



## Weekly Libya .Xplored Preview

10 March, 2017

Prepared by Risk Analysis Team, Libya

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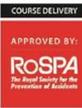
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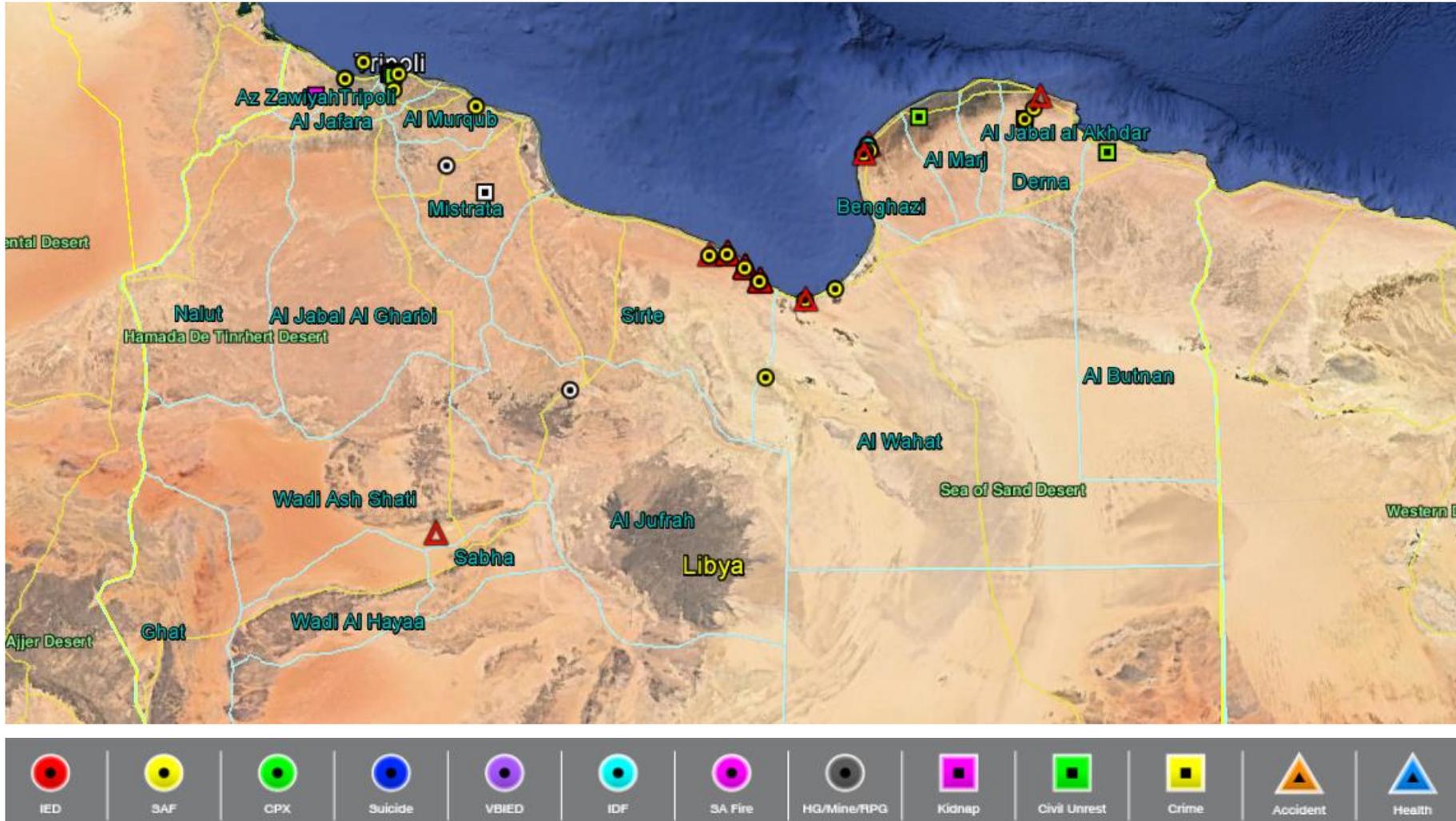
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**ACTIVITY MAP**



ISO 9001:2015  
Quality Management  
OHS/112016/001

ISO 14001:2015  
Environmental Management  
EMS/112016/001

BS OHSAS 18001:2007  
Occupational Health & Safety Management  
OHS/112016/001

ISO 18788:2015  
Security Operations Management  
SOS/022016/001

ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012  
Quality Assurance Management  
QAS/072014/001



## OUTLOOK

### Short term outlook

- BDB attacks against LNA positions in Ras Lanuf and Es Sidra are likely to have a significant impact on the Oil Crescent area, and potentially further afield. The LNA counter-offensive continues to focus on airstrikes but is likely to include ground offensives in the coming days. A protracted conflict in the midst of Libya's two main oil ports is likely.
- As groups supportive of the BDB try to stretch LNA resources, further clashes in Benghazi and Derna are likely. "Breakouts" by groups previously trapped in each area may occur as LNA troops are redeployed elsewhere.
- Anti-Misratan sentiment is currently running high in Tripoli following two separate incidents resulting in Misratan militia allegedly shooting local residents. Further clashes in the city are likely.

