

3. (Source Comment: In the opinion of a very sensitive source, the French Government and business leaders actually expected to receive thirty five (35) per cent of new economic development in Libya after the fall of Qaddafi. Like many Western businessmen, these French officials made informal agreements with former Prime Minister Mahmoud Jibril and his advisors, only to see these agreements ignored or delayed when Abdurrahim el-Keib became head of government in October 2011. In their opinion, once el-Keib moved the government from the Eastern city of Benghazi to the national capital at Tripoli, the government became inefficient and inaccessible. These individuals also believe that the appointment of Minister of Oil Abdulrahman Ben Yezza, who was a long time official of the Italian Oil Company (ENI), was a factor. According to these sources, the bulk of ENI's oil fields are in the Western part of Libya, and Ben Yezza focused his attentions on that region, while failing to effectively organize new business East of Benghazi. These same officials state that the influences of the Western militias, particularly those from the Zintan region, have weakened the influence of the Eastern Elders.)

4. An extremely sensitive source stated that the DGSE and SIS intend to control the move toward a semi-autonomous state under a federal system. However, they have been surprised by el-Keib's intention, expressed both in public and in secret meetings with Minister of Defense Ousama al Juwali, a native of Zintan, to use force to hold the country together. El-Keib is also committed to Ben Yezza, although he is frustrated by the chaotic situation in Tripoli. This atmosphere affects new business for the most part and has been extremely irritating for businessmen from France and other Western countries.

5. (Source Comment: In the opinion of a well placed source with access to the former royal family (al Senussi), while these Western officials are focused on working around the chaotic business situation, they are risking a civil war, failing to recognized the longstanding and complicated relationship between the Eastern and Western parts of the country. Qaddafi, as an absolute dictator, suppressed these differences, which have reemerged with his defeat and death. In addition, el-Keib is talking to old acquaintances in the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood, in an effort to apply their influence to the Eastern tribal Elders, and help hold the country together.)

Re: H: France & UK behind Libya breakup, Sid

H to youshow details

Mar 9 2012

This strains credulity based on what I know. Any other info about it?

Re: H: France & UK behind Libya breakup, Sid

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Mar 9, 2012

Will seek more intel