

RELEASE IN FULL

---

**From:** Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 11:54 AM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: McCain says U.S. should recognize Libyan rebels (Reuters)

---

**From:** OpsNewsTicker  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2011 11:18 AM  
**To:** NEWS-Mahogany  
**Cc:** SES-O\_Shift-II; SES-O\_OS  
**Subject:** McCain says U.S. should recognize Libyan rebels (Reuters)

BENGHAZI (Reuters) - U.S. Senator John McCain Friday called on the United States to recognize Libyan rebels' transitional council as the true voice of the Libyan people and transfer frozen assets to them.

McCain, speaking to reporters while visiting the rebel stronghold of Benghazi in eastern Libya, also called for NATO to step up its air campaign and said Western allies should provide rebels with training, weapons and command-and-control activities to help overthrow leader Muammar Gaddafi.

*NewsTickers alert senior Department officials to breaking news. This item appears as it did in its original publication and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources.*