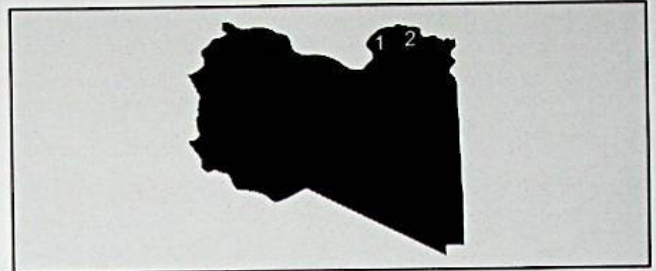


Summary: *Flurry of attacks targeting state officials in Benghazi; Second round of voting for Constitutional Drafting Committee disrupted by security incidents; New Italian Foreign Minister discusses situation in Libya with various counterparts; al-Sarir power plant seriously damaged in militia battle*



Flurry of Attacks Targeting State Officials in Benghazi(1)

Unknown gunmen assassinated at least four state officials in separate attacks in Benghazi on 26 February. The victims included a Special Forces soldier, National Security Directorate official, Benghazi Security Directorate official, and Judicial Police officer. Unknown assailants also shot at a Special Forces convoy as it drove to investigate one of the assassinations, but the gunfire did not result in any casualties. The incidents mark the latest in a string of attacks targeting state symbols in eastern Libya that has left over 170 people dead since mid-2012. The Libyan government has proved unable to stop the violence—let alone identify suspects—prompting much frustration amongst local residents. Demonstrating this frustration, protestors shut down broad swathes of Benghazi after news of the 26 February assassinations broke and called on the Libyan government to take decisive action to establish security.

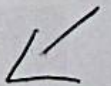
Based on media reports in: Libya al-Mustakbal, Libya for the Free

Second Round of Voting for Constitutional Drafting Committee Disrupted By Security Incidents

Security incidents disrupted the High National Elections Commission's effort to hold a second round of voting for the Constitutional Drafting Committee on 26 February. The second round was designed to give voters' whose polling stations were closed due to security issues in the first round an opportunity to cast their ballots. However, the Libyan government proved unable to secure polling stations in the second round, and as a result Tabu activists once again disrupted voting in several southern cities while anti-government Islamist militias once again intimidated people away from voting in Derna(2). The Libyan government's inability to hold the election in several cities is worrying, and it will likely harm the legitimacy of the final document produced by the Constitutional Drafting Committee.

Based on media reports in: al-Manara, Libya al-Mustakbal, Libya for the Free, Libya Herald

New Italian Foreign Minister Discusses Situation in Libya With Various Counterparts



Italy's newly appointed Foreign Minister Federica Mogherini had phone conversations with various counterparts discussing the situation in Libya, amongst other topics. Mogherini's engagement with the issue comes shortly before officials from 32 countries and seven international organizations are scheduled to meet in Rome for a "Friends of Libya Conference" on 6 March. Reports indicate that Libya's international partners will make decisions related to new assistance programs in the fields of security, transitional justice, and rule of law at the conference. According to a prominent Libyan Foreign Ministry figure, Libya's delegation hopes the conference will reinvigorate international support for state building and stabilization efforts in the country.

Based on media reports in: al-Manara, Libya al-Mustakbal