

10. LIBYA

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Major Changes

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- No major changes have been recorded for the Libyan armed forces
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General Data

Official Name of the State: The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Head of State: Colonel Muammar al-Qaddafi

Prime Minister: Baghdadi Mahdmoudi

Minister of Defense: Colonel Abu-Bakr Yunis Jaber

Inspector General of the Armed Forces: Colonel Mustapha al-Kharrubi

Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces: Colonel Abu-Bakr Yunis Jaber

Chief of Staff: Brigadier General Ahmed Abdallah Awn

Commander of the Air Force and Air Defense Forces: Brigadier General Ali Riffi al-Sharif

Area: 1,759,540 sq. km.

Population: 5,700,000

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Demography

Ethnic groups

• Arabs and Berbers	5,529,000	97.0%
• Others:	171,000	3.0%
Greeks, Maltese, Italians, Egyptians, Pakistanis, Indians, Tunisians, Turks		

Religious groups

• Sunni Muslims	5,529,000	97.0%
• Christians and others	171,000	3.0%

Economic Data

		2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
• GDP (current price)	\$ bn	19.1	23.3	28.0	37.3	45.3
• GDP per capita	\$	3,673	3,785	4,438		
• Real GDP growth	%	1.1	7.1	5.4	5.6	5.8
• Consumer price index	%	-7.5	-1.3	-2.2	2.0	2.7
• External debt	\$ bn	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.5
Balance of payments						
• Exports fob	\$ bn	9.85	14.66	17.43	28.85	33.65
• Imports fob	\$ bn	7.40	7.2	8.77	11.17	12.28
• Current account balance (including services and income)	\$ bn	0.12	3.64	3.5	14.95	12.95
Government expenditure						
• Total expenditure	\$ bn	7.92	10.36	13.2	14.6	16.27
• Defense expenditure	\$ bn	0.73	0.9	1.16	1.28	1.31
• Real change in defense expenditure	%	15.9	23.3	28.8	10.3	2.4
• Defense expenditure/GDP	%	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.4	2.9
Population	m	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.0
Official exchange rate	LD : \$1	1.271	1.293	1.305	1.308	1.314

Sources: EIU Quarterly Report, EIU Country Profile, IMF International Financial Statistical Yearbook, SIPRI Yearbook

Foreign Military Cooperation

Type	Details
• Security agreements	Algeria (2001), Italy (2003), Tunisia (2001)
• Joint maneuvers	Italy (2005)

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Arms Trade

Arms Procurement and Security Assistance Received

Country	Type	Details
Egypt	• Cooperation in arms production	Alleged involvement in SSMs development (2002)
France	• Arms transfers	Upgrading of Mirage F1 aircraft (2006)
Italy	• Arms transfers	A109 helicopters (2006)
Russia	• Arms transfers	upgrade of Su-24 aircraft (2005)
Ukraine	• Arms transfers	An-32 aircraft (2003), An-74 (2004)

Arms Sales and Security Assistance Extended

Country	Type	Details
Canada	• Arms transfers	G222T aircraft (2003)
Pakistan	• Arms transfer	Mirage-V aircraft (2004)
UAE	• Arms transfers	CH-47 helicopters (2005)
Uganda	• Arms transfers	MIG-21 aircraft (2003)

Defense Production

	M	P	A
Weapons of mass destruction			
• Toxic chemical agent			✓
• Plans to upgrade SSMs, with assistance by foreign experts, and efforts to produce an indigenous SSM (al-Fatah), not yet operational			✓
Army equipment			
• Tank upgrading facility, with assistance of Czech Republic			✓

Note: M - manufacture (indigenously developed)
P - production under license
A - assembly

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Strategic Assets

NBC Capabilities

Nuclear capabilities

5Mw Soviet-made research reactor at Tadjoura; Libya had a clandestine uranium enrichment program with a few thousand centrifuges. These were surrendered and removed in the framework of its steps to renounce its WMD programs.

Party to the NPT. Safeguards agreement with the IAEA in force. Signed but not ratified the African Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba).

