



NATO and Libya

Operational Media Update

For 17 SEPTEMBER



18 September. Allied Joint Force Command NAPLES, SHAPE, NATO HQ
(more information: www.jfcnaples.nato.int)

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, 06.00GMT) a total of **23,044** sorties, including **8,645** strike sorties*, have been conducted.

Sorties conducted 17 SEPTEMBER: **106**

Strike sorties conducted 17 SEPTEMBER: **42**

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

Key Hits 17 SEPTEMBER:

In the vicinity of **Sirte**: **2** Command and Control Nodes, **4** Multiple Rocket Launchers, **1** Armed Vehicle, **4** Surface to Air Missile Systems.

In the vicinity of **Hun**: **9** Anti Aircraft Guns.

In the vicinity of **Al Jufra**: **1** Command and Control Node, **1** Vehicle Storage Facility.

In the vicinity of **Sheba**: **1** Armed Vehicle, **1** Armoured Vehicle, **1** Multiple Rocket Launcher

Arms Embargo Activities

A total of **14** ships under NATO command are actively patrolling the Central Mediterranean.

16 Vessels were hailed on 17 SEPTEMBER to determine destination and cargo. **2** boardings (**0** denied) were conducted.

A total of **2685** vessels have been hailed, **287** boardings and **11** denials have been conducted since the beginning of arms embargo operations.

International Humanitarian Assistance Movements as recorded by NATO

Total of Humanitarian Movements****1280**: (air, ground, maritime)

Ships delivering Humanitarian Assistance 17 SEPTEMBER: **2**

Aircrafts delivering Humanitarian Assistance 17 SEPTEMBER: **31**

***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 Allied Joint Force Command Naples.

For any operational query:

Naples Media and Information Center
Tel: +39 081 721 31 11
Duty Mob: (2200-0600hrs local / 2000-0400 GMT)
+39 355 78 32 489
Mail to: oup.media@gmail.com

Any other query:

NATO HQ Press Desk
Tel: +32 (0) 2 707 1010
Tel: +32 (0) 2 707 10 07
Mail to: moc@hq.nato.int