

Western warplanes bombed civilian targets in Libya's capital

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WESTERN warplanes had bombed civilian targets in Libya's capital today, causing casualties, state media said.

"Civilian targets are being bombed by the 'Crusader' enemy fighter planes in Tripoli," Libyan state television said.

The official news agency Jana said there were "civilian casualties as a result of this aggression".

State television also reported that Western forces bombed fuel tanks feeding the rebel-held city of Misrata, east of Tripoli.

"The 'Crusader enemy' has bombed fuel tanks feeding the city of Misrata and the surrounding regions", television reported, quoting the Libyan army spokesman.

Targets were hit in Tripoli, the western cities of Misrata and Zuwarah and the eastern rebel bastion of Benghazi, the spokesman said.

It was claimed the Beir al-Osta Milad hospital in a Tripoli suburb was also hit.

A US military official said the first strikes took place near Libya's coast, notably around Tripoli and Misrata, "because that's where the integrated missile defence systems are".

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