Chemical weapons and protective equipment

CW production facilities, stockpile of chemical agents, nerve gas, and mustard gas. In the framework of its steps to renounce its WMD programs, work has been carried out to dismantle all past chemical weapons stockpiles. Libya also acceded to the CWC.

Personal protective equipment; Soviet type decontamination units.

Biological weapons

Alleged production of toxins and other biological weapons (unconfirmed).

Party to the BWC.

Ballistic Missiles

Model	Launchers	Missiles	Since	Notes
• Scud B	80	500	1976	
• Scud C			1999	Scud C missiles have been removed
Total	~80			

Space Assets

Model	Type	Notes
Ground station		
• BIRUNI	Remote sensing	Research center

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Armed Forces

Order-of-Battle

Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
General data					
• Personnel	76,000	76,000	76,000	76,000	76,000
• SSM launchers	80	80	80	80	80
Ground Forces					
• Number of brigades	1	1	1	1	1
• Number of battalions	46	46	46	46	46
• Tanks	650 (2,210)	650 (2,210)	650 (2,210)	650 (2,210)	650 (2,210)
• APCs/AFVs	2,750 (2,970)	2,750 (2,970)	2,230 (2,520)	2,230 (2,520)	2,230 (2,520)
• Artillery (including MRLs)	2,320 (2,400)	2,320 (2,400)	2,320 (2,400)	2,320 (2,400)	2,320 (2,400)
Air Force					
• Combat aircraft	330 (431)	290 (391)	290 (391)	290 (391)	260 (386)*
• Transport aircraft	68 (73)	68 (73)	72 (77)	72 (77)	78 (83)
• Helicopters	112 (189)	112 (189)	112 (189)	112 (189)	109 (186)
Air Defense Forces					
• Heavy SAM batteries	~30	~30	~30	~30	~30
• Medium SAM batteries	~10	~10	~10	~10	~10
• Light SAM launchers	55	55	55	55	55
Navy					
• Submarines	0(2)	0(2)	0(2)	0(2)	0(2)
• Combat vessels	20	23	24	24	17

* Due to change in estimate.

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Personnel

	Regular	Reserves	Total
Ground Forces	50,000		50,000
Air Force and Air Defense	18,000		18,000
Navy	8,000		8,000
Total	76,000		76,000
Paramilitary			
• People's Militia	40,000		40,000
• Revolutionary Guards (part of the People's Militia)	3,000		3,000
• Islamic Pan African Legion (part of the People's Militia)	2,500		2,500

Ground Forces

Formations

	Independent brigades / groups	Independent battalions
Presidential Security Force	1	
Armored		10
Mechanized/Infantry		21
Artillery		22
Paratroops		15
Air Defense		8
SSM	5	
Total	6	76

Tanks

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
MBTs				
High quality				
• T-72/T-72M	360	150	1979	
Medium and low quality				
• T-62	600	+	1975	
• T-55	1,250	+	1974	
Subtotal	1,850	~500		
Total	2,210	~650		

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APCs/AFVs

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
APC				
• Engesa EE-9/11	300	200	1975/1977	
• BTR-50/60	750	750	1970	
• M-113 A1	50	~30	1972	
• OT-62/OT-64	200	100	1975	
Subtotal	1,300	~1,080		
IFV				
• BMP-1/BMP-2	1,050	1,050	1972	
Reconnaissance				
• BRDM-2	220	100		
• Engesa EE-9	+	+	1975	Also listed under APCs
Subtotal	220	100		
Total	2,520	~2,230		

Artillery

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Self-propelled guns and howitzers				
• 155mm Palmaria	210	210	1983	
• 155mm M109	20	0	1973	
• 152mm ZTS Dana	80	80	1986	
• 152mm M-1973	60	60	1982	
• 122mm M-1974	130	130	1980	
Subtotal	500	480		
Towed guns and howitzers				
• 130mm M-46	330	330	1978	
• 122mm D-30	245	245		
• 122mm D-74	60	60		
• 105mm M-101	60	0	1970	
Subtotal	695	635		
Mortars, over 160mm				
• 240mm	120	120		
• 160mm	24	24		
Subtotal	144	144		
Mortars, under 160mm				
• 120mm	48	48		
• 107mm	64	64		

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Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Subtotal	112	112		
MRLs				
• 140mm	+	+		
• 130mm M-51	+	+	1980	
• 122mm BM-21/ RM-70/BM-11	600	600	1980	
• 107mm Type 63	300	300	1979	
Subtotal	~900	~900		
Rockets				
• FROG-7	48	48		
Total	~2,400	~2,320		

Anti-Tank Missiles

Model	Launchers	Missiles	Since	Notes
• AT-3 (Sagger)	+	620	1977	
• AT-4 (Spigot)	+	+	1990	
• AT-5 (Spandrel)	+	+		
• BRDM-2	40			Carrying AT-3
• MILAN	+	400	1981	
Total	+	3,000		

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Air Force

Order-of-Battle

Category	Quantity	In service	Notes
• Combat	386	260	
• Transport	83	78	
• Helicopters	186	109	

Combat Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Interceptors				
• MiG-25/25R (Foxbat)	80	~50	1980	
• MiG-23	170	~125	1976	Also listed under Ground Attack aircraft
Subtotal	250	~175		
Multi-role				
• Mirage F-1	25	0	1979	12 To be upgraded – the rest are unserviceable
Ground attack				
• Su-24 (Fencer C)	6	6	1989	
• Su-20/22 (Fitter C)	40	40		
• MiG-23/27 (Flogger)				Also listed under Interceptor aircraft
Subtotal	46	46		
Bombers				
• Tu-22 (Blinder)	7	5	1974	
Obsolete				
• MiG-21 bis (Fishbed)	58	33		Some probably sold
Total	386	260		

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Transport Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
• An-26 (Curl)	15	10	1983	
• An-124 (condor)	2	2	2003	
• An-32	10	10	2004	
• C-130H Hercules/L-100-20/L-100-30	10	10	1970	
• C-140 Jetstar	1	1		
• Fokker F-27-400/600	9	9	1981	
• IL-76 (Candid)	19	19	1979	Including about 4 tankers
• L-410 UVP	15	15		
• Mystère-Falcon 20/50	2	2	1981	
Total	83	78		
Future procurement				
• An-74TK-200	2			Possibly some more AN-74 TK300 were ordered as well

Training and Liaison Aircraft

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Jet trainers				
• G-2AE Galeb/J-1E Jastreb	120	80	1975	
• L-39 Albatross	177	110	1978	
Subtotal	297	190		
Piston/Turbo-prop				
• SF-260 M/L/W	70	20	1977	
• Fouga Magister	12	0	1971	
Subtotal	82	20		
Total	379	210		

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Helicopters

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Attack				
• Mi-24/25	56	30	1978	Number unconfirmed
• Mi-35	13	13	1990	
Subtotal	69	43		
Medium transport				
• Mi-8/17 (Hip)	25	25	1975	
• AB-212/205	2	2	1974	
• SA-321 Super Frelon	7	7	1971	Also employed in naval combat role
Subtotal	34	34		
Light transport				
• Alouette III	14	14	1971	Possibly with police
• Mi-2 (Hoplite)	35	0		
• AB-206	4	4	1970	
• A-109	2	2		
Subtotal	55	20		
Naval combat				
• Mi-14 (Haze)	28	12	1983	
Total	186	109		
Future procurement				
• A-109	10			

Advanced Armament

Air-to-air-missiles

AA-2 (Atoll), AA-6 (Acrid), AA-7 (Apex), AA-8 (Aphid), AA-11 (Archer), R-530 (75), R-550 Magic (130), Super 530D/F

Air-to-ground missiles

AS-9 (Kyle), AS-10 (Karen), AS-14 (Kedge), AT-2 (Swatter), AT-6 (Spiral) (unconfirmed)

Note: The number in parenthesis refers to the quantity of missiles purchased, not to current inventory levels.

Air Force Infrastructure

Military airfields: 13

Al-Adem (Tobruk), Benghazi (Baninah), Beni Walid, al-Bumbah, Ghurdabiyah (Surt), Jufra, Kufra, Maatan al-Sarra, Misratha, Ouqba ben Nafi (Al-Watiya), Sabhah, Tripoli International (Idriss), Umm al-Tika.

