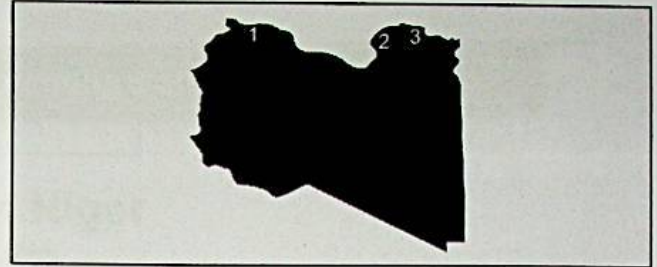


**Summary:** Ceasefire reached to end fighting in Tripoli's southwestern suburbs(1); General National Congress gives Nuri Abusahmain power to address security situation; Unknown assailants attack Italian war graves in Tripoli; Libyan security forces free kidnapped South Korean official



## Ceasefire Reached to End Fighting in Tripoli's Southwestern Suburbs

The Libyan government negotiated a ceasefire to end the deadly fighting between pro-government militias and criminal gangs in Tripoli's southwestern suburbs. The violence, which left at least 18 people dead and dozens injured, began last weekend when the militias attempted to arrest hundreds of individuals in the area wanted by the Public Prosecutor. As part of the ceasefire arrangement, local leaders in the area promised to handover the wanted individuals in return for a withdrawal of the militias. Prime Minister Ali Zaidan also stated that local police forces from the area will be tasked with following-up on the matter instead of the militias. Although the ceasefire is a positive development, such bouts of violence remain likely to occasionally emerge as long as the Libyan government remains incapable of exercising a monopoly on violence.

*Based on media reports in: al-Watan al-Libiyya, Libya al-Mustakbal, Libya Herald*

## General National Congress Gives Nuri Abusahmain Power to Address Security Situation

The General National Congress (GNC) passed a resolution giving its president, Nuri Abusahmain, the power to address Libya's security situation. The resolution, supported mainly by the Muslim Brotherhood's Justice and Construction Party and the Loyalty to the Martyrs Bloc, is largely seen as a symbolic move aimed at undermining Prime Minister Ali Zaidan. The two parties recently tried and failed to unseat the Premier in a no-confidence vote, falling 21 votes short of the 120 needed. Following the failed attempt to remove Prime Minister Zaidan, the Justice and Construction Party withdrew its five ministers from the cabinet—including Oil and Gas Minister Abdulbari al-Arusi—in a bid to further undermine the Premier. Prime Minister Zaidan responded defiantly to the development, stating that he will soon replace the five ministers as part of a larger cabinet reshuffle.

*Based on media reports in: Libya al-Mustakbal, Libya Herald*

## Unknown Assailants Attack Italian War Graves in Tripoli

Unknown assailants have attempted to attack a Tripoli cemetery hosting Italian war graves three times in the past week. Security guards and local residents fought off the attackers, but some graves are said to have suffered damage. Although exact details remain unclear, sources indicate that a security guard died during one of the attacks. The Libya Herald reported that Gaddafi loyalists were behind the first attack, but no evidence has emerged thus far to support the account. It remains a possibility that extremist Islamists are responsible, as such groups previously desecrated Western war graves in Benghazi(2). The attacks—coupled with the recent kidnapping of two Italian workers in Derna(3)—have prompted rumors that certain groups are targeting Italy for its role in training Libyan security forces.

*Based on media reports in: Libya Herald*