



## Weekly Libya .Xplored report preview

October 13, 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

**National Infrastructure**..... 5

**KEY DATES** ..... 5

**THREAT MATRIX**..... 5

**LATEST DEVELOPMENTS** ..... 6

**Governance**..... 6

**LPA amendment process continues** ..... 6

**Security** ..... 6

**Raids in Misrata** ..... 6

**WEEKLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT** ..... 7

**Tripolitania** ..... 7

**Cyrenaica** ..... 7

**Fezzan**..... 8

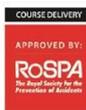
**ACRONYM LIST**..... 9

**GARDAWORLD INFORMATION SERVICES** ..... 10

**GARDAWORLD** ..... 10

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**ACTIVITY MAP**



IED	SAF	Armed Clash	Suicide	VBIED	IDF	SA Fire	HG/Mine/RPG	CP Incident	Kidnap	Civil Unrest	Crime	Threat Warning	Accident	Military Op	Health	Airstrike

		ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management QMS/112016/001	ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management EMS/112016/001	BS OHSAS 18001:2007 Occupational Health & Safety Management HSMS/112016/001	ISO 18788:2015 Security Operations Management SMS/022016/001	ANSI/ASIS PSC.1-2012 Quality Assurance Management SMS/022016/001				
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October 13, 2017

## OUTLOOK

### Short term outlook

- Recent clashes in Sabratah have led to insecurity throughout the North West region. The LNA is expanding its area of influence and opposition militias are retreating into surrounding areas. The growing instability could have a strong impact on Zawiyah and lead to clashes in this area.
- In Tripoli, several clashes have occurred recently, indicating growing confidence by smaller groups to increase their territory or control of lucrative businesses. Following incidents in Souq Al-Jum'aa, Ain Zara and Al Zahra recently, the situation remains tense.
- An IS attack in Misrata is likely to elicit a strong response from Misratan militia groups against IS locations. The incident also demonstrates current IS capabilities and intent to target iconic targets with CPX attacks.

### Medium to long term outlook

- The unveiling of a UN sponsored action plan, aimed at resolving the crisis in Libya, is expected to see long term changes in the political and security landscape in the country. Efforts will be made to return all stakeholders to the discussions and push forward a national political constitution. Presidential and Parliamentary elections will be prepared for late-2018.
- GNA President Serraj and LNA Commander Khalifa Haftar, remain central to international stakeholders' attempts to unify east and west. However, alternative solutions are being pursued by other entities with opposing factions. As factions move closer to a possible deal, tensions are likely to increase inside Libya, and there is potential for some level of fragmentation of their support bases. As a result, new alliances may be formed as progress leaves some with reducing levels of influence.
- The remnants of the GNC, which has allegedly benefited from Qatari support, remain politically isolated after losing their footprint in the capital at the end of May. Their last attempt to take territory in the capital by force failed when their fighters were forced from Garabuli on July 11, and support appears to be waning. The threat is assessed to be evolving as the GNC, and associated forces adapt to the changing environment. While intent is assessed to remain, especially for the hardliners, tactics may alter.
- There are indications that IS is beginning to regroup in Libya. Some reports suggest fighters from Iraq and Syria are heading to North Africa. The group is reported to be present in some areas south of Sirte, Bani Waled, and Sabratah.

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

### Governance

- Following discussions in Tunis on the subject of amendments to the LPA, the HoR and HCS have convened to discuss the points. For the most part, both groups were content with suggestions. However the HoR has suggested further changes to Article 8 of the LPA. The amended article provides a process that requires HoR approval of any nominees to security or military posts. A member of the HCS has pointed out that any changes require consent of both parties.
- The second round of LPA amendment talks will begin in Tunisia on Saturday, October 14.
- The leader of the GNA, Fayez Serraj visited Sabratah on Wednesday, solidifying links between the GNA and AIOR, countering LNA advancements in the area.

### Security

- The AIOR has announced that it now controls all of Sabratah City and that fighting will now cease.
- The Ministry of Health estimated casualty figures during the fighting reached 43 fatalities and 340 injuries.
- Militia groups from Sabratah have fled to Zawiyah. The arrest of a militia commander, linked to opposing forces, within the city could lead to increased tensions.
- LNA affiliated units are located in the south west in Ajaylat and to the east in Surman. There are now concerns that LNA troops might advance east towards Zawiyah.
- The UN has highlighted growing humanitarian concerns over IDPs and migrants in Sabratah, and difficulties caused by the LNA siege in Derna.

