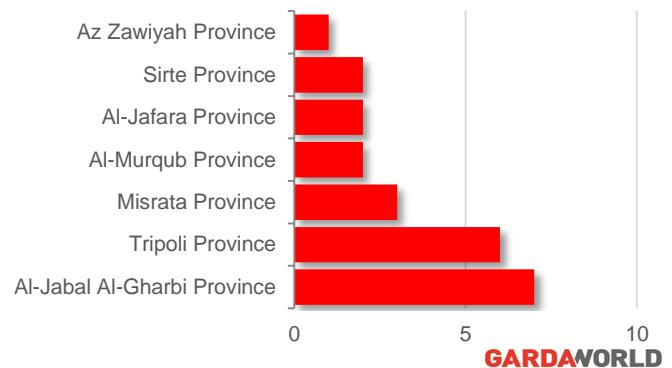
WEEKLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT

Tripolitania

Incidents by type, 08 - 14 June



Incidents by district, 08 - 14 June

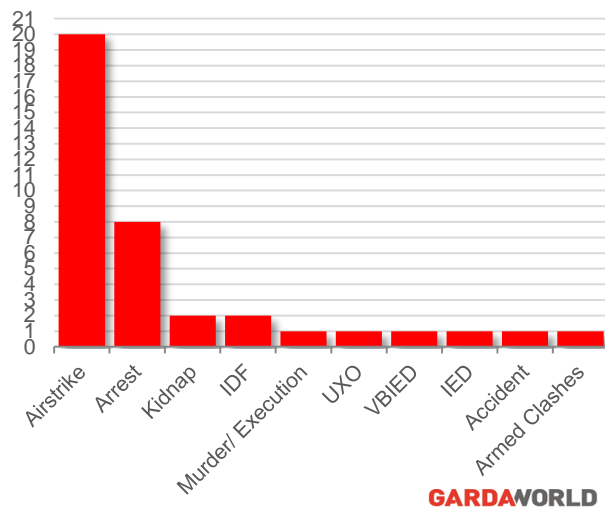


Significant activity

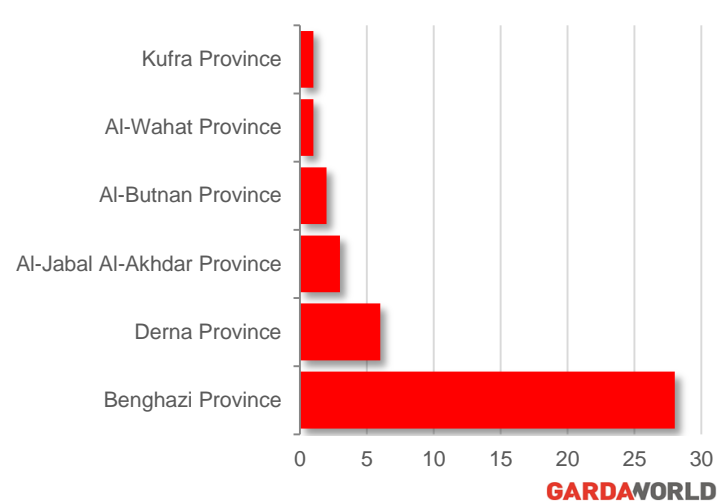
- Armed Clashes - 09 Jun 17, Misrata Province, Abu Grain: Unconfirmed reports state that IS fighters launched an attack against a BAM CP. Four BAM fighters were reported killed.
- Armed Clashes - 09 Jun 17 09:30, Az Zawiyah Province, Zawiyah: An armed group linked to human trafficking launched an attack from the sea, using RPGs, HMG and SAF, against the Coast Guard in Zawiyah after it intercepted over 300 migrants earlier that morning. At least two people were killed in the clashes and four injured.
- Shooting - 10 Jun 17, Misrata Province, Wadi Zamzam: Reports indicate that four members of BAM's 166 Bn traveling aboard a 4x4 vehicle near Wadi Zamzam were shot at by suspected IS members. The attack resulted in the one death and one injury.
- Murder/ Execution - 10 Jun 17, Tripoli Province, Garabuli: The bodies of eight migrants in a boat were washed upon the shores of Garabuli. Approx. 120-130 more migrants were reported missing at sea.
- Shooting - 11 Jun 17, Sirte Province, Sirte: A BAM officer was shot and injured at a CP at the eastern entrance of Sirte after he failed to stop.
- Murder/ Execution - 11 Jun 17, Al-Jafara Province, Warshefana: Martyr Abdulhameed al-Himaly Battalion based in Warshefana has arrested and executed two members of a criminal gang who admitted to carrying out kidnappings in the area.
- Armed Clashes - 12 Jun 17, morning, Al-Jafara Province, Warshefana: Reports indicate that armed clashes broke out between two armed groups in Al-Hashan area. Seven people were killed.
- Crime - 15 Jun 17, Az Zawiyah Province, Zawiyah: Reports indicate that a Libyan national has died due to injuries sustained during an armed robbery on his vehicle.

