



Weekly Report

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Libya

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Ansar Al-Sharia threatens bloodshed in Libya

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- Sunday, violent clashes broke out in the Eastern city of Benghazi between the militant group Ansar al Sharia and the army, in what has been the “most serious and direct” confrontation between the two. Militant groups, like this one, helped oust Muammar al Qaddafi two year ago, but the government is now asking they disband or join the army.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-25084209>

- The army intervened after a civilian was allegedly beaten for carrying a weapon through an Ansar al Sharia checkpoint. In the following clashes that ensued nine have been killed and some 50 more have been injured.

<http://www.libyaherald.com/2013/11/25/ansar-al-sharia-threatens-bloodshed-in-libya/>

"Brothers of the Ansar al-Sharia. You are Muslims and we are Muslims. We don't differ on religion ... but don't impose something which is not part of the religion," Salah Obeidi, army commander of the eastern region, told reporters in appeal to end the violence in Benghazi.

Britain, US Reiterate Support for Libyan Government

- Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zeidan met with British Foreign Secretary William Hague and US Secretary of State John Kerry in London Sunday. In a statement from the British Foreign Office, the US and Britain pledged continued support for Libya during this transitional period, including the training of “2,000 Libyan Armed Forces personnel in basic infantry skills.”

<http://www.tripolipost.com/articledetail.asp?c=1&i=10818>

UN troops coming purely to protect UNSMIL premises

- The UN Support Mission in Libya is sending up to 235 armed forces to match the 200 member mission in Tripoli. After some misunderstandings, they clarified that this is not a larger peace-keeping mission, and is only to secure their office and premises. The mission reported to the Security Council that its staff was “at increased risk of attack because of worsening tensions and the lack of reliable national security forces.”

<http://www.libyaherald.com/2013/11/28/un-troops-coming-purely-to-protect-unsmil-premises/>

More than 40 killed in depot blast in Libya, more clashes in east

- In Brak al-Chaty, near the southern town Sabha, 40 people were killed in a blast at an army depot, after locals stormed the grounds with intent to steal weapons. In the east as well, four soldiers were killed, in continuation of the clashes with Ansar al Sharia. Salah Obeidi made an appeal for dialogue Thursday, asking militants to put their guns down.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/11/28/us-libya-explosion-idUSBRE9AR0RQ20131128>