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Air Defense Forces

Surface-to-Air Missiles

Model	Batteries	Launchers	Since	Notes
Heavy missiles				
• SA-2 (Guideline)	~15		1975	
• SA-3 (Goa)	~10		1975	
• SA-5 (Gammon)	4		1985	
Total	~30			
Medium missiles				
• Crotale	+		1974	
• SA-6 (Gainful)	6		1975	
• SA-8 (Gecko)		20		
Total	~10	20		
Light missiles				
• SA-9 (Gaskin)/ SA-13 (Gopher)		55	1981	
Shoulder-launched missiles				
• SA-7 (Grail)		400	1979	
• SA-14 (Gremlin)		+		
Total		~400		

Note: Serviceability of air defense systems is unclear.

Other Air Defense Systems

Model	Quantity	In service	Since	Notes
Short-range guns				
• 57mm S-60	90	90		
• 40mm Bofors L-70	50	0		
• 30mm 30x2 M-53/59 SP	240	0		
• 23mm ZSU 23x4 SP (Gun Dish)	250	250		
• 23mm ZU 23x2	100	100		
Total	730	440		

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Navy

Submarines

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> F class (Foxtrot, Type 641) 	0	91/2,475	2 non-operational 10x533mm torpedoes 44 mines
Total	0		

Combat Vessels

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
Missile frigates			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Koni class (Type 1159) 	2	96.4/1,440	4xSS-N-2C Styx SSMs 2xSA-N-4 SAMs 4x76mm guns 4x30mm guns 4x406mm torpedoes 1xRBU 6000 A/S mortar 20 mines
Missile corvettes			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nanuchka class 	1	59.3/660	4xSS-N-2C Styx SSMs 2xSA-N-4 SAMs 2x57mm guns
MFPBs			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combattante II 	6	49.0/311	4xOtomat SSMs 1x76mm gun 2x40mm guns 3 additional non-operational
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ossa II 	4	38.6/245	4xSS-N-2C Styx SSMs 4x30mm guns 8 additional non-operational
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ziffa (Hamlin) 	1	37 m	Unknown.
Subtotal	11		
Mine warfare vessels			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natya class minesweepers (Type 266ME) 	4	61.0/804	4x30mm guns 4x25mm guns 2xRBU 1200 A/S mortars 10 mines

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Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
			Acoustic & Magnetic sweep 5 additional non-operational
Total	17		

Landing Craft

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes / armament
• Turkish Ç-107 type	0	56.0/280	100 troops; 350 tons 1x80mm mortar 3 non-operational
• PS-700 class LST	1	99.5/2,800	240 troops; 11 tanks; 6x40mm guns 1x SA-316 Helicopter
• Polnochny class LCT (Type 773U)	0	83.9/1,305	4x30mm guns 2x140mm MRLs 100 mines 3 non-operational
• Slingsby SAH-2200 Hovercraft	2	10.6/5.5	1x12.7mm MG
Total	3		

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Auxiliary Vessels

Type	Quantity	Length (m.)/ displacement (t.)	Notes/armament
• Vosper (Tobruk)	1	54.0/500	1x102mm gun 2x40mm guns used for training
• Zeltin (LSD type)	0	98.8/2,200	2x40mm guns Maintenance and repair craft – non operational
• Yelva	1	40.9/300	Diving-support ship
• Spasilac class	1	55.5/1,590	Yugoslav salvage ship 4x12.7mm MGs
• Transporters (Ro-Ro)	10	166.5/2,412	

Coastal Defense

Type	Quantity	Notes
• SS-2C Styx	+ In 3 sites	

Naval Infrastructure

Naval bases : 6

Al-Khums, Benghazi, Misratah, Tobruk, Tripoli, Derna

Ship maintenance and repair facilities

Facilities at Tripoli with foreign technicians for repair of vessels of up to 6,000 dwt; a 3,200-ton lift floating dock; floating docks at Benghazi and Tobruk