### Medium to long term outlook

- Clashes in the Oil Crescent are becoming increasingly polarizing in Libya and forcing stakeholders to take a side. The situation has the potential to escalate in the longer term if other groups such as the Zintani's, GNA PFG and perhaps the Misratans become involved. If the LNA is successful in retaking the oil facilities, this could be used as an opportunity to move further south and west in response to the threat.
- The situation in the Oil Crescent has caused major political setbacks leaving the LPA in tatters. A splintered HoR is a real possibility leaving questions of legitimacy. Political breakthroughs are unlikely in the coming months.
- Minor clashes are expected to continue in Tripoli in the coming weeks, with the potential for some to escalate into protracted battles. Both GNC affiliated groups under the banner of the Libya National Guard, and other groups more supportive of the GNA, are likely to make attempts to increase their territory and control of strategic areas in Tripoli.

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

### Governance

- The UN sponsored Libyan Political Agreement (LPA) faces severe setbacks after 73 HoR members boycott the talks and the HoR voted to revoke their approval of the agreement.
- The Speaker of the HoR has called for presidential and parliamentary elections before February 2018.
- The Great Man-Made River Authority has warned of reduced water supplies after a recent sabotage attack on the pipeline.

### Oil Crescent

- The Benghazi Defense Brigade (BDB) has launched surprise attacks against the LNA in the Oil Crescent taking control of Ras Lanuf, As Sidra, Bin Jawad and An Nawfaliyah.
- The GNA PFG have been handed control of Ras Lanuf and As Sidra oil facilities from BDB forces.
- Groups in Derna and Benghazi have launched small attacks against the LNA in an attempt to stretch their resources.

### Security

- A Turkish oil tanker has been seized by oil smugglers in Zuwara and the crew held to ransom.
- The NOC in Tripoli has reported a hostile 'takeover' by GNC supporters.
- The Warshefana tribe has indicated that the Coastal Highway west of Tripoli could be dangerous if reopened.
- Armed clashes occurred at Aman Bank in Gorji, Tripoli leaving an estimated four killed and the bank destroyed by fire.

## KEY DATES

Date	Occasion	Comment
19 March 2017	Commemoration	Commemoration of victory over Gadhafi.
01 May 2017	Labour Day	National holiday.
25 – 27 June 2017	Eid al Fitr	End of Ramadan.
01 – 03 September 2017	Eid ul Adha	Feast of Sacrifice.
16 September 2017	Martyrs Day	

## THREAT MATRIX

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

Threat Scale

Minimal

Low

Moderate

High

Extreme

## LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

### Governance

#### Libyan Political Agreement severely damaged

Following a major offensive into the Oil Crescent last week (details below) there has been a political backlash towards the GNA and the UN sponsored Libyan Political Agreement (LPA). The GNA and PC were accused of complicity in the attack by the HoR leading to members of the group signing a declaration to boycott the Libyan Political Dialogue (LPD). Later, a majority voted to revoke the HoR's approval of the LPA.

Immediately after this vote, the Speaker of the HoR, Aguila Saleh, wrote an open letter to the High National Election Commission (HNEC) asking for presidential and parliamentary elections to be held before February 2018.

#### Russian influence in Libya

Following a recent Libyan delegation visit to Russia, the Russian Foreign Minister has offered assistance to Libya, stating that Moscow has relations with all Libyan stakeholders without exception. The Russian Deputy Prime Minister has also indicated that Russian businesses may become more involved in Libya, with the new formation of the Libyan Russian Business Council.

### Security

#### Clashes escalate in Gorji, Tripoli

On March 08, a customer of the Aman Bank was shot and killed during an altercation with an armed member of security at the bank. This situation quickly escalated with local residents attacking the bank with SAF and RPG. The incident continued into the evening, with the bank eventually being completely consumed by fire. The city remains tense and further clashes are likely in the coming week.

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**Oil Crescent offensive**

On March 03, the Benghazi Defense Brigade (BDB) launched a surprise dawn offensive into the Oil Crescent. The LNA quickly retaliated with airstrikes but despite threats of an immediate ground offensive, the LNA spent the coming week preparing for the attack and amassing troops in Ajdabiya and Al Uqaylah. At time of reporting, the LNA has announced that it has completed preparing troops and that their ground offensive will begin imminently.

