



Weekly Libya .Xplored Preview

28 April, 2017

Prepared by Risk Analysis Team, Libya

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ISO 9001:2015
Quality Management
QMS/112016/001

ISO 14001:2015
Environmental Management
EMS/112016/001

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

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

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



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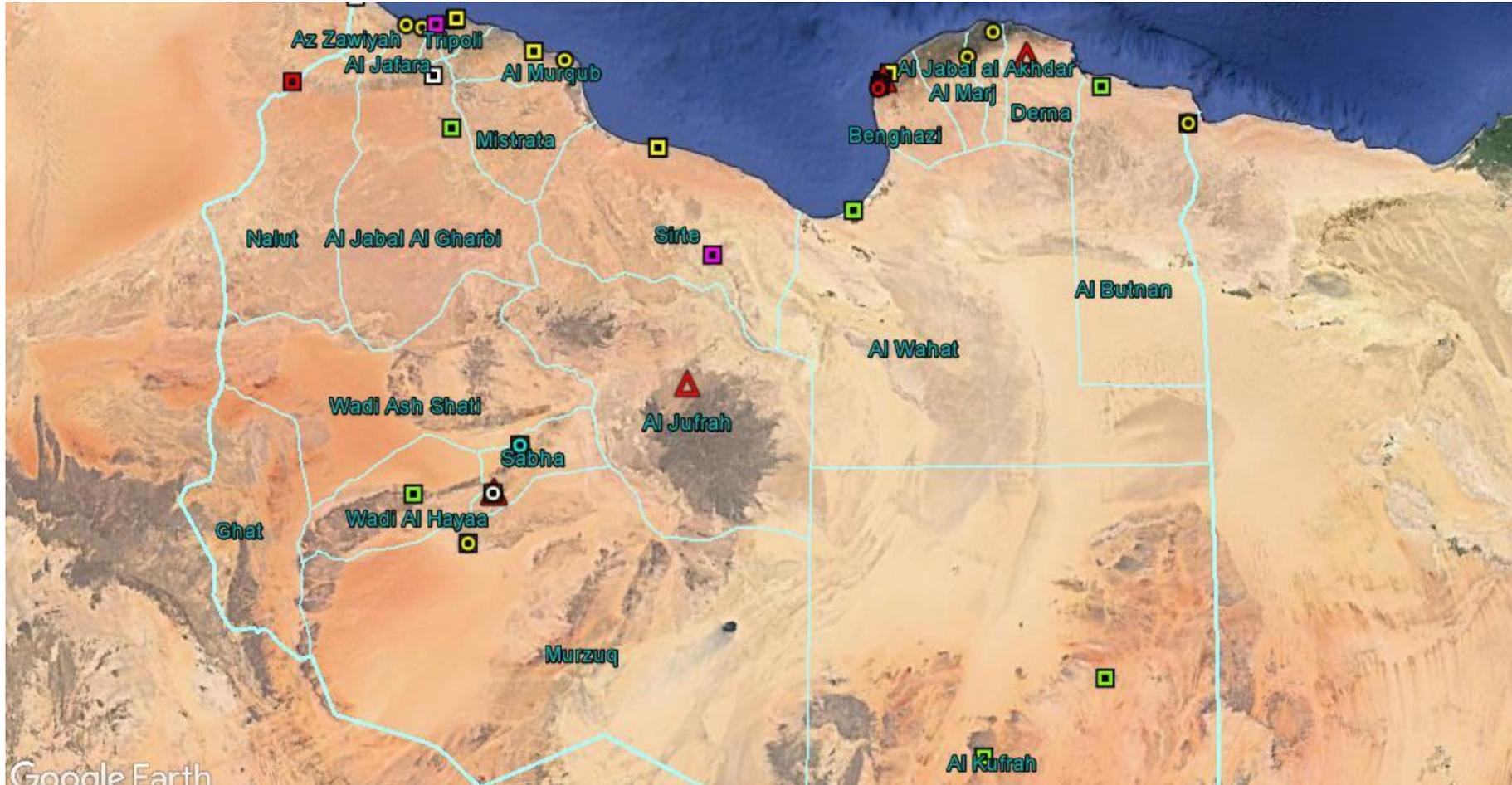
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ACTIVITY MAP



		ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management OHS/112016/001	ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management EMS/112016/001	BS OHSAS 18001:2007 Occupational Health & Safety Management HSM/112016/001	ISO 18788:2015 Security Operations Management SOS/072014/001	ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012 Quality Assurance Management QAS/072014/001					
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OUTLOOK

