

OPERATION UNIFIED PROTECTOR LESSONS FOR THE ALLIANCE

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

As stated by the NATO Secretary General in his 2011 Annual Report, "NATO's Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR (OUP) was one of the most remarkable in NATO's history. It showed the Alliance's strength and flexibility. European Allies and Canada took the lead; the United States provided critical capabilities; and the NATO command structure unified all those contributions, as those of our partners, for one clear goal." NATO's intervention to enforce UN Security Council Resolutions 1970 and 1973 was swift, OUP was brought to a successful conclusion exactly seven months later on 31 October 2011. NATO acted in full accordance with the UN mandate and consulted closely throughout with other International Organizations and other international partners.

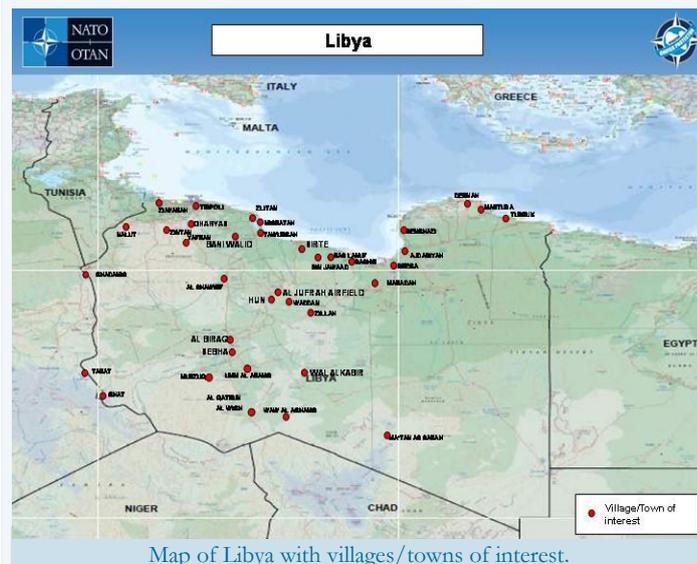
Upon completion of OUP, the JALLC was tasked to provide a compilation of those major and overarching lessons identified in the variety of NATO and national reports that are of interest to the NATO HQ International Staff (IS), International Military Staff (IMS), and ultimately Allies. The lessons contained in this JALLC report are intended to complement and not simply repeat those already promulgated in the reports produced by NATO HQ committees, SHAPE, the CJTF OUP commander and others involved in this seminal NATO operation.



French Mirage 2000D participating in NATO's Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR.

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MAIN FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



A total of 15 OUP lessons are identified in the report and are presented in three broad categories. The focus for this report is on the political-military level, but remaining complementary to the OUP lessons learned reports prepared by a IS-IMS Working Group already submitted to the Secretary General and other reports prepared by SACEUR and the OUP Commander.

Seven of the lessons identified are concerned with political considerations and include guidance, engagement, awareness, and prioritization. The topics presented under political considerations include consultation with non-NATO entities, defining the political end states, information sharing in the lead up to and during NATO operations, the NATO Intelligence Warning System, procedures for sponsoring of operational partners, Strategic Communications, and Participation in Standing NATO Forces.

Three lessons relate to organizational and doctrinal issues, covering topics including transition from a non-

PROJECT FACT SHEET





NATO
OTAN



MAIN FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CONT'D)

NATO coalition, Special Advisors, and Awareness of the NATO Crisis Response Team and Crisis Management Process. Five lessons are concerned with NATO assets and capabilities. These include Manning and Augmentation, Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance Assets, Precision Guided Munitions, Data Link Systems and the Recognized Air Picture, and Full implementation of NATO logistics planning mechanisms. Despite the challenges faced by NATO in standing up OUP the operation was brought to a successful conclusion, principally due to the determination of participating Nations, and the dedication, flexibility, creativity, and professionalism of all the personnel involved in getting the job done.



HMS Liverpool fires her 4.5-inch gun during action in support of Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR.

PROJECT EXECUTION

The analysis was based on a vast variety of lessons learned, after action, and historical reports that were produced by all levels of NATO involved in Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR, including NATO HQ, SHAPE, JFC Naples, the OUP Commander, and the OUP Air Component Commander. Previous analysis and lessons learned reports concerning other NATO operations and missions produced by the JALLC and other entities were also consulted to find evidence to support or strengthen identified OUP issues. Numerous subject matter experts across the Alliance were contacted to provide their insight into specific lessons reported.

COLONEL FRÉDÉRIC CURTAZ, FRENCH ARMY

COL Curtaz is the head of the Exercise, Training and Experimentation branch of the JALLC. After graduating from the École Speciale Militaire of Saint-Cyr, he joined the French Marines and specialized in field artillery. He attended French War College in Paris between 2003 and 2004 and then served as a special military advisor to the Senegalese Armed Forces before becoming a professor at the French Army War College in Paris. He took command of the 43rd Marines Infantry Battalion in Ivory Coast between 2008 and 2009 and was subsequently appointed to the French Army Doctrine Center as head of the implementation office for Army lessons learned.

PROJECT TEAM

MR. CHARLES RIDGWAY, NATO CIVILIAN

Mr. Ridgway has been the Editor at the JALLC since 2005. He spent ten years in the US Navy as a Surface Warfare Officer, serving on a cruiser, an aircraft carrier and as a exchange officer on a German frigate, before leaving active duty in 2003. During his time at JALLC, he has worked on over 80 analysis projects, covering virtually every operational and strategic level topic in which NATO has had an interest in the last decade.

MR. NIGEL BRANSTON, CIVILIAN ANALYST

Mr. Branston is a retired Royal Air Force officer, with tours in Allied HQ's in Naples and Brunssum. He has been involved in operations ranging from the Falklands War (1982), NATO's International Force (IFOR) in the Former Yugoslavia (1995-1996), to ISAF, to Director of Staff of JFC Brunssum's Deployable Joint Task Force HQ within the NRF. Nigel joined the JALLC in 2007 as an analyst. He has worked on several projects including managing Partnerships; Outreach; Intelligence; Dismounted Soldier Systems; Reconstruction and Stabilization.

MR. MARVIN THORSDEN, CIVILIAN ANALYST

Mr. Thorsden is a career analyst, researcher and training specialist with a background that includes sea, air, and land environments. His areas of technical expertise are Command and Control, Education, Training and Evaluation, and Combined Joint Operations. Marvin is currently a Senior Operations Analyst with the Exercise, Training, and Experimentation branch of the JALLC, and has over 25 years of experience conducting real-world data collection and analysis, the majority of which is military focused.



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