

Politics

Armed fighting between two brigades affiliated with Haftar take place in Gatroon



Gatroon area in the far southwest of Libya is witnessing a state of cautious calm after the temporary cessation of violent clashes that took place on Wednesday between an armed faction affiliated with the 128th Brigade, which Haftar recently dissolved, and a battalion affiliated with Saddam, Haftar's son.

The clashes came within the framework of Haftar's leadership's efforts to dismantle the groups of the 128th Brigade, which had been previously dissolved and its commander Colonel Hassan Al-Zadma dismissed; as the armed faction affiliated with the brigade refused the instructions of Haftar's leadership to hand over its weapons and headquarters in the Al-Bakhi neighborhood located south of

Gatroon, according to sources from the region.

The sources explained that the 87th Battalion affiliated with Saddam Haftar raided the Al-Bakhi neighborhood to control the headquarters of the armed faction before the circle of clashes expanded and included large parts of Gatroon for several hours, ending with the withdrawal of the faction and the control of the 87th Battalion on Wednesday night.

The sources said that the armed faction affiliated with the 128th Brigade includes fighters affiliated with a Chadian rebel movement in addition to militants from the Tebu tribes, and they have been controlling the area for a long time in favor of Haftar.

While Haftar's command did not announce any operation in Gatroon, activists in the area circulated on social media footage showing clashes using medium and heavy weapons in Gatroon, in addition to showing military vehicles burned as a result of the clashes.

The Social Council of Tebu Dignataries in Libya published a video statement, in which it announced disavowing those it described as "immigrant gangs" in Gatroon, without any mention of the clashes that took place in the area. The council's statement called on Haftar's command to visit the area to see the living conditions there, extend development and reconstruction projects, and provide fuel and services for the citizen.

Politics

Libyan State Minister Adel Jumua survives assassination attempt



The Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs in the Government of National Unity, Adel Jumua, survived an assassination attempt on Wednesday after his car came under a hail of bullets on the Second Ring Road in Tripoli.

A government source reported that the Minister's vehicle was hit by 14 bullets, two of which struck his legs. He was transported to Abu Salim Hospital, where he was admitted to the intensive care unit for treatment. His condition is reported to be stable.

The Government of National Unity condemned the assassination attempt, reaffirming that Jumua's health is stable. The government also confirmed that security agencies had launched intensive investigations to uncover the circumstances of the attack and track down the perpetrators to bring them to justice.

The Government of National Unity stressed that it would not tolerate any attempts to threaten the state's security and stability, reaffirming its commitment to strengthening security and upholding the rule of law.

Politics

Libya's Fatwa House describes Trump's statements on displacing people of Gaza as "provocative racism"



The Research and Sharia Studies Council of the Libyan Fatwa House strongly condemned the statements of US President Donald Trump, in which he called for the displacement of Gaza's residents to Egypt and Jordan.

The Council described these remarks as provocative racism, in which the US president openly declares his intent to commit a major war crime and an act of ethnic cleansing, displaying an unprecedented disregard for Muslims and their leaders.

The Council reminded all Muslims—both rulers and citizens—of their duty to support their brothers in Gaza by all possible means that help them remain in their homeland and steadfastly defend their positions. It also called on Muslims to reject and denounce Trump's statements in every possible way, without ambiguity or hesitation.

It also warned that silence on this crime will have consequences. The statement stressed that the enemy no longer conceals its intentions for Palestine and Muslims, aiming to expand into Arab lands and annex them to the Zionist entity.

West Coast Military Zone launches security operation in Zuwara



The West Coast Military Zone announced on Tuesday the launching of military operations against crime dens and outlaws in the city of Zuwara, after two similar operations in the cities of Al-Zawiya and Ajilat in the west of the country.

The Zone stated in a statement that "in the context of completing the military operation launched by the West Coast Military Zone early last January in the cities of Al-Zawiya and Ajilat, military operations were launched on Tuesday in the city of Zuwara, as part of the deci-

sive efforts to eradicate organized crime dens and confront outlaws."

The statement explained that "the 105th Battalion and the 62nd Infantry Brigade affiliated with the Zone launched intensive raids, targeting organized crime gangs that practice illegal fuel smuggling, human trafficking and illegal immigration, which pose a direct threat to national security and national sovereignty."

It confirmed that its operations will continue "with strength and determination until the crime hotbeds are completely

eliminated, and the region is cleansed of all criminal activities that hinder stability and development efforts, as part of implementing the strict instructions of the Supreme Command on the necessity of imposing security and enforcing the law in all targeted areas."

It called on all citizens to cooperate with the military forces and report any suspicious movements, stressing that these operations will continue until the smuggling and organized crime networks are completely eradicated, and the state's authority are reimposed.

