



NATO and Libya



Operational Media Update 31 March 00.01 – 23.59

1 April. JFC Naples, SHAPE, NATO HQ

Mission

On March 27, NATO decided to take control over all military operations for Libya under United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1970 & 1973. The aim of Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR is to protect civilians and civilian-populated areas under attack or threat of attack.

The mission consists of three elements: an arms embargo, a no-fly-zone and actions to protect civilians from attack or the threat of attack.

Over the past 24 hours, NATO has conducted the following activities associated with Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR:

Air Operations

Since the beginning of the NATO operation (31 March 2011, 08.00GMT) a total of **178** sorties have been conducted.

Total strike sorties*: **74**

*Strike sorties are intended to identify and engage appropriate targets, but do not necessarily deploy munitions each time.

Arms Embargo activities

A total of **17** ships under NATO command are actively patrolling the Central Mediterranean.

2 Vessels have been hailed to determine destination and cargo. No boardings were required.

Command and Control

NATO's operational commander for Operation Unified Protector is **Lieutenant-General Charles Bouchard** of the Canadian Air Force. His office and staff is located at the Joint Force Command in Naples.

More information on Operation Unified Protector

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