



# NATO and Libya



## Operational Media Update for 20 MAY

**21 May.** Allied Joint Force Command NAPLES, SHAPE, NATO HQ  
(more information: [www.jfcnaples.nato.int](http://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, 08.00GMT) a total of **7585** sorties, including **2926** strike sorties\* have been conducted.

Sorties conducted 20 May: **157**

Strike sorties conducted 20 May: **58**

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

### Key Hits

**20 May:** In the vicinity of **Tripoli:** **1** Command & Control Node, **1** Armoured Vehicle Storage Facility. In the vicinity of **Sebha:** **1** Command & Control Node. In the vicinity of **Sirte:** **1** Ammunition Storage Facility, **3** Surface-To-Air Missile Launchers. In the vicinity of **Zintan:** **3** Rocket Launchers.

### Arms Embargo Activities

A total of **21** ships under NATO command are actively patrolling the Central Mediterranean.

**10** Vessels were hailed on 20 May to determine destination and cargo. **1** boarding (**no** diversions) was conducted.

A total of **992** vessels have been hailed, **47** boardings and **7** diversions have been conducted since the beginning of arms embargo operations.

### International Humanitarian Assistance Movements as recorded by NATO

Total of Humanitarian Movements\*\*\*: **237** (air, ground, maritime)

Ships delivering Humanitarian Assistance 20 May: **2**

Aircraft delivering Humanitarian Assistance 20 May: **1**

*\*\*\*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.

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