NATO and Libya

Operational Media Update
for 13 MAY

14 May. JFC Naples, SHAPE, NATO HQ

Mission
NATO took control of all military operations for Libya under United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1970 & 1973 on 31 March 2011. 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 6525 sorties, including 2556 strike sorties* have been conducted.

Sorties conducted 13 May: 148
Strike sorties conducted 13 May: 44

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

Key Hits
13 May: In Tripoli: 1 Command & Control Node. In the vicinity of Tripoli: 2 Surface-To-Air Missile Launchers, 20 Armoured vehicle storage buildings. In the vicinity of Misratah: 1 Armoured Personnel Carrier, 4 Military Trucks. In the vicinity of Al Qaryat: 4 Ammo Storages. In the vicinity of Zintan: 1 Military Vehicle. In the vicinity of Brega: 2 Tanks.

Arms Embargo Activities
A total of 20 ships under NATO command are actively patrolling the Central Mediterranean. 15 Vessels were hailed on 13 May to determine destination and cargo. No boardings and no diversions were conducted.
A total of 920 vessels have been hailed, 37 boardings and 5 diversions have been conducted since the beginning of arms embargo operations.

International Humanitarian Assistance Movements as recorded by NATO
Total of Humanitarian Movements***: 194 (air, ground, maritime)
Ships delivering Humanitarian Assistance 13 May: 5
Aircraft delivering Humanitarian Assistance 13 May: 4

***Some humanitarian movements cover several days.

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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