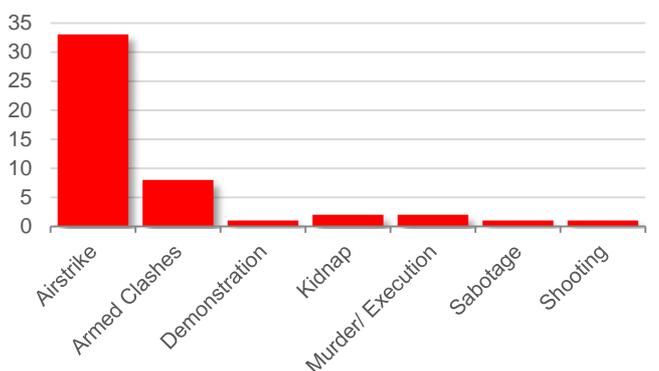
Clashes in the region are expected to continue during the coming week and potentially for some time beyond. A spokesman for the NOC has said that there is no need to declare another force majeure at this stage but oil production is already reported to be dropping as a direct result of the clashes.

**WEEKLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT**

**Tripolitania**

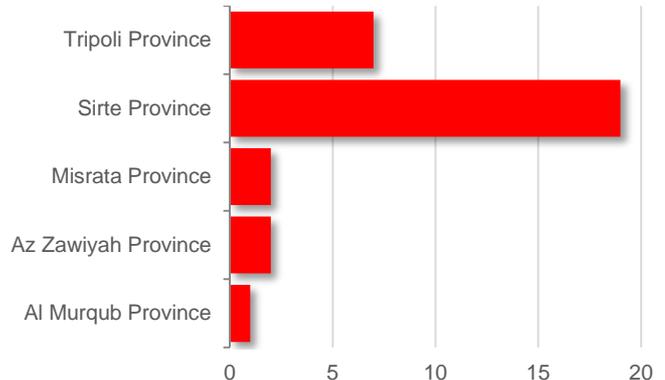
**Incidents**

Incidents by type, 02 - 08 Mar



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Incidents by district, 02 - 08 Mar



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**Significant activity**

- Late report: Kidnap – 24 Feb 17, Nuqat al Khams Province, Zuwara: Oil smugglers hijacked a Turkish oil tanker and kidnapped the crew for ransom. Turkish officials claim that the Haci Telli oil tanker was refueling, whilst smugglers claim that the owner of the tanker owes the Libyan smugglers about \$433,000 for earlier bought 'smuggled' fuel.
- Armed Clashes - 03 Mar 17, Sirte Province, Ras Lanuf, As Sidr, Bin Jawad, An Nawfaliyah: The BDB launched attacks against the Oil Crescent facilities in four areas, on three axis.
- Airstrikes - 03 Mar 17, Sirte Province, Bin Jawad: The LNA launched around 12 airstrikes against BDB positions attacking the LNA.
- Airstrike - 05 Mar 17, afternoon, Sirte Province, As Sidr, Bin Jawad and Ras Lanuf: LNA planes targeted BDB positions. Details of casualties and damage were not reported.
- Airstrike - 06 Mar 17, Sirte Province, Ras Lanuf: A PFG commander alleged that LNA airstrikes number between 15-16 per day. He claimed that damage was being caused to petroleum facilities. One BDB soldier was killed and several more wounded.
- Sabotage - 06 Mar 17, Misrata Province, As Saddadah: Unconfirmed sources report an attack on the Great Man-Made River (GMR) near 'Station 386', on the pipelines between As Saddadah and Ash Shwayrif.
- Arrest - 06 Mar 17, Zawiya Province, offshore: Seven Russian crew members were arrested by the Libyan Coast Guard (Zawiya Squad) in territorial waters off the coast of Zawiya. The Russian vessel was allegedly sailing to Zuwara Port to load scrap metal to Turkey. The men were handed over to the Rada Force in Tripoli.

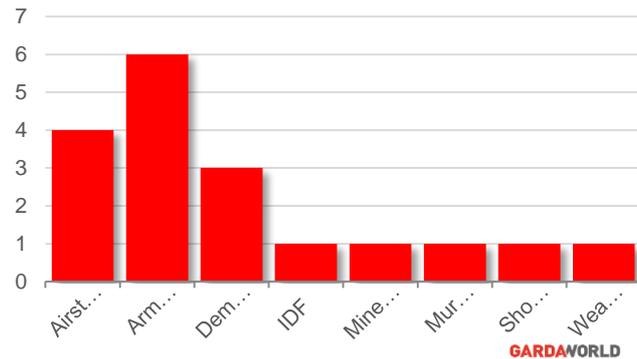
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- Airstrike - 07 Mar 17, Sirte Province, Ras Lanuf, As Sidr and Bin Jawad: Airstrikes have continued in the areas of Ras Lanuf, As Sidra and Ben Jawad.
- Armed Clashes - 08 Mar 17, 11:00hrs, Tripoli Province, Gorji: A militia guard from a Misratan group protecting the Aman bank shot a customer for reasons unknown. Local residents retaliated and armed clashes occurred throughout the afternoon. SAF and RPG were used and residents blocked the road. The bank was destroyed by fire.