Cyrenaica

Incidents by type, 08 - 14 June



Incidents by district, 08 - 14 June



Significant activity

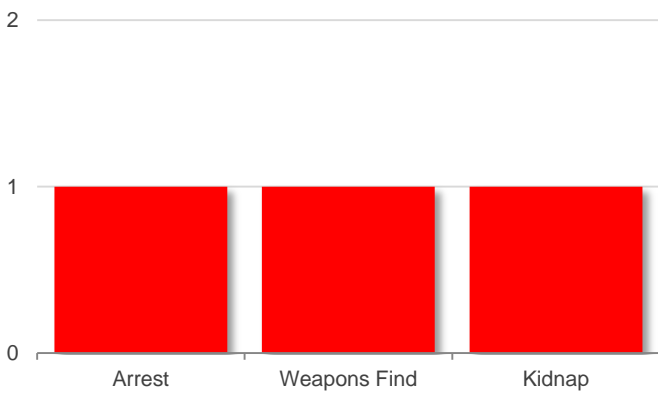
- IDF - 09 Jun 17, Derna Province, Derna: The LNA has launched artillery strikes against MSCD fighters in Derna.
- Airstrike - 10 Jun 17, Derna Province, Daher Al-Hamer: LNA jets targeted MSCD locations south of Derna.
- Murder/ Execution - 09 Jun 17, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: A new video has emerged showing LNA Special Forces members executing four hooded individuals thought to be RSCB members.
- VBIED - 10 Jun 17, Benghazi Province, Tabalino: Reports indicate that the mayor of Benghazi has survived, what is reported as, an assassination attempt. A VBIED was parked along the route used by the Mayor and detonated when his convoy passed. The attack resulted in six injuries; the Mayor was uninjured.
- Airstrike - 11 Jun 17, Benghazi Province, Sabri and Suq Al-Hout: LNA jets conduct extensive airstrikes on RSCB positions in Sabri
- Kidnap - 12 Jun 17, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: Unconfirmed reports state that Dr. Mohamed al-Madany, a member of Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar’s advisory team has been kidnapped.
- Armed Clashes - 12 Jun 17, afternoon, Benghazi Province, Sabri: LNA forces have made gains in Sabri. LNA are now in control of the Internal Security Compound that was once used as an HQ for Libya Shield forces.
- IED - 12 Jun 17, Benghazi Province, Sabri: An IED exploded while LNA forces were attempting to advance in Sabri. Approx. eight LNA members were killed.
- Airstrike - 13 Jun 17, Derna Province, Daher Al-Hamer: LNA jets have conducted airstrikes on MSCD positions south of Derna.
- Airstrike - 13 Jun 17, Benghazi Province, Suq Al-Hout: LNA jets have conducted airstrikes on RSCB positions in Suq Al-Hout
- IED - 13 Jun 17, Benghazi Province, Sabri: Sources close to the LNA have reported finding and dismantling 25 IEDs within the Internal Security Compound.
- IED - 13 Jun 17, evening, Benghazi Province, Suq Al-Hout: An IED explosion led to five LNA injuries and one death.
- Kidnap - 13 Jun 17, evening, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: Reports indicate that Jibreel al-Obeidy, writer, author, and activist has been kidnapped.
- Airstrike - 14 Jun 17, evening, Benghazi Province, Suq Al-Hout: LNA airstrikes conducted on RSCB positions in Suq Al-Hout