Short term outlook

- There are indications that the situation in Sabha is beginning to destabilize the wider security environment along tribal/ factional fault lines. This could result in fighting spreading beyond the current conflict between the LNA and GNA aligned units.
- Indications are building that the LNA is preparing to mount an assault against opposition elements in Sabra and Suq al-Hout. Reinforcements have been deployed and the LNA is now forcing remaining residents close to the contained area to evacuate. Any assault on the area will be met with determined resistance with an estimated 250-300 people remaining inside. The area has also suffered significant levels of damage resulting in debris and is laced with defensive IEDs.
- The LNA has indicated that it may take action in Jufra to disrupt supply lines to Third Force and its allies in the Sabha area.

Medium to long term outlook

- International stakeholders are continuing to adjust their strategies in Libya and there has recently been an increased show of unity for the LPA and GNA. There have been some indications that a number of stakeholders on both sides of the divide are looking to expand their influence and communications with internal factions, as there is an increasing realization that no one faction is likely to be able to take full control on its own. The overt focus remains on a political solution revolving around the GNA and the LPA, but internally it is struggling to gain traction. The recent pledges of international support along with tactical moves by the LNA are however likely empowering the GNA to become more overtly assertive against opposition factions.
- Opposing ideologies which have been surfacing for some time now in Misrata, are now threatening the city's unity. While attempts are underway to heal the rift internally, the ongoing power struggle between the GNA and the GNC in Tripoli will continue to exacerbate the situation as will the LNA push against Misratan-aligned units in Fezzan.
- IS fighters are regrouping in remote areas of Libya including central, south and southwest regions. Although their capabilities are severely diminished, reducing their ability to control large areas, the group retains the capability to conduct terrorist attacks. Threats towards city locations such as Tripoli cannot be ruled out, but it is considered more likely that the group will target critical national infrastructure in remote areas, such as some of the more isolated oil fields and facilities in the South West.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Governance

- The Governor of the Central Bank of Libya remains under pressure and has yet to articulate any new policies to deal with the deteriorating economy. A vote, to choose his replacement by the HoR was disrupted internally this week by some of his supporters and those opposed to the LPA leading 59 HoR members to suspend their membership.
- A meeting in Rome between the HoR and the HCS has given rise to new hope that the LPA renegotiations could be brought back on track. Despite no concrete commitments being made, the meeting was reported to be friendly however both sides played down its importance after some backlash from their respective support bases.
- The Fuel Crisis Committee has had official sanction to extend its remit beyond the smuggling of fuel and gas by the GNA President which is expected to result in a further increase in influence.

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Security

- Fighting in Sabha has escalated this week with the first indication of conflagration along tribal fault lines.
- The LNA has given further indications that it is planning an imminent assault into Sabra and Suq al-Hout in Benghazi and has increased its activity this week in the area resulting in a number of air and ground attacks.
- Another GNC dominoe fell in Tripoli this week when 301 Halbous Brigade pushed out the Serraj Protection Unit from Serraj in western Tripoli.
- A senior IS commander was killed in an ambush in Sabratha, western Libya by a unit aligned with the LNA.
- The LNA has indicated it may increase its activities in Jufra in a bid to disrupt supply lines to Sabha.

KEY DATES

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

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

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Governance

CBL: Pressure continues to mount on governor, but he retains his supporters

On 23 April, Governor Sadiq al Kabeer gave a press conference which aimed to explain the current economic situation and what steps the CBL was taking to shore up the value of the dinar which had plummeted in the days before. Kabeer however, revealed little new information, blaming insecurity, drop in oil revenues and the political

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situation for the deterioration of the economy and the devaluation of the dinar. He did state that there would be a focus over the following few days on trying to reach an agreement with the GNA, HCS and HoR on key reforms, suggesting that there are no clear policies yet in place to shore up the economy and that the situation is likely to persist with no clear roadmap.

LPA: Meeting between HCS and HoR gives rise to hopes of a breakthrough

The Presidents of the HoR and the HCS, Aqilah Saleh and Abdulrahman Al Sweilhli, met in Rome on 21 April. The meeting was reported as ‘friendly’ and although no concrete commitments came from it, the two men did make a number of agreements. Although both sides have sought to play down the meeting, three days later, the HoR put forward the names of 24 people who would attend the Political Dialogue Committee suggesting some traction is now been seen towards the renegotiation of the LPA.

