

**Libya Domestic Media Monitoring Report  
Covering August 16 – August 22  
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## **Contents**

- State news reported on alleged bombing of Al-Khums
- Rally in support of Qadhafi
- Call by government forces for citizen volunteers
- Reported seizure by government of Qatari arms destined for rebels
- Prime-minister complains of rebel violations of UNSC resolutions
- Qadhafi calls on people to march, inform and avenge
- State TV broadcasting under difficult conditions
- Opposition reports rebel advances on Tripoli
- Ultimatum directed at loyalist Libyan officials
- NTC warns rebels not to violate houses in their advance
- Rumours of NTC talks with members of the Qadhafi regime
- As rebels take parts of Tripoli, search for Qadhafi begins
- In other media, need to protect IDPs, prevent acts of revenge, respect laws and the rights of those arrested, protect institutions of justice and secure arms depots
- Claims that Qadhafi's son Saif Al-Islam under arrest have been refuted

## **State Media**

16 August 2011

*Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV*

The news on this day showed images of an alleged bombing of industrial facilities of Al-Khums, although the report did not name NATO as responsible. The report showed the body of a man said to have been killed in the attack.

18 August 2011

*Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV*

The news broadcast showed a rally apparently in support of Qadhafi. The presenter announced the confidence of the crowd in the coming victory, despite attempts by other media to dampen morale. One person commenting appeared to be a tribal leader who put out a call for volunteers.

This rhetoric was coupled with images of government forces in the disputed towns of Al-Burayqah and Al-Hishah, as though to indicate that the government was still in control of strategic areas against reports to the contrary.

*Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV*

Another report called on citizens to volunteer to defend Tripoli against the “rats” (rebels) by “pacifying” the coastal roads to protect supply lines.

19 August 2011

*Source: JANA news agency*

The agency reported that state forces had seized a shipment from Qatar of weapons including stun grenades, TNT, automatic weapons and anti-tank weapons, which was destined for the rebel forces.

20 August 2011

*Source: JANA news agency*

The agency reported Libyan prime minister al-Baghdadi al-Mahmudi’s meeting with Ban Ki-Moon, the UN secretary general, in which the prime minister briefed him on violations of UN Security Council resolutions 1970 and 1973 during the “aggression against the Libyan people”. He also indicated that he would like to see the African Union send high-ranking delegates, for example, the African Union chair to investigate the violations.

*Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV*

The channel broadcast a speech by Qadhafi in which he called on the people to march unarmed against the rebels, prepared to lose their children, no longer “in installments” but all at once. He associated the rebels with Christian aggression, with Satan and with the French government and president Sarkozy. The call to action involved asking that the people “settle the score” even with their own family members if they find that they have sided with the rebels, saying “he is Satan, he is a criminal”. He also repeated the general theme that life in Libya had become worse since the NATO and the rebels had begun their attacks.

21 August 2011

*Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV*

The news did not appear to be broadcast from the usual studio settings, but from a private room. Scenes shot outside the Al-Jamahiriyah TV headquarters in Tripoli showed destruction, and the image of a live video link from Sirte sometimes cut in and out.

The ticker on the screen informed citizens that they should be on the lookout, protecting their rooftops from strangers and report suspect individuals to the authorities.

*Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV*

A report featured a call by Qadhafi for the people to come out and march on Tripoli to resist NATO and liberate it from the “gangs”.

*Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV*

A speech by Qadhafi was broadcast in which he announced his intention to fight alongside the people as they resist the rebel advance. He called on people from Tripoli’s suburbs to liberate Tajurah (a suburb east of Tripoli). The call also included an appeal to “purge” the houses. While at one point in his speech he declared that the rebels were fleeing before the advance of the people; he later asked, “How can you allow this? Where are the million-man marches?” and warned that the rebels would burn Tripoli, leave it without infrastructure and kill its inhabitants and mutilate their bodies. His message to the audience was that they must not surrender.

## **Opposition/Non-State Media**

18 August 2011

*Source: Libya TV*

The program “Libya Today” announced victories in the advance of Libyan rebels toward the capital, Tripoli.

21 August 2011

*Source: Libya TV*

The channel featured an interview with Libya’s former envoy to the UN, Abd-al-Rahman Shalgam, who directed his comments at Qadhafi’s officials, advising them that they were now under an ultimatum (ending at 2:00 pm that same day) to give up their resistance to the rebels or be considered traitors. Shortly after 2:00 pm, a series of captions declared the capture of numerous government officials by the rebels.

22 August 2011

*Source: Libya TV*

The news warned rebels that the “liberation” of Tripoli was not yet complete. It also advised them to take care not to “violate houses”. For their part, pro-Qadhafi fighters were encouraged to surrender peacefully.

## **External and Other Media**

16 August 2011

*Source: Institute for Security Studies (on AllAfrica.com)*

There are unconfirmed rumours that the National Transitional Council is in talks with members of the Qadhafi regime.

22 August 2011

*Source: Radio France Internationale (on AllAfrica.com)*

The search for Qadhafi continued as rebels took control of large sections of Tripoli. While his compound has been bombarded repeatedly since March, the leader has many bunkers where he may be hiding.

*Source: Human Rights Watch*

The website reported the rights organization's main concerns for the current period of transition as rebels move in on Tripoli and the National Transitional Council readies itself to take power. It highlighted the importance of avoiding revenge killings as the rebels take the upper hand. Displaced persons are also in need of protection, and dark-skinned Libyans may also be at a particular risk of rights violations, as it is they who are often taken to be Qadhafi loyalists. Institutions must also be protected, the organization argued, and arms depots must be kept secure from looting. Those arrested should be treated in a humane manner and in accordance with international law.

23 August 2011

*Source: Radio France Internationale (on AllAfrica.com)*

Earlier reports of the arrest of Seif al-Islam, Qadhafi's son believed by many to be his intended successor during the rebel advance on Tripoli were contradicted when he appeared in public outside the leader's compound. He is wanted by the International Criminal Court in The Hague.