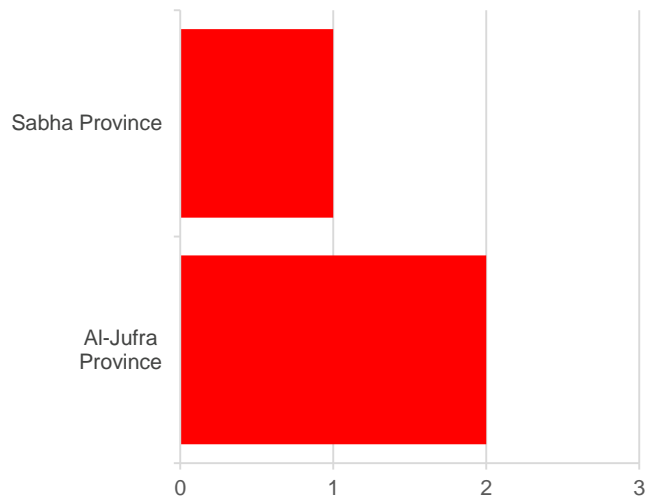
VBIED detonation, Benghazi, June 10, 2017 (left) and LNA fighters take control of former HQ building, Sabri , June 12, 2017 (right)

Fezzan

Incidents by type, 08 - 14 June



Incidents by district, 08 - 14 June



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Significant activity

- Armed Clashes - 07 Jun 17, Al-Jufra Province, Sawknah: LNA clashed with a small group of BDB fighters.
- Weapons find - 10 Jun 17, Al-Jufra Province, Hun: LNA sources have reported the discovery of a weapons cache in a compound near the old Hun airport. The cache reportedly included MANPADs, mortar shells and military attire.
- Arrest - 11 Jun 17, Al-Jufra Province, Hun: Unconfirmed reports indicate that LNA members have conducted a wave of arrests within the city of Hun.
- Kidnap - 14 Jun 17, Sabha Province, Sabha: A six year old Libyan child was kidnapped.

ACRONYM LIST

- AAS – Ansar al-Sharia (AQ affiliate)
- AQ - Al-Qaeda
- BAM – Al-Bunyan Al-Marsous (Misrata aligned)
- BDB – Benghazi Defense Brigade / Saraya Defend Benghazi (SDB) (Al-Qaeda-aligned – AAS and RSCB associated/umbrella group)
- CNI – Critical National Infrastructure
- GATMJB - Operations Room for the Liberation of the City Ajdabiya and Support for Benghazi Rebels
- GECOL – General Electricity Company of Libya
- GMMR – Great Man-made River
- GNA – Government of National Accord (UN backed)
- GNC – General National Congress (Tripoli-based)
- HCN - Host Country National
- HoR – House of Representatives (Tobruk based)
- IDP - Internally Displaced Persons
- IED - Improvised Explosive Device
- IOC - International Oil Company
- IS - Islamic State
- LNA – Libyan National Army
- LPA – Libyan Political Agreement
- LROR - Libyan Revolutionary Operations Room
- MoD - Ministry of Defense
- MoF - Ministry of Finance
- MoFA - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- MoHE - Ministry of Higher Education
- Mol - Ministry of Interior
- MoJ - Ministry of Justice
- MoO - Ministry of Oil
- MoT - Ministry of Transportation
- MSCD – Mujahideen Shura Council of Derna (AQ aligned)
- NFDK - No Further Details Known
- NGO - Non-Governmental Organization (aid/charity)
- NOC – National Oil Company
- NSG – National Salvation Government (GNC)
- NSTR - Nothing Significant To Report
- PAX - Person, Persons or Passenger
- PC – Presidency Council (GNA)
- PG – Presidential Guard
- PFG- Petroleum Facilities Guard
- PSC - Private Security Company
- PSD - Private Security Detail
- RPG - Rocket Propelled Grenade
- RSCB - Revolutionary Shura Council of Benghazi
- RTA - Road Traffic Accident
- SDB – Saraya Defend Benghazi / Benghazi Defense Brigade (BDB) (Al-Qaeda-aligned – AAS and RSCB associated/umbrella group)
- TCN - Third Country National
- Technical - An improvised weapon-mounted pick-up truck
- UXO - Unexploded Ordnance



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