Politics



EU condemns assassination attempt on Libyan minister

The European Union Mission in Libya, along with diplomatic missions of EU member states, has condemned the assassination attempt on Minister Adel Jumaa in Tripoli.

In a joint statement, the missions urged Libyan authorities to conduct a swift, transparent, and comprehensive investigation to identify and prosecute those responsible. They reaffirmed their strong opposition to politically motivated violence. The EU also called on Libyan stakeholders to prioritize dialogue, avoid escalation, and resolve political disputes through peaceful means. Jumaa was wounded after gunmen opened fire on his vehicle in Tripoli, and was taken to surgery for treatment.

Politics



Cairo hosts meetings of JMC 5+5

The Joint Military Commission (JMC) 5+5 held a meeting in Cairo on Tuesday, attended by the Chief of Staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces, Ahmed Khalifa.

According to Cairo News Channel, the JMC is discussing ensuring the stabilization of the ceasefire in Libya and the withdrawal of foreign forces and mercenaries from Libya, in addition to addressing the unification of security institutions alongside the military institution.

The Cairo meeting is the first this year for the JMC, which includes military officers from various Libyan regions, following the last meeting held on November 28, 2024, in the Turkish capital, Ankara.

Politics



HoR-HCS committee discusses new road map for executive authority

The Executive Track Committee in both the House of Representatives (HoR) and the High Council of State (HCS) continued its meeting on Tuesday at the HoR headquarters in Benghazi to discuss establishing a roadmap for a new executive authority that will lead the country to elections.

According to a statement issued by the official spokesperson of the council, "the committee intends to communicate with the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and relevant national powers involved in seeking a solution to the crisis to present the agreed-upon roadmap." This step, announced by the HoR, coincided with the holding of the Advisory Committee's meetings, formed by the UNSMIL, as part of a multi-track initiative presented by the acting UN envoy, Stephanie Kouri, to the Security Council during its session on December 16.

Economy



Libya introduces market controls ahead of Ramadan

The Ministry of Economy and Trade has unveiled new measures to stabilize markets and secure food supplies ahead of the holy month of Ramadan.

Minister Mohamed Al-Huwaij instructed the committee monitoring basic commodity prices to prioritize the importation of essential food items and expedite the opening of letters of credit.

In a high-level meeting, Al-Huwaij stressed the need to maintain the availability of key goods, control price inflation, and protect consumers. The minister also called for increased cooperation with regulatory bodies to prevent monopolies and price speculation.

Authorities agreed to hold talks with suppliers and local distributors to ensure that products remain affordable. Additionally, the ministry will coordinate with other agencies to streamline the entry of goods into the market, while field teams will inspect factories and trading companies to monitor compliance. Regulatory bodies have been tasked with establishing a framework to enforce these measures, ensuring continuous market oversight to prevent price hikes and hoarding during the Ramadan season.

Economy



Libyan Iron and Steel Company receives 162,000-ton iron ore shipment

The ship "CSK GENERATION," arriving from Bahrain, has docked at the Libyan Iron and Steel Company's port in Misrata, carrying an estimated 162,000 tons of iron ore pellets.

The shipment is part of the ongoing supply plans to support the company's production operations.

The company stated that the General Administration for Direct Reduction and Raw Materials Handling began unloading the shipment immediately upon arrival, adhering to the highest standards of efficiency and safety to ensure quick processing and smooth transfer of raw materials to the storage yards.

It also pointed out that its port is experiencing continuous and active operations, reflecting the significant industrial and commercial activity. Ship arrivals and raw material unloading operations are ongoing, contributing to supplying production lines with raw materials according to the approved operational plans.

Economy



NOC urges number of companies to complete projects to increase production

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) has called on the companies of Zueitina, Nafusa, and Sarir to complete their production increase projects and emphasized the need to enhance operational safety.

This came during the annual meetings of the NOC's board of directors with these companies. The meetings discussed the plans and projects for 2025 and the required budget, as well as reviewed the activities of 2024,

which included Zueitina's actual operations in blocks 103 and 74/29 in the Ghadames Basin, according to the NOC.

They also discussed Nafusa's resumption of oil pumping through a pipeline from the North Hamada field to the Al-Feel field pipeline, which connects to the Mellitah complex. Additionally, the Sarir company's production surpassed its daily target, reaching 60,000 barrels.

Economy

NOC recommends resuming production at Al-Ghani field



The Board of Directors of the National Oil Corporation (NOC) has recommended the resumption of production at the Al-Ghani field, operated by Harouge Oil Operations, which has undergone development operations in recent years.

This came during a meeting on Monday as part of a series of meetings to follow up on targeted projects for Teqaniya Libya, Harouge, North Africa companies, and the Oil Training and Qualification Institute for the year 2025, as well as the proposed budg-

ets for their implementation.

