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My assessment is ~~that~~ we need martial law to bring about a successful termination of the secessionist movement of the MNLF.

If martial law is now lifted even partially, the MNLF will not be under any pressure to negotiate a settlement.

Speaking now ~~that~~ Col. Kaddafi has set a deadline as of the 17th that he will wait for the negotiations resumed.

And we cannot trust him unless we maintain a position of strength.