

Introduction

In Misurata, heavy fighting, including missiles attacks on the civilian population, is forcing many people to flee the city as opportunities provide, with a large number of third country nationals are still awaiting evacuation. Overall, the information received by International Medical Corps from Misurata does not reflect any improvement in needs, or the situation.

Today, the rebels have taken most of central Misurata, pushing Gaddafi troops to the outskirts of the city.

The Libya Deputy Foreign Minister announced that the Libyan Army will withdraw from Misurata and leave it to the tribes to deal with the situation, "either using force or negotiation".

Following the rebel forces victory for control of the border post in Wazzin, rumours are circulating that more pro-Gaddafi forces may be on their way to attempt to re-take the town, however it is reported that no information supporting these rumours has been found.

There are reports on Libyan television of nine people killed overnight in NATO air strikes on Gaddafi's hometown of Sirte.

In Tunisia, a Qatari military aircraft carrying a medical team and supplies has reportedly arrived to build a field hospital near the Libyan border in the Al-Zahabiyah area.

As of April 22, 2011:

LIBYA/TUNISIA BORDER AREA

As the Ra's Ajdir border, the number of people in the camps continues to decrease, with 6257 staying in the camps as of April 21. Those from Somalia, Chad, Eritrea, Sudan and Niger continue to comprise the majority of the camp population. Health post activities continue at the border for new arrivals in need.

At the Remada camp, where many Libyan families from the Western Mountain Region have fled to, numbers have increased slightly to 930 people now in the camp.

WESTERN LIBYA

In Nalut, a wounded rebel fighter yesterday arrived to the hospital with an upper quadrant bullet wound and leg wound. The patient was immediately transferred to the intensive care unit for surgery, with a surgeon, anesthesiology technician and two nurses in attendance.

Nalut hospital has a 136 bed capacity, of which 120 are operational. 16 beds are not being used due to staffing shortages. Urgently needed staff include: 2 GP's, 2 anesthesiology technicians and many

International Medical Corps Benghazi-based team is providing medical care to injured evacuees from Misurata



nurses in addition to medicines and equipment. In Zintan, needs are more acute, due to the larger population and close location to the battle frontline.

In areas such as Jadu, Zintan and Yefren, residents are now expecting medical assistance to arrive, now that the Wazzin border post is under rebel control.

There are no IDPs from Yefren and Zintan currently in Nalut, as most have proceeded directly to Dehibat and beyond.

There is a need for community health education in the Western (Nafusa) Mountain Region on topics such as the importance of breastfeeding, prevention of infant dehydration, maternal health and care for diabetes and hypertension.

Misurata today witnessed a smaller number of casualties than the previous days, which allowed the hospital staff to focus on the current cases.

EASTERN LIBYA

Last night, the team continued providing medical support to the IOM/Libyan Red Crescent boat of more than 950 evacuees from Misurata. This included 300 Libyans and 650 Third Country Nationals. Many more injured were noted in this evacuation, with a total of 56 injured, with four in critical condition. International Medical Corps' team of 20 staff , including a general coordinator, three Doctors, 12 nurses, three logicians and a psychologist coordinated efforts with IOM, LRC and the Transitional Council Health Committee to provide medical support and safe transportation to the hospitals of Benghazi for those injured and requiring medical care. Third Country Nationals were transported to the LRC camp in Benghazi, with onwards evacuation to be organized by IOM in the coming days.

International Medical Corps today sent further needed supplies to Misurata aboard the IOM ship, and will continue in these efforts as needs in Misurata are ongoing.

International Medical Corps is planning to set up Four Child Friendly Spaces in Darna, Al-Bayda, Al-Merj, and Shehad. Plans are to work in partnership with, and train, national organizations such as the Scouts Association of Libya who have identified a space in each area of IDP concentration where the children can gather to participate in various recreational activities.

Over the weekend, International Medical Corps will provide Psychological First Aid training to staff from Benghazi Psychiatric Hospital and national staff of international NGOs that will be providing mental health care support to IDPs.



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