NATO and Libya

Operational Media Update
for 19 April

20 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 **3,016** sorties and **1,261** strike sorties* have been conducted.

Sorties conducted 19 April: **139**
Strike sorties conducted 19 April: **62**

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

Key Targets and Engagements**
19 April: In vicinity of **Tripoli**: **2** Ammunition depots**.** In vicinity of **Misurata**: **2** T-62 Tanks, **1** T-55 Tank, **3** Rocket launcher vehicles. In vicinity of **Sirte**: **1** Surface-To-Surface (SSM) Missile Site.

**Key Engagements are not intended to give a complete account of all targets which were engaged.

Arms Embargo Activities
A total of **18** ships under NATO command are actively patrolling the Central Mediterranean.
34 Vessels were hailed on 17 April to determine destination and cargo. **No boarding nor diversion** was conducted.
A total of **457** vessels have been hailed, **10** boardings and **3** diversions have been conducted since the beginning of arms embargo operations.

International Humanitarian Assistance Movements as recorded by NATO
Total of Humanitarian Movements***: **89** (air, ground, maritime)
Ships delivering Humanitarian Assistance 19 April: **none** executed and **9** in execution.
Aircraft delivering Humanitarian Assistance 19 April: **2**

*** 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 in Naples.

More information on Operation Unified Protector
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