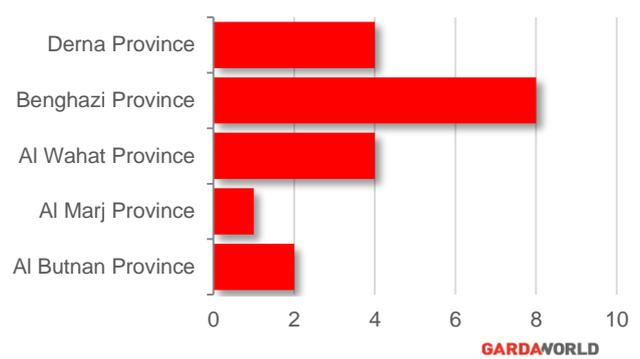
## Cyrenaica

### Incidents

Incidents by type, 02 - 08 Mar



Incidents by district, 02 - 08 Mar



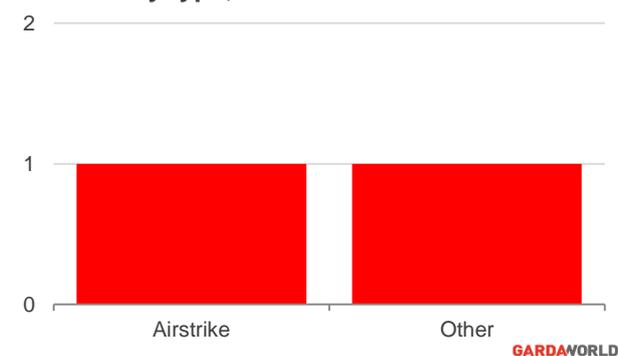
### Significant activity

- Armed Clashes - 02 Mar 17, Derna Province, Derna: LNA clashed with MSCD in Zahr al Ahmar; two MSCD and four LNA fighters were injured.
- Armed Clashes - 04 Mar 17, Derna Province, Al Hila: MSCD claim that they launched an offensive against LNA forces in Al-Hila, south of Derna, killing an undisclosed number of LNA fighters.
- Armed Clashes - 05 Mar 17, Benghazi Province, Ganfouda: RSCB stated that clashes occurred in the Buildings 12 area involving an artillery bombardment.
- Armed Clashes - 07 Mar 17, Benghazi Province, Ganfouda: The LNA has stepped up operations in the Buildings 12 area of Ganfouda. An ammunition store was reportedly found in one of the buildings. The LNA claim that nine further buildings have been cleared in the area.
- IDF - 07 Mar 17, Benghazi Province, Sabri: LNA launched artillery strikes against RSCB positions in Sabri.
- Airstrike - 08 Mar 17, Al Wahat Province, Al Uqaylah : LNA conducted airstrikes against BDB positions.
- Armed Clashes - 08 Mar 17, Al Wahat Province, Al Uqaylah: LNA clashed with BDB forces in the area.

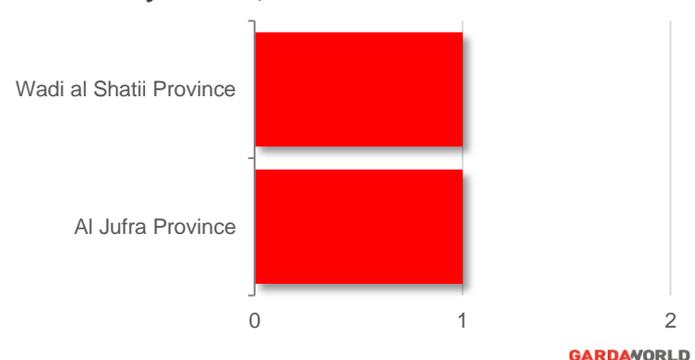
## Fezzan

### Incidents

Incidents by type, 02 - 08 Mar



Incidents by district, 02 - 08 Mar



10 March 2017

**Significant activity**

- Troop deployment - 06 Mar 17, Al Jufra Province, Hun: Unconfirmed reporting states that a 40-vehicle convoy, allegedly belonging to the Al Farouq Bde, was seen moving from Hun towards Sirte.
- Airstrike - 08 Mar 17, Wadi al Shatii Province, Brak Al Shati: LNA airstrike targeted positions in Brak.



**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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