FCC: Fuel Crisis Committee given official sanction on mission creep

Last week, the Fuel Crisis Committee began stopping fish and fish products from being exported to Tunisia, stating they were protecting Libyan fish stocks. As the committees activities have begun to make an impact, it appears to have suffered from mission creep, getting involved in wider trade/ smuggling issues. This mission creep has now been officially sanctioned by GNA President Fayez Serraj and will likely see the committee expand beyond its Brega Petroleum Marketing roots into its own entity with increasing influence.

Security

Sabha: Fighting escalates in the south

One of the main concerns about the current conflict in the south between the LNA and Third Force was the potential for conflagration. This week, the risk has increased significantly. On 24 April, the LNA launched a number of airstrikes against opposition positions around Sabha. One of these attacks targeted a joint Operations Room at Sabha Prison, resulting in the deaths of three inmates and a guard. The prison was one of a number of locations which had recently been quietly handed over by Third Force to a Tebu militia. It is unclear if the LNA was aware that the location had changed hands before they launched the attack.

Benghazi: Growing indications of an LNA assault against Sabri and Suq al-Hout

Indications that the LNA is planning an assault against Sabri and Suq al-Hout have continued this week. The LNA issued opposition fighters in the area a ‘final warning’ to lay down their weapons and have begun to forcibly evict remaining families from the outskirts. Airstrikes in the area have also increased this week and in an indication of more intense ground clashes, four LNA soldiers were killed in action on 24 April.

Serraj: Another GNC domino falls in Tripoli

On the afternoon of 22 April, 301 Halbous Brigade (Misratan) moved into the Serraj area of western Tripoli and ousted the Serraj Protection Unit (SPU). The SPU put up little resistance, and the operation was concluded quickly. Negotiations followed and vehicles taken by 301 Brigade were given back.

IS: Commander killed in Sabratha

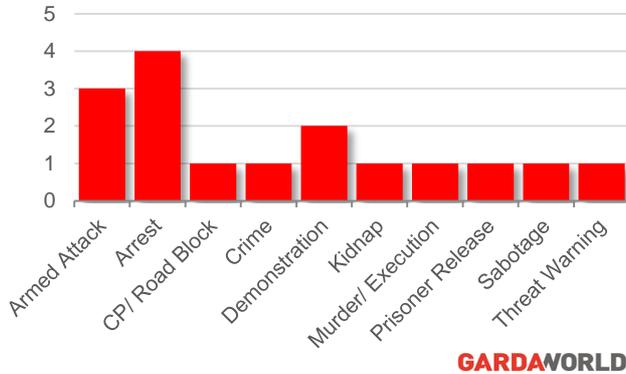
In a reminder that the group continues to maintain a presence in Libya, a senior IS commander was killed in an ambush in Sabratha on 23 April. Abdullah Al Dabashy a.k.a Haftar who established the Sabratha branch of IS, was reported to have been killed in a US airstrike on 20 February 2016 along with Nouradine Shushan, a Tunisian believed to have been the mastermind behind the Sousa and Bardo museum attacks in Tunis. The airstrikes killed 43 IS members along with two kidnapped Serbian diplomats being held at the targeted compound at the time. Reports now indicate that Al Dabashy survived these airstrikes but sustained injuries and was reportedly treated in Zawiyah city.



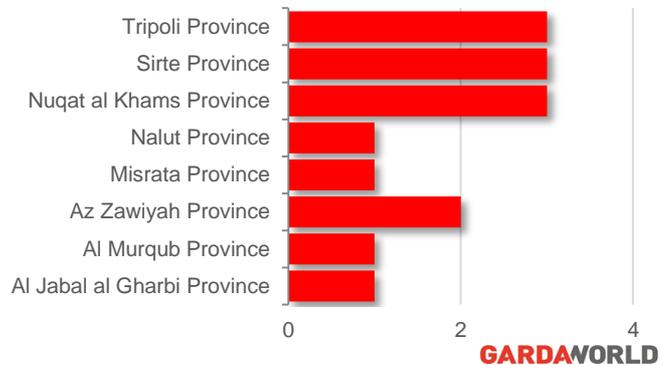
WEEKLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT

Tripolitania

Incidents by type, 20 - 26 Apr



Incidents by district, 20 - 26 Apr

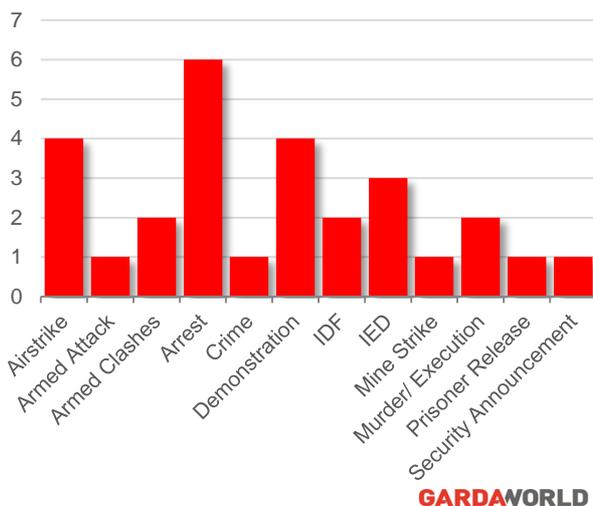


Significant activity

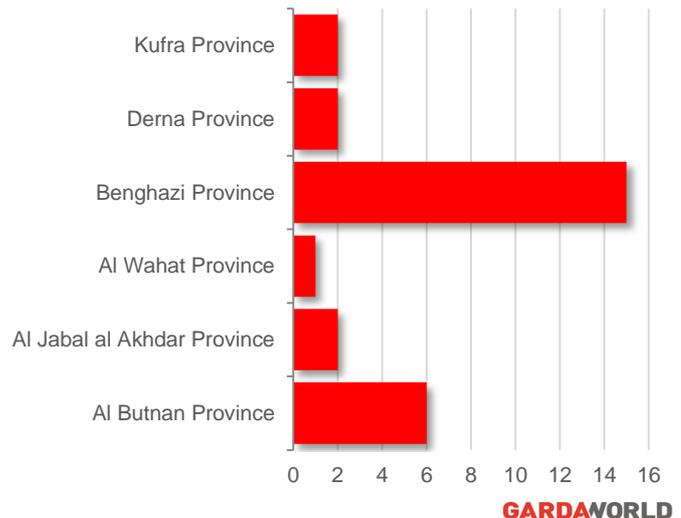
- CP/ Road Block - 22 Apr 17, Nuqat al Khams Province, Ras Ajdir: Ras Ajdir border crossing point was blocked on the Tunisian side by protestors. The protestors were demonstrating against the ongoing Libyan crackdown on fuel smuggling headed by the Fuel Crisis Committee however the committee has refused to back down. The protest caused delays at the checkpoint. Officials in Ben Gardane are looking to establish direct communications with the committee.
- Murder/ Execution - 22 Apr 17, Az Zawiyah Province, Sabratha: Reports state that IS Commander Abdullah Al Dabashy a.k.a Haftar, who established the Sabratha branch of IS, was killed by members of the Uruba Brigade.
- Threat Warning - 25 Apr 17, Nalut Province, Wazin: The Fuel Crisis Committee has warned Libyan travelers against using Wazin - Dheiba border crossing due to the presence of smuggling gangs looking to exercise retaliation on Libyan travelers due to the crack down on fuel smuggling by the committee.

Cyrenaica

Incidents by type, 20 - 26 Apr

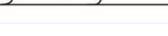
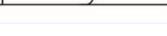


Incidents by district, 20 - 26 Apr



Significant activity

- Prisoner Release - 20 Apr 17, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: LNA and BDB conducted a prisoner exchange in Benghazi. BDB released six LNA soldiers while the LNA released 11 of their detainees.

