

Libya: it's simple - don't land, don't overfly.

Declan Selleck
20 July, 2017



There has been a flurry of activity in Libya of late. The people with their hands on the AFTN printer for Libya have been putting out all kinds of information, advertising availability of aerodromes and the Tripoli FIR. **All are welcome!**

Don't be too hasty.

Libya is still a desperately unstable country. A Notam published today (A0070/17) indicates that **HLLM/Mitiga** is open and available "H24 for International Flights and Diversions".

We'd love you to come visit, they say. What the Notam doesn't mention is that two weeks ago, 5 people were killed and 32 injured during fighting at the airport.

As a matter of update on the Libyan ATM situation, we can inform operators that there are regular outages in the provision of ATC services especially at the main airports due to security or technical failure issues.

The main ACC in Tripoli is also subject to severe limitations with **no radar service** and **limited provision of CNS/ATM services** in most of the HLLL FIR airspace.

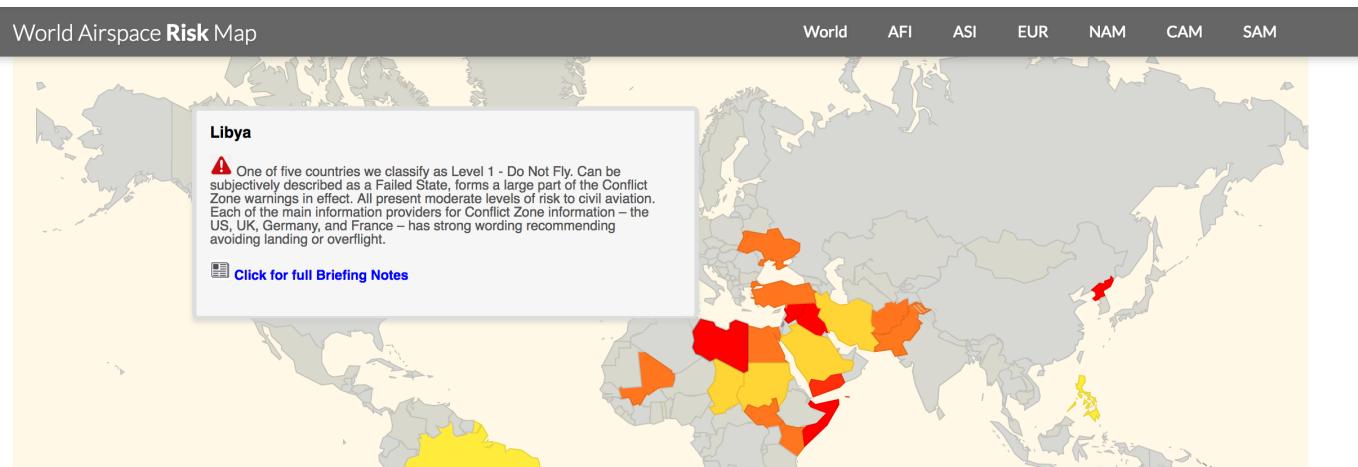
Overflight through HLLL FIR is only approved by the Libyan authorities on one southbound route from RASNO-LOSUL but even this is subject to severe limitations and a degree of confusion as to who is actually authorizing flights to transit the airspace.

There are several NOTAMs issued by adjacent States prohibiting overflights on certain entry/exit points creating further complications.

Here's a simple guide for you from FSB:

1. Don't overfly Libya or enter the Tripoli FIR, and don't land in Libyan airports.
2. Refer to 1.

Libya remains categorised as a Level One country (Do Not Fly) at safeairspace.net



Fighting at Tripoli Airport, 5 killed

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Update Jan 21: Heavy clashes broke out in the Libyan capital Tripoli on Jan 15, leaving at least twenty people dead and forcing the airport to close for five days, re-opening again on Jan 20. Gunfire at Mitiga Airport damaged multiple aircraft, including a few A319s and at least one A330.

July 5, 2017 - **HLLM/Tripoli Mitiga** : Intense fighting at the Airport yesterday, with 5 people killed and 32 injured. The fighting is ongoing between rival members of the Buni Brigade militia, which controls the

airport terminal building. It is understood that there had been a falling out over the distribution of the income the militia earns from goods and passengers passing through the terminal.

Operations were switched to Mitiga from HLLT/Tripoli International in 2014, after that airport was severely damaged in the heavy clashes that broke out across the capital in mid-2014 and closed to all operations.

Also yesterday, July 4th, **the first flight in three years to land at HLLT/Tripoli International** arrived from Addis Ababa, which was a non-scheduled flight operated by Libyan Arab Airlines. There is no indication yet that HLLT is open again for regular traffic.

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