

MEMO

DATE: March 5, 2020

SUBJECT: Libya Weekly Update

Below is a summary of the latest top headlines of the week surrounding the news in Libya. Key highlights include:

- Oil production in Libya has dropped dramatically since Haftar's closures of key oil export facilities, leading to an economic loss of nearly \$2.6 billion.
- As both sides attempted to negotiate peace talks, Haftar's forces launched attacks on the capital. These rocket attacks were targeting both Tripoli and the Mitiga Airport in Tripoli. This is the latest attack by Haftar that constitutes an international war crime as he continues to prevent both sides from negotiating lasting peace.
- UN special envoy Ghassan Salame has resigned from his post, citing health concerns and stress. Since he brokered a ceasefire in January attacks have continued unabated from Haftar's forces and have even intensified in Tripoli.
- President Trump may soon be forced to choose a side in the Libya conflict. Previously attempting to avoid confrontations with Turkey and Russia, Trump may soon need to hear calls from the international community and bring American influence to the conflict.

Associated Press (3/3): [Libya says oil shutdown losses close to \\$2.6 billion](#)

- The continued oil shutdown by Haftar has racked up \$2.6 billion in economic losses for Libya.
- Production since January 17th has dramatically declined, leading daily production to 123,240 barrels per day.

Reuters (3/2): [United Nations Libya envoy resigns citing stress](#)

- The UN special envoy has resigned, citing stress, after recent efforts at peace failed to impact the conflict.
- Attacks have continued in Tripoli and have intensified since the latest ceasefire was brokered by UN special envoy Salame in January.

Reuters (2/28): [Bombardment intensifies in Tripoli despite truce](#)

- Haftar's forces launched attacks on the Mitiga Airport in Tripoli amidst truce conversations with the GNA.
- The latest bombing adds to the list of mounting war crimes committed by Haftar, according to the UN Libya mission.

Associated Press (2/28): [UN envoy says Libya truce nearly broke down amid fighting](#)

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- Negotiations between both the GNA and LNA nearly broke down after Haftar conducted attacks on the capital and Tripoli's airport.
- Haftar's forces shelled the capital with at least 40 rockets, as reported, which reflects continued aggression from Haftar during negotiations.

New York Times (2/27): [In Syria and Libya, Trump Is Torn Over 2 Wars, and 2 Strongmen](#)

- President Trump, previously attempting to avoid ongoing conflicts in Syria and Libya, may be forced into choosing sides in both conflicts.
- Trump has attempted to stay out of confrontation with Turkey and Russia, despite calls for American involvement from the international community.
- Russia has been heavily involved with escalating the war in Libya through providing weapons and mercenaries to Haftar.

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