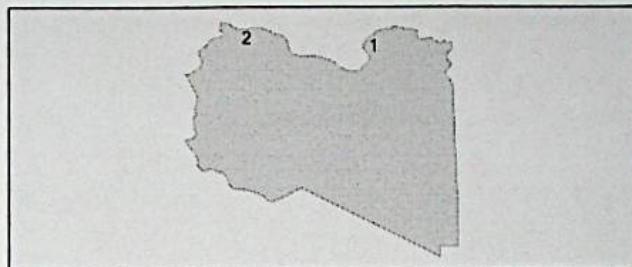


Summary: Death toll in fighting between Khalifa Hiftar's coalition and extremist Islamist militias in Benghazi rises to over 400; Khalifa Hiftar's coalition continues airstrikes against Misratan-led militia coalition in western Libya; Italian Foreign Minister Paolo Gentiloni discusses situation in Libya with Sudanese Foreign Minister Ali Ahmed Karti; Unknown gunmen kidnap prominent religious leader in Tripoli



Death Toll in Fighting Between Khalifa Hiftar's Coalition and Extremist Islamist Militias in Benghazi(1) Rises to Over 400

The death toll in the fighting between Khalifa Hiftar's coalition and the extremist Islamist militias of the "Revolutionaries Consultation Council of Benghazi" has risen to over 400. According to Tariq al-Jorushi, a member of the Council of Representatives' Defense and National Security Committee, the coalition has managed to push the extremist Islamist militias into a few isolated pockets in the city such as the al-Leithi and Souq al-Hout areas. According to al-Jorushi and Hiftar himself, the coalition has made serious progress recently and victory will be declared in the coming weeks. It remains likely, however, that the "Revolutionaries Consultation Council of Benghazi" will continue to wage a guerilla-style campaign even though it has lost substantial territory.

Based on media reports in: al-Wasat, Libya al-Mustakbal, Libya Herald, Quryna al-Jadeeda

Khalifa Hiftar's Coalition Continues Airstrikes Against Misratan-Led Militia Coalition in Western Libya

Khalifa Hiftar's coalition continued to carry out airstrikes against the Misratan-led militia coalition in western Libya over the weekend. Hiftar's coalition also vowed to keep up with the aerial attacks until it and the allied Zintani-led militia coalition wrest control of Tripoli(2) away from the Misratan-led militia coalition. In particular, Hiftar's coalition threatened to repeatedly bomb Tripoli's Mitiga Airport, the last functioning facility of its sort in Libya. The Italian government called on Hiftar's coalition to refrain from targeting Mitiga Airport, stating that such action lowers the likelihood that national dialogue efforts in Libya will succeed.

Based on media reports in: al-Wasat, Libya al-Mustakbal, Libya Herald, Quryna al-Jadeeda

Italian Foreign Minister Paolo Gentiloni Discusses Situation in Libya With Sudanese Foreign Minister Ali Ahmed Karti

Italian Foreign Minister Paolo Gentiloni discussed the situation in Libya with Sudanese Foreign Minister Ali Ahmed Karti during a recent meeting in Rome. Following the meeting, Gentiloni announced the Italian government's support for the Sudanese government's "effort to strengthen dialogue and stability in Libya." Gentiloni's remark likely referred to the ongoing attempt by Karti to organize a gathering of officials from Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Niger, Sudan, and Tunisia aimed at "achieving security and stability in Libya."

Based on media reports in: Libya al-Mustakbal