

Endless War and Chaos in Libya

By Stephen Lendman

Global Research, April 08, 2019

Region: Middle East & North Africa, USA

Theme: <u>History</u>, <u>Intelligence</u>

US-led NATO aggression raped and destroyed Libya, transforming Africa's most developed nation into a cauldron of endless violence, chaos and human misery – what happens virtually wherever US forces show up.

In 2011, Libya was terror-bombed and attacked on the ground to destroy its sovereignty, plunder its oil wealth, privatize the world's largest aquifer system, dollarize the country, exploit its people, and establish pro-Western puppet rule.

Muammar Gaddafi was toppled and sodomized to death for supporting pan-Africanism, a United States of Africa free from imperial dominance, and Libyans sharing in the country's oil wealth, a notion anathema to the US and its imperial partners.

Libya today is a dystopian failed state. Dozens of rival factions vie for control, including US-supported ISIS, al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups.

Two main ones are the UN-backed Tripoli-based Government of National Accord (GNA) and the Tobruck-based Libyan National Army (LNA), led by CIA asset **Khalifa Haftar**.

The US and Britain nominally support the GNA. France, Israel, the Saudis, UAE, and Egypt back Haftar. Much of the country is lawless, territory bordering Algeria, Niger, Chad and Sudan a haven for terrorists and other armed groups.

In January, Haftar's forces launched an offensive to purge what he called the "south('s) terrorists and criminal gangs."

Days earlier, his forces began advancing on Tripoli in the West, aiming to defeat the Fayez al-Sarraj-led GNA, calling on area resident to lay down their arms and surrender. He seized control of nearby areas and Tripoli's international airport.

Declaring a state of emergency, GNA forces mobilized to combat his troops. Hafter issued a statement saying he expects the conflict to be resolved by around mid-April – as soon as a new national unity government is formed he seeks control over.

On Sunday, his forces bombed a Tripoli suburb where LNA troops are defending the city. According to GNA **Colonel Mohamed Gnounou**, a counteroffensive dubbed "Volcano of Anger" was launched to combat his advance on the city.

On Saturday, the GNA launched air attacks on his forces around 30 miles south of Tripoli. The UN mission in Libya (UNSMIL) called for a two-hour humanitarian truce to evacuate wounded combatants and civilians wanting to leave the city.

Dozens have been killed, many others injured since Haftar's offensive was launched. On Sunday, a Pentagon statement said "(d)ue to increased unrest in Libya (it's responsible for, along with France and Britain), a contingent of US forces" are being "temporarily relocated from the country..."

US troops in Libya have nothing to do with "support(ing) diplomatic missions, counterterrorism activities, enhancing partnerships and improving security across the region" – everything to do with advancing Washington's imperium

GNA prime minister Sarraj slammed Haftar, saying

"(w)e extended our hands towards peace but after the aggression that has taken place on the part of forces belonging to (him) and his declaration of war against our cities and our capital...he will find nothing but strength and firmness."

He warned of "war without winners" if things aren't resolved diplomatically. Talks between both leaders were held in late February, failing to resolve differences.

According to Libya Analysis' Jason Pack,

"Haftar is posturing...parading his troops...making a few air raids, trying to control some strategic points but not trying to conquer" Tripoli he wants the world community to believe, adding:

The "UN and world community ha(ve) doubled down on (an upcoming national) conference...(un)swayed by violence and spoilers" like Haftar.

International players differ on Libya, some Western and regional states supporting the GNA, others for the LNA.

After meeting with Haftar on Thursday, UN Secretary General Guterres warned of a "bloody confrontation."

On Friday, G7 foreign ministers called on parties involved in the conflict to "halt all military activity and movements toward Tripoli, which are hindering prospects for the UN-led political process, putting civilians in danger, and prolonging the suffering of the Libyan people" they don't give a hoot about.

If otherwise Britain, France, and other NATO nations wouldn't have partnered with the Obama regime's 2011 aggression in Libya.

It's the root cause behind endless violence and chaos in the country for over eight years, including the ongoing GNA/LNA conflict, showing no signs of resolution so far.

A Final Comment

On Sunday, an unnamed "top Libyan military source" told Sputnik News that LNA forces failed to heed UNSMIL's call for a temporary ceasefire so wounded combatants and civilians could leave Tripoli.

His warplanes bombed the city, more likely to come if the world community doesn't intervene to halt fighting.

*

Note to readers: please click the share buttons below. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

Award-winning author Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. He is a Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG)

His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html

Visit his blog site at silendman.blogspot.com.

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <u>Stephen Lendman</u>, Global Research, 2019

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: **Stephen Lendman**

About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III." http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com. Listen to cuttingedge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance

a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca