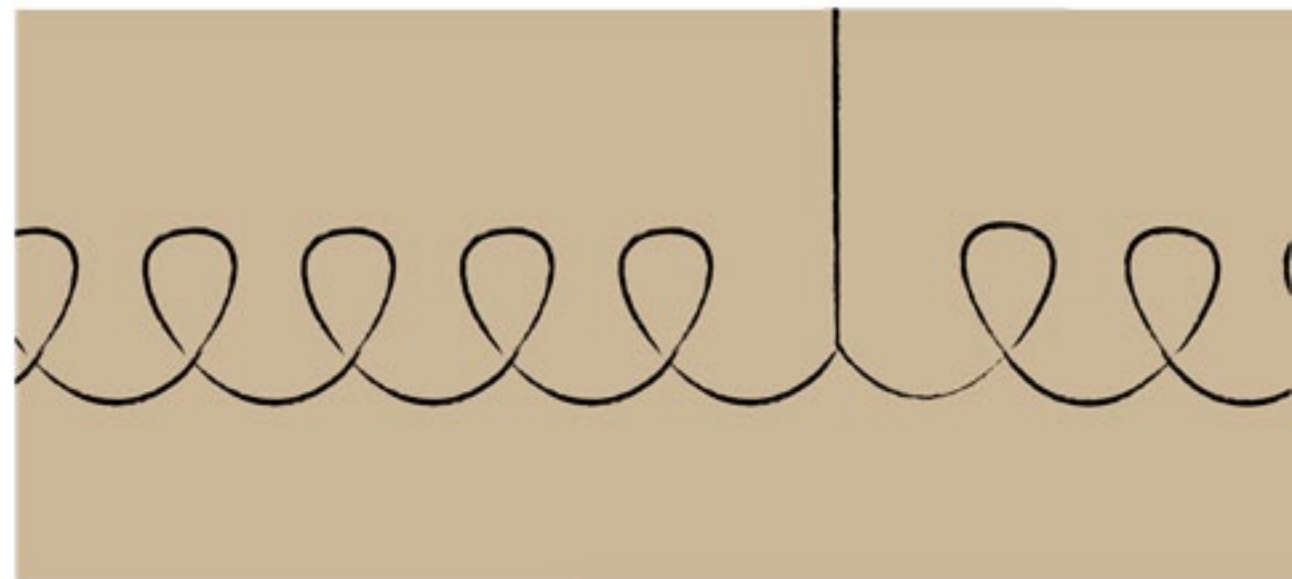


top view (with flags)



side view

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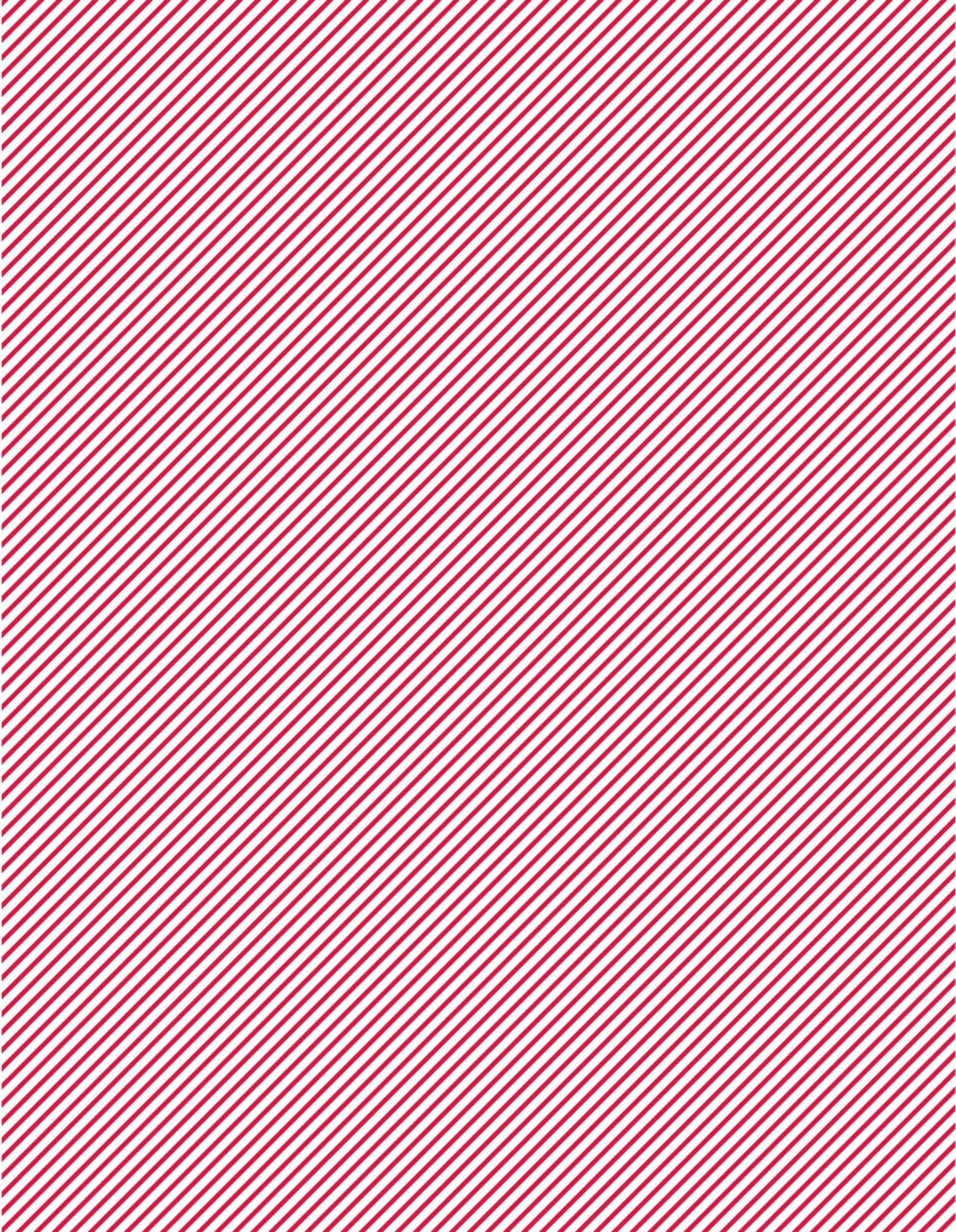
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State oil group offers to help fund opposition

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- Blog: the great Gaddafi cash call www.ft.com/alphaville
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Full story: www.ft.com/libya

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UK correspondent missing since Sunday

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It might be futile to search for logic in the behaviour of a delusional, if not outright mad, Libyan leader, frantic over the loss of much of his country and left with limited choices. But, not unusually, his counter-offensive is now focused on consolidating control over his two remaining strongholds: Tripoli and his eastern birthplace of Sirte.
Regaining control, or at least neutralising, Zawiya would prevent rebels there from threatening Tripoli, either by marching on the capital or helping its terrified, repressed residents rise up against the colonel. Hitting the rebels in the east, by air, ground and sea, is designed to keep them as far away as possible from Sirte, which, if it were to fall, would open the way for an opposition advance on the capital.
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Clapper testimony

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