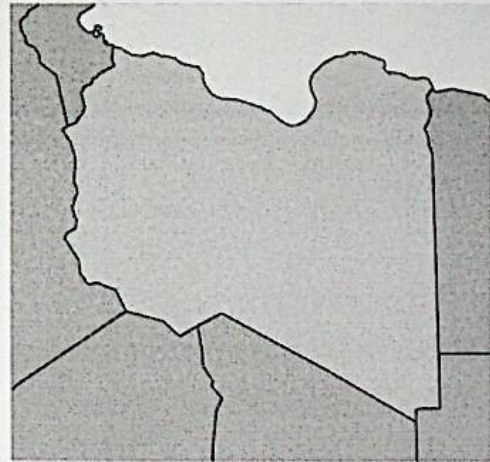

Libya

Jul 27– Aug 2

Summary

Saif al Islam Gaddafi and six other former officials from the Gaddafi regime were sentenced to death this week. Bernardino Leon met with representatives of the Tripoli Congress in Algiers to convince them to sign the agreement with Tobruk. The Tobruk government this week approved a general amnesty.



Diplomacy

UN Envoy to Libya Bernardino Leon held a meeting in Algiers with representatives of the Tripoli National Congress to discuss the renewal of dialogue with Tobruk. According to Libyan media, the diplomat thanked Algeria for its part in the mediations, for hosting this latest meeting and for its support of the Libyan talks. Leon also met with representatives from al Zawiya and MPs from the Tobruk parliament and called for the continuation of talks with Tripoli.

Politics

The son of deposed leader Col Muammar Gaddafi, Saif al Islam Gaddafi, former prime minister al Baghdadi al Mahmoudi, former intelligence chief Abdullah al Senussi and six other regime officials have been sentenced to death by a court in Tripoli in a mass trial of 37 senior members of the one-time Libyan regime. The sentence, which was handed down to Saif al Islam and four other Gaddafi-era officials in absentia, will be carried out by firing squad. Former foreign minister Abdel Ati al Obeidi was acquitted. Saif al Islam is currently being held in Zintan by the militia who captured him a year ago. Over the past few years, prior even to the division between Tripoli and Tobruk, he had always refused to move to the capital for security reasons. The accusations are of incitement to civil war, murdering civilians in 2011 and paying mercenaries with public money to repress the revolution. There were protests in Sirte, Sebha and Bani Walid over the sentences. According to Libyan website "The Libya Observer", "dozens of supporters of the regime took to the streets in protest". Photographs were published on the website that show the protesters waving the green flags of the Gaddafi regime. The three cities where the protests took place are also considered to be strongholds of tribes who support the former regime. This week, the Tobruk parliament approved a new law granting amnesty for political crimes committed since Feb. 15 2011. The law was passed with 99 votes in favour out of 200 although 20 MPs have never participated in the sessions as they do not recognise the legitimacy of the assembly. According to Libyan press agency "Al Tadhamaoun", "to obtain amnesty, the accused must promise he will not commit the same crime and he must pay back illegally gained money or find an agreement with the person to whom he caused damage or offence, and especially to the families of murder victims". Amnesty is not granted in cases of terrorism or drug smuggling. This new law, according to Libyan observers, is in response to the death sentence handed down by the court of Tripoli to Saif al Islam Gaddafi and other former regime officials. In the south, the Tebu and Tuareg tribes have signed an agreement for a ceasefire. This agreement was possible due to the mediation between the al Hasawana, al Rabi, al Mohamaid, al Zawaid and al Nasiriya tribes. The agreement especially concentrates on the Tebu and

Tuareg tribes in the al Tayuri area where fighting has been ongoing for months and where dozens have been killed in the last few weeks. Just last week 40 people were killed. Both sides committed to liberate all prisoners.

Security

Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al Baghdadi has sent six of his men to Libya to support local jihad militias, said Libyan website "Akhbar Libya 24" which reported on the clashes that began two days ago in eastern Libya between the Islamic State and Libyan Army soldiers led by General Khalifa Haftar. The six leaders of the organisation are former officials of the Iraqi Army who joined the Islamic State some time ago and who have led various operations in Iraq and Syria. They were met by Baba Hussein al Karami, the Islamic State leader in Sirte. The website added that the Islamic State sent reinforcements to Sabratha where the Tunisian leader of Ansar al Sharia, Abu Ayadh, is located.

Based on news from the following Libyan newspaper and websites: Ean Libia, Al-Wasat, Libya Al-Mustakbal, Libya Herald, Libyan News Agency LANA, Al-Hayat, Al Quds Al Arabi, Al Arabiya, Sky Arabia, Al Youm.