The meetings, held at the NOC's headquarters in Tripoli, reviewed the achievements of the mentioned companies during the past year. During the meetings, Teqaniya Libya presented engineering studies and consultations for sector companies.

The NOC added that Harouge Oil Operations registered record production rates, while the institute graduated 259 technical trainees, and North Africa company successfully completed its preparations in terms of technical

and operational equipment.

The Board of Directors of the NOC provided its recommendations, the most notable of which were: Localizing the operations of Teqaniya Libya, Focusing on projects to increase and sustain production, Resuming production at the Al-Ghani field operated by Harouge Oil Operations, and stressing the importance of maintaining the institute's system and independence to ensure the graduation of skilled personnel who contribute to the development of the oil sector.

Economy



NOC achieves key milestones in 2024

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) has announced that its drilling arm, the National Drilling Company, successfully drilled 14 wells and completed maintenance on 213 others throughout 2024. Additionally, the NOC's Research Center conducted 54 technical studies and 948 laboratory analyses.

The announcement was made during an annual meeting at NOC's headquarters in Tripoli, led by Chairman Masoud Suleiman. The meeting also highlighted projects completed in 2024 and those planned for 2025, with discussions focused on the budget required to support them.

The NOC praised the drilling company for enhancing services and upgrading its drilling fleet to increase production. The Oil Clinic's expansion, adding 241 new beds, was also commended as part of NOC's continued focus on quality medical services for over a quarter of a million users across 28 oil companies.

Economy



GNU signs MoU with UAE to boost economic ties

The Minister of Transport of the Government of National Unity (GNU), Mohammed Al-Shahoubi, and the UAE Minister of Economy and Chairman of the General Civil Aviation Authority, Abdullah bin Touq Al-Mari, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at lifting restrictions on passenger and air cargo movement between the two countries.

According to Hakomitna platform, this step aims to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the aviation sector, facilitate air travel, and contribute to boosting trade and investment exchanges, as well as enhancing economic ties between the two countries.

The GNU has previously signed a series of agreements with other countries, such as Tunisia, Egypt, and Turkey, with the goal of reopening its airspace and enhancing cooperation in the aviation sector.



Education

Minister of Education discusses signing MoU with UN to enhance cooperation in educational fields

The Minister of Education of the Government of National Unity, Mussa Al-Maqryif, has discussed with, the Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services in North Africa, signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the international organization to enhance cooperation in four educational areas.

This came during their meeting at the Ministry of Education HQ in Tripoli on

Monday, with the presence of the Director of the UN Office in Libya.

According to the Ministry of Education official Facebook page, the meeting focused on discussing the signing of the MoU between the ministry and the organization to strengthen cooperation in projects related to digital transformation, capacity building, the development of electronic guidelines, and interactive education.



Sports

Libyan Taekwondo Team wins two gold medals at Arab Championship

The Libyan Taekwondo team won two gold medals at the conclusion of their participation in the Arab Taekwondo Championship.

The fifth edition of the championship, held in the Emirate of Fujairah, UAE, from February 5 to 7, saw the participation of 1,534 athletes from several Arab countries.

The two gold medals were earned by athletes Mo-

hamed Atiwa in the men's under-63 kg youth category, and Abdelrahman Yahya in the men's under-68 kg youth category.

The Libyan team's journey in the UAE continues with their participation in the Fujairah International Open Championship, which takes place from February 9 to 13, with 2,628 athletes from around the world.



Health

Libyan authorities intercept migrants attempting desert crossing

The Petroleum Facilities Guard (PFG) in the southwest has intercepted more than 20 migrants attempting to cross the desert towards the Mediterranean.

In a statement, the PFG said its patrols would continue efforts to disrupt smuggling routes and combat human trafficking, vowing to crack down on those profiting from the trade.

Sports

Libya conducts first-ever doping tests during sports competitions

The Libyan Anti-Doping Committee has launched the country's first doping tests using intravenous blood samples during athletic competitions.

Committee head Mohamed Al-Faqih announced that the initiative follows the completion of extensive preparations at the committee's testing and sampling office. The decision aligns with a directive from the International Anti-Doping

Agency, urging national bodies to adopt blood sampling in their anti-doping efforts.

The testing forms part of a broader national campaign, backed by the Ministry of Sports, aimed at modernizing the country's approach to combating doping. Officials say the initiative represents a critical step in safeguarding the integrity of Libyan sports and keeping pace with international standards.



Migration

IOM: 13 immigrants died in the Mediterranean, 790 returned to Libya this week

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has reported the deaths of 13 immigrants attempting to cross from Libya to Europe in small boats, adding in its weekly update on Facebook that 14 more migrants are missing following search and rescue operations.

IOM said that 790 immigrants were intercepted in the Mediterranean and returned to Libya during the same period, adding that these individuals had departed from the

coasts of Tripoli, Al-Zawiya, and Sabratha.