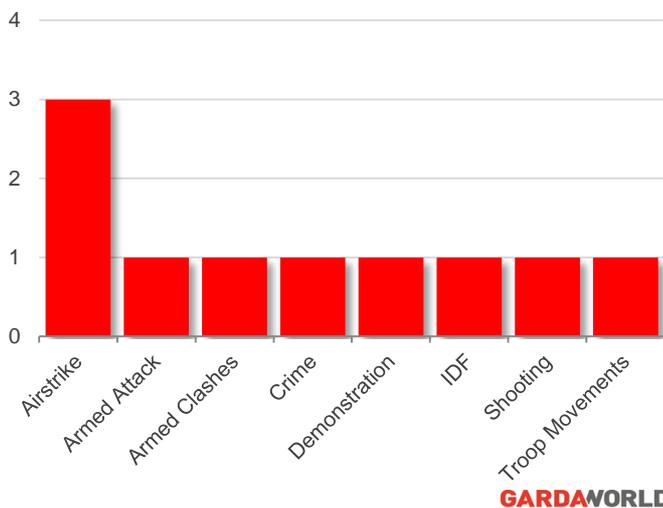


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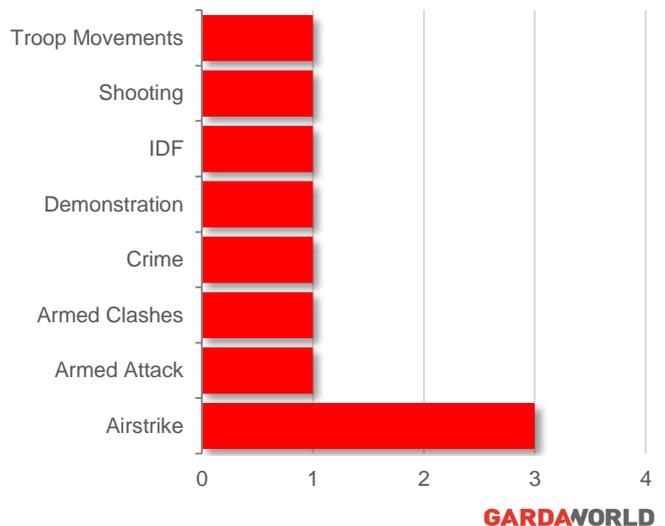
- Demonstration - 22 Apr 17, Al Wahat Province, Brega: Employees at the Brega commercial port have demonstrated against the decision from the area's military ruler, Abdulrazag Al Nadoury, to relieve Abduladiem Abukhmada from his position as manager at the port. As of Friday evening, all activities at the port had ceased.
- Arrest - 23 Apr 17, Al Jabal Al Akhdar Province, Al Bayda: Police officers in Al Bayda have arrested a Sudanese national on charges relating to witchcraft. A number of talismans and items relating to witchcraft were found on him.
- Armed Clashes - 24 Apr 17, Benghazi Province, Sabri: Sources from Jalaa Hospital in Benghazi have said that four bodies of members of the LNA have been brought in to the hospital; Abdurraheem Al Madany, Ahmed Ibrayden, Saeed Abdulkareem and Faris Suleiman. The deceased were killed during clashes with RSCB fighters in Sabri.

Fezzan

Incidents by type, 20 - 26 Apr



Incidents by district, 20 - 26 Apr



Significant activity

- Armed Attack - 10 Apr 17, Sabha Province, Sabha: The Niger Consulate was ransacked by armed men. The Police Department has been tasked with reinforcing security around the consulate.
- IDF - 23 Apr 17, Sabha Province, Tamanhint Airport: Reports state that 12 Brigade of the LNA has targeted Third Force positions in Tamanhint airbase with heavy shelling.
- Airstrike - 24 Apr 17, Sabha Province, Sabha: LNA jets have conducted airstrikes targeting Sabha Prison. Reports state that at least four people were killed and seven were injured. Three inmates were killed along with two prison guards. Eight other prisons and a guard were also injured. Large parts of the prison were reported to have been destroyed along with vehicles. The prison was reported to have housed a joint security operations room and had been quietly handed over by Third Force to a Tebu Militia. It is unclear if the LNA was aware that the location had changed hands. Sixth Brigade which is dominated by Awlad Suleiman and is allied to Third Force is unhappy with the move.
- Airstrike - 24 Apr 17, Sabha Province, Sabha: Unconfirmed reports state that LNA jets struck an unknown location near Sabha Airport.
- Airstrike - 24 Apr 17, Al Jufra Province, Al Jufra: Unconfirmed reports state that LNA jets have targeted an armed convoy travelling from Jufra to Tamanhint airbase. The convoy is thought to be reinforcements for Third Force elements currently occupying Tamanhint airbase.
- Armed Attack - 24 Apr 17, Sabha Province, Tamanhint Airport: Reports state that LNA forces have shelled Tamanhint Airbase with artillery shells including grad rockets. No casualties have been reported.
- Armed Clashes - 24 Apr 17, Sabha Province, Sabha: Clashes broke out in Sabha between Tebu and Awlad Suleiman elements in various locations in Sabha including near the Sabha Castle and Airport.

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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
 MoI - 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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