

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 194

Expressing the sense of the Senate on United States military operations
in Libya.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 23, 2011

Mr. McCAIN (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate on United States military
operations in Libya.

Whereas peaceful demonstrations that began in Libya, inspired by similar movements in Tunisia, Egypt, and elsewhere in the Middle East, quickly spread to cities around the country, calling for greater political reform, opportunity, justice, and the rule of law;

Whereas, Muammar Qaddafi, his sons, and forces loyal to them responded to the peaceful demonstrations by authorizing and initiating violence against civilian non-combatants in Libya, including the use of airpower and foreign mercenaries;

Whereas, on February 25, 2011, President Barack Obama imposed unilateral economic sanctions on and froze the

assets of Muammar Qaddafi and his family, as well as the Government of Libya and its agencies, to hold the Qaddafi regime accountable for its continued use of violence against unarmed civilians and its human rights abuses and to safeguard the assets of the people of Libya;

Whereas, on February 26, 2011, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1970, which mandates international economic sanctions and an arms embargo;

Whereas, in response to Qaddafi's assault on Libyan civilians, a "no-fly zone" in Libya was called for by the Gulf Cooperation Council on March 7, 2011, by the head of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on March 8, 2011, and by the Arab League on March 12, 2011;

Whereas Qaddafi's advancing forces, after recapturing cities in eastern Libya that had been liberated by the Libyan opposition, were preparing to attack Benghazi, a city of 700,000 people and the seat of the opposition Government in Libya, the Interim Transitional National Council;

Whereas Qaddafi stated that he would show "no mercy" to his opponents in Benghazi, and that his forces would go "door to door" to find and kill dissidents;

Whereas, on March 17, 2011, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1973, which mandates "all necessary measures" to protect civilians in Libya, implement a "no-fly zone", and enforce an arms embargo against the Qaddafi regime;

Whereas President Obama notified key congressional leaders in a meeting at the White House on March 18, 2011, of his intent to begin targeted military operations in Libya;

Whereas the United States Armed Forces, together with coalition partners, launched Operation Odyssey Dawn in Libya on March 19, 2011, to protect civilians in Libya from immediate danger and to enforce an arms embargo and a “no-fly zone”; and

Whereas, on March 31, 2011, the United States transferred authority for Operation Odyssey Dawn in Libya to NATO command, with the mission continuing as Operation Unified Protector; Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the aspirations of the Libyan people for political reform and self-government based on democratic and human rights;

5 (2) commends the service of the men and women of the United States Armed Forces and our coalition partners who are engaged in military operations to protect the people of Libya;

9 (3) supports the limited use of military force by the United States in Libya as part of the NATO mission to enforce United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973 (2011), as requested by the Transitional National Council, the Arab League, and the Gulf Cooperation Council;

15 (4) agrees that the goal of United States policy in Libya, as stated by the President, is to achieve the departure from power of Muammar Qaddafi and his family, including through the use of non-military

1 means, so that a peaceful transition can begin to an
2 inclusive government that ensures freedom, opport-
3 tunity, and justice for the people of Libya;

4 (5) affirms that the funds of the Qaddafi re-
5 gime that have been frozen by the United States
6 should be returned to the Libyan people for their
7 benefit, including humanitarian and reconstruction
8 assistance, and calls for exploring with the Transi-
9 tional National Council the possibility of using some
10 of such funds to reimburse NATO member countries
11 for expenses incurred in Operation Odyssey Dawn
12 and Operation Unified Protector; and

13 (6) calls on the President—

14 (A) to submit to Congress a description of
15 United States policy objectives in Libya, both
16 during and after Qaddafi's rule, and a detailed
17 plan to achieve them; and

18 (B) to consult regularly with Congress re-
19 garding United States efforts in Libya.

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