



Weekly Report

**MARCH 23-29,
2014**

- 1** U.S. Soldiers train Libyan forces
- 2** Deteriorating human rights situation cause Libya to slip into a state of “near chaos”

“Libya has been sitting on the international community's back burner as the country has slipped into near chaos”

-Human Rights Watch

Libya

John Morrissey

U.S. Soldiers train Libyan forces

- In light of the recent struggle between the weak central government's armed forces and rebel militia, the U.S. has sent the first of two teams of soldiers to the country's capital to help lay the groundwork for upcoming training of Libyan forces.
- The U.S. plans to train 5,000 to 8,000 Libyan forces after a request was made by Libya as the country struggles to regain control of important oil ports in eastern Libya.
- Source: Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/03/26/us-libya-usa-training-idUSBREA2P29I20140326>

Deteriorating human rights situation cause Libya to slip into a state of “near chaos”

- Following a car bomb and an explosion at Libya's main airport this past week, it is evident that Libya is overrun by militias and faces a deteriorating human rights situation with the threat of civil war.
- The country has up to 15 million rifles and other weapons, and a panel of UN experts have stated that Libya has become a primary source of illicit weapons.
- Despite the ousting of Gaddafi, a repressive Gaddafi-era law has been amended to criminalize any insults to officials or the general national congress. Bans on expression have led to prosecution, violence, and assassinations to those who do not adhere to the strict laws.
- Source: The Guardian

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/mar/24/libya-disaster-shames-western-interventionists>