October 13, 2017

- A clash occurred in the Arada area of Tripoli on October 06. Four people were killed and around 20 injured.
- A new Joint Security Force has been implemented with a presence on the route between Tarhunah and Tripoli, running through Qasr Bin Ghashir. The group will be made up of forces from both regions and will be required to ensure the safety of motorists on the route.
- A new security unit has been formed in Tripoli, with the aim of providing security planning for banks.
- An armed group from Warshefana has clashed with 301 Bn in Tripoli. Further incidents in the South West of Tripoli are possible. A road from Tripoli to Warshefana is blocked as a result of the clashes.
- A mass grave has been unearthed in Sirte. The grave contains the remains of 21 Coptic Christians, beheaded by IS militants in February 2015.
- Police raids in Misrata have led to the arrest of least 20 IS suspects, including al-Saadi al-Nawfaly, a BDB commander with links to AQIM. A huge cache of arms, ammunition and explosives was also seized during the raids.
- A Tunisian vessel has collided with a migrant boat killing eight people. A further 20 are still missing.
- The Libyan Coastguard has fired on a vessel near Zuwara, accused of smuggling fuel.

### National Infrastructure

- Following the reopening of Benghazi Port last week, the first oil tanker in three years docked in Benghazi on October 08, carrying 13.5m liters of fuel. There are hopes that the reopening of the port will put an end to the fuel crisis in the city. Another tanker, carrying 40m litres of fuel will arrive at the port within a week.
- The Great Man Made River (GMMR) authority has announced emergency maintenance works at the main control valves at the Shuwarif station, beginning on October 16 and lasting for nine days. The authority requests that Libyans “abstain from opening the water flow valves” during this period.

## KEY DATES

Date	Occasion	Comment
October 14	Second round of LPA amendment talks	To be held in Tunis.
October 17	Demonstration in Tripoli to protest against liquidation crisis	Likely to be held in Martyrs’ Square
October 20	Anti-government protest in Martyrs’ Sq, Tripoli	Organized by Basit Igtet
October 23	Liberation Day	National holiday
December 24	Independence 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	High	High

<b>Threat Scale</b>	Minimal	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
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LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Governance

LPA amendment process continues

Steps have continued this week to amend the Libyan Political Agreement (LPA) which was originally signed in December 2015. The plan to reinvigorate the ailing political process was unveiled at the UN General Assembly in September. Subsequent talks between representatives from the HoR and HCS appear to have made progress, completing stage one of the process last week. The second half of the first stage of the amendment process was for the dialogue committees to report back to the HoR and HCS, for both groups to approve the decisions and provide any necessary input to the meetings in stage two. This appeared to go almost to plan, except for the controversial Article 8 (relating to control of the armed forces) which remains a sticking point.

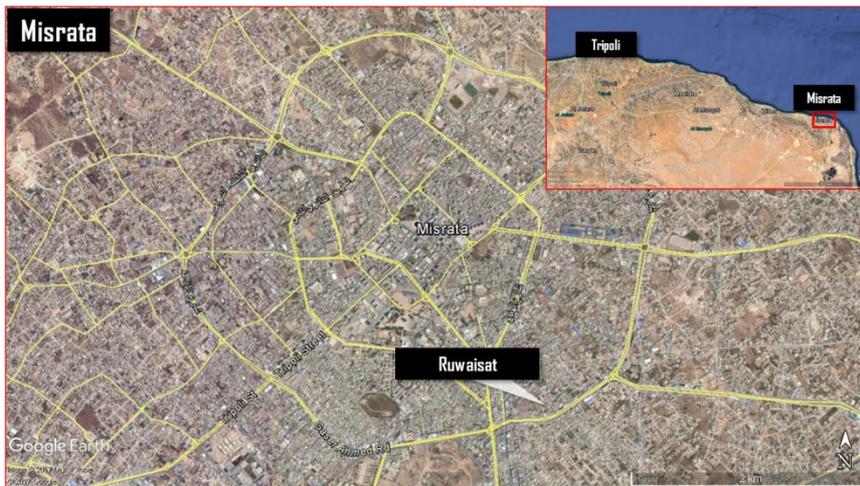
Security

Raids in Misrata

As expected, Misratan security forces have retaliated against suspected IS cells in the city this week, following a large CPX attack targeting the Misratan Courts Complex on October 04. The raids appeared to target locations previously associated with former members of the Benghazi Defence Brigade (BDB) after alleged links began to emerge this week. Raids occurred first in the Ruwaisat area of Misrata, where six people were arrested and a huge cache of weapons, ammunition and explosives were seized. This included Milan anti-tank guided missiles, SA-7 surface-to-air missile systems, various anti-tank mines, AK-47s and boxes of ammunition. Days later between 15-20 more people were arrested in Sakit, including a senior BDB commander.