"Among the intercepted immigrants were 40 children, 657 men, and 93 women, who were subsequently transferred to detention centers in Tripoli," IOM added.

According to IOM data, since the beginning of January until February 8, at least 62 immigrants have died in the Mediterranean, while 2,633 men, 393 women, and 162 children have been intercepted and returned to Libya.



Opinions

The new initiative and its limitations



By Abdullah Alkabar
a Libyan political writer and commentator

The rapid regional changes have accelerated the Western move towards Libya again, after years of political deadlock and the absence of any clear international vision towards resolving the crisis. Within a few weeks, the UN Security Council took several important decisions on several files namely; oil smuggling, partially lifting the ban on arms supplies, and allowing the management of part of the frozen assets in international financial institutions, coinciding with the issuance of secret arrest warrants by the International Criminal Court for Libyan figures, for whom the court had evidence and testimonies of committing war crimes and crimes against humanity. The UN Security Council also agreed to appoint the Ghanaian politician and diplomat Tetteh as a UN envoy to Libya.

The UN mission, headed by American diplomat, Stephanie Koury, began implementing its initiatives by announcing names of members of the Legal Advisory Committee, which is supposed to complete its work during this month, and submit its proposals to the mission on the files of election laws and the unification of the executive authority.

Immediately after the list of committee members was issued, reactions varied between scepticism, reservations and welcome. This is expected and natural due to the state of conflict, and caution against a potential trap set by major powers for influential local parties, aiming to marginalize their role,

bypass them, and proceed with implementing a Western plan as developments of the conflict with Russia do not allow for postponement or slowdown, especially with Russia's strengthening of its military capabilities by transferring more weapons to the bases it operates on Libyan territory after the fall of its ally in Syria, Bashar al-Assad.

Before the Legal Advisory Committee began its work, the United Nations published the report of the Committee of Experts, including all the disasters committed by the parties and figures active in power in the East and West of Libya. The aim of the publication is to weaken them, as they will be in the crosshairs of popular anger, with an implicit threat of possible sanctions, after the report revealed the names of those involved in smuggling oil, drugs and irregular migrants, which are not just national but international crimes because they were carried out with external parties and their impact extends beyond the borders of the Libyan state.

The committee will present its proposals regarding amendments to electoral laws, the formation of a unified government, and what should be done on the security track. Then UNSMIL will launch a national dialogue that includes a wide spectrum of all social components and political trends, to discuss and support these proposals before they are approved by the legislative authority.

As usual, the de facto authorities

will work to thwart the UN plan, using the same means they previously resorted to, to undermine any project that could overthrow them or strip them of their powers. They have become more experienced than ever in evasion and procrastination, and despite the conflict, competition, and hostility between them, they may be forced to coordinate and cooperate with each other indirectly as long as there is a common goal that unites them.

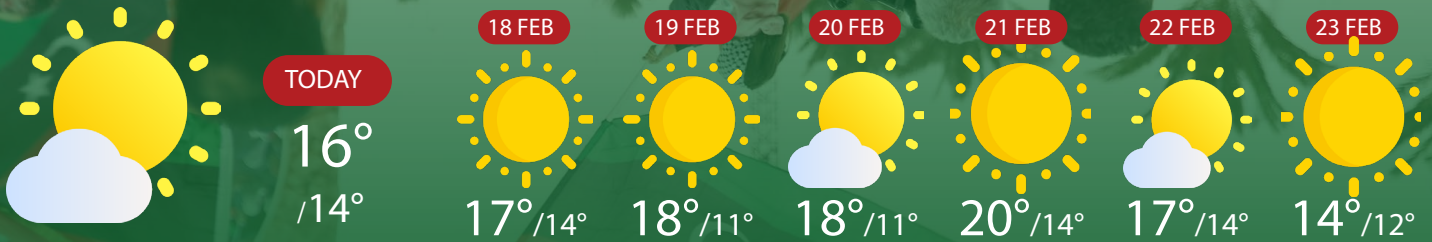
However, the UN mission and the active international parties know what awaits them, and they are undoubtedly aware of the methods that the parties in power will adopt to obstruct any effort that could bring about a real solution to the crisis. Therefore, what is expected is the application of strong pressure to force them to submit, without resorting to sanctions because the recent developments have begun to threaten the interests of America and its allies and are no longer a purely Libyan affair.

The pressing question here is; what is Russia's position vis-vis this Western move? It is politically and militarily active in Libya, and it knows that it is targeted by these measures. Therefore, it is difficult to obtain the required support from the Security Council through binding resolutions, unless an expected deal is concluded at an upcoming summit between the US President and his Russian counterpart, and this deal includes drawing up their areas of influence in Libya.

Photo of the Week



Tripoli Weather Forecast



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