## The Assassination of Mummar Gaddafi illegal under International Law

On the 18th of October, United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was in Tripoli, Libya. She stated in unusually blunt terms that she would like to see 'Mummar Gaddaffi dead'. Two days later she got her wish. Mummar Gaddafi was bombed by NATO aeroplanes as he attempted to leave Sirte and rebels from the National Transitional Authority (NTC) pulled from the drainage pipe an injured Gaddafi who had taken cover to avoid the bombardment coming from NATO Aeroplanes.

Gaddafi was pulled from the drainage pipes alive as video footage has shown and was summarily executed using his own personal golden gun. This was extra judicial killing supported by a whole Secretary of State Hilary Clinton. This was a clear violation of the Geneva Conventions in the acceptance of surrender and the treatment of prisoners of war; military necessity, along with distinction and proportionality.

The issue in Libya is not so much about Gaddafi, but that his murder symbolises the final occupation of Libya. The re-colonisation of Libya by America and NATO forces. It is now a question of America and Europe doing exactly what they please in that country. Not only do they have access to the large oil and gas reserves, but also something the media rarely covers the large water reserves under the Libyan soil. Under international law there is no rational for the assassination of Mummar Gaddafi. The original reason, which was resolution 1973 which authorised the protection of civilians, was turned into a regime change instrument. The assassination of Mummar Gaddafi is a blunt admission by America, France and Britain that this crusade was not about protecting civilians, but about regime change. This was a breach of the UN regulations. This was a NATO/US operation in a scramble for Libyan oil.

What NATO and America do not realise is that they have now created a very chaotic situation, probably similar to the one in Iraq if not worse. In the competition for the Libyan oil and Gas, the NTC and the crusading countries risk fanning more conflict amongst the Libyans themselves. Sooner rather than later the Libyans will realise that they have jumped from the frying pan into the fire. The imperial solidarity shown when taking over Libya will surely disintegrate as the scramble for these resources begins

And what was Gadaffi's crime?

Gadaffi's principle crime was that he refused to take any loans from institutions like the IMF etc. He refused to join the club of International bankers and decided to set up his own Pan-Africanist bank that would have provided loans to African countries. Gaddafi's Libya was the only African/Arab country that did not owe any country or institution any money.

The Assassination of Mummar Gaddafi is part of a bigger plot by America to establish US AFRICOM. The United States Africa Command. Africa Command protects and defends the national security interests of the United States by establishing its 'defence capabilities' on African soil and taking over regional organizations. To

date no African country except Liberia has co-operated with America in having AFRICOM bases on their soil. It is now quite clear that AFRICOM will now move into Libya. The re-colonisation of Libya will then be complete.

This is happening apparently and surprisingly with own AU and SADC being completely conspicuous with their silence. Whatever the case we see a new developing international trend were the there is a green light in the killing of leaders. This is a new US strategy of benefiting from African resources by creating destabilised states which are chaotic and hence have no central governments controlling anything. We have seen this in the Congo, Uganda, Somalia and now in Libya. This creation of chaos gives them justification for military intervention. We probably will see this soon in South Sudan. As Southern Africa and indeed Zimbabwean we need to be aware of this worrying growing international trend in which the scramble for Africa has taken a new dimension. They kill our leaders and make you believe that you were complicit

The Author Lloyd Msipa is Lawyer resident in the United Kingdom. He can be contacted at lmsipalaw@gmail.com