

Lybia Domestic Media Monitoring Report
Covering 25-27 April
By Richard Hinton

State Media

April 26, 2011

Source: Al-Fajr al-Jadid State Newspaper

Al-Fajr al-Jadid reported various meetings of tribal representatives, including the event in Zlitan. In the meetings they "renewed their eternal support and allegiance to the brother leader of the revolution". The paper also carried a report on the funeral of two "civilian martyrs" said to have been killed by "the bombing of the crusader colonialist aggression" in Sirte on 23 April.

Both Al-Fajr al-Jadid and Al-Shams [state newspapers] online reported the "angry demonstrations" at Bab al-Aziziyah following NATO's latest air attack. The former included a photograph of Libyan supporters standing next to destroyed buildings, carrying images of the Libyan leader.

Source: Al-Libiyah TV

Al-Libiyah, which was mostly re-broadcasting yesterday's programmes, at 0741 showed Sayf al-Islam al-Qadhafi making a statement about the NATO bombing of his father's compound. He said his father would not surrender because he "is surrounded by millions" of supporters, while NATO was supported by "agents, spies and traitors".

April 25, 2011

Source: Al-Jamahiriyah and Al-Libiyah TV

Al-Jamahiriyah was observed to run tickers in English about the British fact-finding group which visited Libya "accusing Western media of distorting the truth and spreading lies about what is happening in Libya", and British newspaper the Daily Express "describing Britain's participation in the colonial and crusader aggression against Libya as stupidity which will lead to unexpected consequences".

"Good Morning the First Jamahiriyah" programme, showed a number of men and women holding pictures of their relatives killed in clashes with the rebels. A woman said her dead brother was "martyred in the defence of the homeland and of the Libyan people's freedom and dignity" adding that he would go to "heaven", while the victims of the rebels, to whom she referred as "rats" would end up in "hell".

At 1110 gmt, both Al-Jamahiriyah and Al-Libiyah TVs showed a "live" meeting of "representatives of east Tripoli tribes" pledging allegiance and support to the Libyan leader while venting their anger at the "agents and traitors".

Source: Al-Fajr al-Jadid and Al-Shams newspapers' websites

Marches taking place in rebel-controlled Benghazi, Tobruk and Al-Bayda on 23 April. In an identical report, both newspapers said that the participants in the Al-Bayda marches were "suppressed and dispersed with the use of live fire", although it did not specify who was behind it.

Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV, Tripoli, in Arabic 1805 gmt 21 Apr 11

Libyan state TV station Al-Jamahiriyah has shown what it says is a "human shield" protecting satellite dishes at the Sirte Station for Communications in Sirte, central Libya.

The footage showed several men on top of large satellite dishes waving green flags. The pictures were shown as part of a news headline sequence but no further information was given.

Opposition/Private Media

April 27, 2011

Source: Benghazi-based, Libyan opposition website Birniq (<http://www.brnieq.com>)

This website carried just one new report on 27 April. The report quoted a military source as saying that Al-Qadhafi was amassing his troops in Al-Burayqah and that a new attack was imminent. The source added that the pro-Qadhafi forces were "now using a new style of combat operations against the rebels".

The source, who declined to be named, said that there were at the moment 2,000-3,000 pro-Qadhafi troops in Al-Burayqah and that they were "using military vehicles and bodies of soldiers as mines in order to kill the largest possible number of rebels".

April 25, 2011

Source: Opposition Qatar-based Libya TV

The channel showed video footage of what it called protestors setting installations in Tripoli on fire. During a telephone conversation, an eyewitness from Tripoli told the channel that the city "was preparing for a strong explosion that would kill Qadhafi and his sons", the same man said a Qadhafi brigade of 1500 soldiers refused orders to head to Ajdabiyah.