

CIA Gun-running, Qatar-Libya-Syria

Phil Greaves writes in [report from CNN's Jake Tapper](#) has reintroduced "Benghazi-Gate" to the US media spotlight. The report claims that "dozens" of CIA operatives were on the ground in Benghazi on the night of the attack, and the CIA is going to great lengths to suppress details of them and their whereabouts being released. The report alleges that the CIA is engaged in "unprecedented" attempts to stifle employee leaks, and "intimidation" to keep the secrets of Benghazi hidden, allegedly going as far as ["Prince of the Jihad" reported](#) that the CIA had been in direct "consultation" with the Qatari Monarchys' network of arms smugglers – run primarily from the Emir's palace in Doha. Accordingly, it seems certain that both the CIA and Qatari intelligence were involved in an operation to ship arms stockpiles from "rebels" in Libya; to the "rebels" in Syria: both varieties of which are inextricably linked to Al Qaeda affiliates and radical Salafi-Jihadi militants.

A [Independent revealed in March 2011](#) that Obama had requested Saudi Arabia supply arms to the Libyan militants. Obama had also given his [Telegraph report from November 2011](#), it is noted that the post-Gaddafi Libyan military commander Abdel Hakim Belhadj – widely regarded as the former leader of Al Qaeda affiliate: the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG) and a lead figure in the militant uprising against Gaddafi – visited members of the Syrian opposition "Free Syrian Army" (FSA) in Turkey to discuss sending "money and weapons", and also discussed "Libyan fighters to train troops".

In a [UN report from the Security Council](#) group of experts, from April 2013, also highlights the rife lawless proliferation of arms throughout Libya, and seeping beyond

its borders. The report stated that arms were fueling conflicts from Syria to Mali, and arms were spreading from Libya at an “alarming rate”. Qatar and the United Arab Emirates were singled out in the UN report for blatant violations of the arms embargo during the 2011 “uprising” against Gaddafi; the report revealed that multiple Qatari arms shipments had been allowed to flow into Libya with the full knowledge and acquiescence of NATO – in much the same way they have been allowed to flow into Turkey from Qatar, with Syria being the final destination.

Elements of the Libyan “military” leadership undoubtedly have strong links to former Al Qaeda affiliates, and were brought to power via Qatari largesse and special forces, CIA coordination, and a NATO airforce. Considering this, it is not hard to imagine the same actors would be willing to at least “turn a blind eye” to what has become an overt and unabated Libyan arms-smuggling route into Syria, as is once again demonstrated in this [New York Times report from June 29th 2013](#), Qatar have been carrying out arms shipments to “rebels” in Syria from Libya, since at least the same time they “stepped up efforts” to oust Colonel Gaddafi. Consequently, this can only be interpreted as Qatar commencing shipments of arms to Syria – from Benghazi – *before* Gaddafi had been killed, which means *before* October 2011.

It is highly plausible that Benghazi was indeed a CIA-run, arms “buy-back” program – with the further “possible” intent of forwarding those arms to Syria. As the [with a recent study finding Libyan fighters making up over twenty percent of foreign fatalities](#). If Qatar were indeed coordinating arms shipments from Libya to Syria during the early stages of the Syrian crisis in 2011, and the CIA have also been “consulting” the Qatari shipments and their follow-on transit points through Turkey; then the simplistic mainstream narrative and timeline of the

conflict in Syria merely erupting from the suppression of peaceful protesters, and in turn spiralling into full-blown civil-war, is again brought into doubt.

Uncovering the chain of events that led to the attack on the US "consulate", and the variety of militia the US and its allies were arming in Libya; could in turn reveal the full extent of the Obama administrations' support of extremist proxy-forces in Syria. Which may explain the administrations' zealous attempts to stifle any debate or serious questioning of the events that surround Benghazi.