Mines, ammunition (left) SA-7 (centre) and Milan ATGWs seized during raid in Misrata, October 09, 2017. Source: Misrata Anti-Crime Unit



Approximate location of raids in Ruwaisat

## WEEKLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT

## Tripolitania

## Significant activity

- Prisoner Release - Oct 05, Nuqat Al-Khams Province, Ajaylat: Following the withdrawal of al-Amo from Sabratah, migrants were released from detention centers to the west of Sabratah. Many of the migrants were rounded up and re-arrested, before being transported to other detention centers around the country, including Zuwara and Gharyan.
- Demonstration - Oct 05, Al-Jabal Al-Gharbi Province, Gharyan: 200 people attended a protest organized by Basit Igtet in Gharyan on Friday as part of his September 25 movement. The protest remained peaceful.
- Security Announcement - Oct 06, Az Zawiyah Province, Sabratah: AIOR announced that they had 'liberated' Sabratah.
- Armed Clash - Oct 06, Tripoli Province, Suq Al-Juma: Two opposing militias clashed in the Arada area of Tripoli, at the edge of Suq Al-Juma. Four people were killed and 20 injured. The clashes led to a fire in the Ministry of Economy.
- Armed Clash - Oct 06, Nuqat Al-Khams Province, Zuwara: Libyan coastguard launched an attack against a Comoros-flagged, Crimean based vessel off the coast of Zuwara. The vessel received damage to fuel tanks and engine room. The vessel was able to retreat to Malta.
- Armed Clash - Oct 07, morning, Al-Jafara Province, Aziziyah: Armed clashes occurred in Tripoli between the Misratan 301 Bn and an armed group from Warshefana. Two Misratans were killed. Tensions increased and CPs were erected in the south of Tripoli. A road linking Tripoli to Warshefana was subsequently closed temporarily.
- Arrest - Oct 08, Misrata Province, Misrata: Six suspected IS terrorists were arrested from October 07-08. Weapons and ammunition was recovered.
- Armed Clash - Oct 10, Nuqat Al-Khams Province, Ajaylat: Intermittent clashes between armed groups continue in the Shibika area of Ajaylat
- Murder/ Execution - Oct 10, Tripoli Province, Tripoli: Armed men shot and killed a Jumhouria bank (Al Dahra Branch) manager in Tripoli.
- Military Operation - Oct 10, Az Zawiyah Province, Surman: A convoy affiliated to eastern LNA, entered Camp 604 in Surman city.
- Arrest - Oct 11, Misrata Province, Misrata: Security forces in Misrata, conducted raids and apprehended at least thirteen people including a senior commander, al-Saadi Abdullah Ibrahim Abu Akhzyem (aka al-Saadi al-Nawfaly). Two members of the security forces were injured and one suspect killed during the operation.
- Murder/ Execution - Oct 12, morning, Al-Jafara Province, Assaedia: The body of a man, later identified as Mustafa Milad Aribi, was found in the Assaedia area, north of Aziziyah district. Initial reports suggest that criminals from Warshefana killed the man and stole his vehicle.

## Cyrenaica

## Significant activity

- Demonstration - Oct 07, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: Fuel tanker drivers have protested in Benghazi. The drivers are demanding payment in cash due to the liquidity crisis and refusing to transport fuel from the Tobruk refinery to Benghazi. The protest is leading to a fuel shortage in the city.
- Mine Strike - Oct 08, evening, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: A landmine detonated near Al Shahoumi building on Shwaykhat Street on Sunday evening.
- Armed Clash - Oct 08, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: The LNA clashed with an armed group near the Municipal Hotel. Ten people were injured.
- Airstrike - Oct 09, evening, Derna Province, Duhr al-Hamr: The LNA conducted airstrikes targeting MSCD positions.
- Demonstration - Oct 11, Al-Butnan Province, Tobruk: A protest outside a HoR meeting in Tobruk turned violent. Three people were injured.
- Armed Clash - Oct 12, Benghazi Province, Sidi Akribesh: LNA troops clashed with RSCB in Sidi Akribesh. Casualties were not reported.



October 13, 2017

**Fezzan**

**Significant activity**

- Murder/ Execution - Oct 07, Sabha Province, Sabha: An unidentified body that displayed signs of torture was found in Sabha city.
- Blockade - Oct 07, Fezzan, Fezzan: A southern Libya youth group calling itself "Enough Silence" has blocked all roads leading to Sharara and El Feel over deteriorating conditions in the south.
- Arrest - Oct 09, Al-Jufra Province, Hun: Media reports that journalists from Tripoli's February newspaper were arrested by LNA forces.
- Murder/ Execution - Oct 09, Sabha Province, Sabha: An unidentified body was found in Sabha. The body had gunshot wounds in the head and chest.



## ACRONYM LIST

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  
 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  
 LIFG – Libyan Islamic Fighting Group  
 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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