

US, UK, French forces land in Libya

Several hundred "defence advisors" to support anti-Ghadafi Forces

By Akhtar Jamal

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Global Research Editor's Note

This report by the Pakistan Observer is unconfirmed.

Islamabad—The United States, Britain and France have sent several hundred "defence advisors" to train and support the anti-Gadhafi forces in oil-rich Eastern Libya where "rebels armed groups" have apparently taken over.

According to an exclusive report confirmed by a Libyan diplomat in the region "the three Western states have landed their "special forces troops in Cyrinacia and are now setting up their bases and training centres" to reinforce the rebel forces who are resisting pro-Qaddafi forces in several adjoining areas.

A Libyan official who requested not to be identified said that the U.S. and British military gurus were sent on February 23 and 24 night through American and French warships and small naval boats off Libyan ports of Benghazi and Tobruk.

The Western forces are reportedly preparing to set-up training bases for local militias set-up by the rebel forces for an effective control of the oil-rich region and counter any push by pro- Qaddafi forces from Tripoli .

Other reports claim that efforts to "neutralize" the Libyan Air Force were also underway to limit Qaddafi's rule in Tripoli if not fully uprooted from the country.

Meanwhile, three Indian Navy warships, are also being dispatched to be deployed in the rebel-held areas of Libya .

According to reports the Indian Navy has already sent two warships plus one its largest amphibious vessel INS Jalashwa. According to defence experts "Jalshwa" is the largest ship of Indian Navy which was delivered by the U.S. four years ago. Jalashwa, formaly the USS Trenton, has the capability to embark, transport & land various elements of an amphibious force & its equipped with mechanised landing craft, Sea King helicopters & armed with raders, ship to air missiles & rapid firing guns.

Experts say that Indian ship Jalashwa has a Landing Platform Dock with a capability 1000 fully armed troops. The warship is also used for maritime surveillance, special operations, search & rescue and to undertake other tasks.

Gadhafi vows to 'triumph over enemy'

Tripoli—Muammar Gadhafi vowed defiantly on Friday to triumph over his enemies, vigorously urging supporters in Tripoli's Green Square to protect the Libyan nation and its petroleum interests.

Addressing cheering supporters from the old city ramparts looking over Green Square, Gadhafi, wearing a winter jacket and a hunter's cap that covered his ears, said when necessary he would open Libya's arsenals of guns to the tribes.

"We can crush any enemy. We can crush it with the people's will. The people are armed and when necessary, we will open arsenals to arm all the Libyan people and all Libyan tribes," said Gadhafi, who has lost swathes of his country to rebels.—Reuters

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