## Libya Domestic Media Monitoring Report Covering 31 May – 6 June

## By Richard Hinton

## State Media

6 June 2011

Source: Al-Libiyah TV

The channel aired footage said to be from Wadi al-Hayat and dated 5 June, showing women firing guns in the desert, under the supervision of a soldier.

3 June 2011

Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV

Al-Jamahhiriyah reported for the first time in days a popular demonstration to defend the state broadcasting building in Tripoli (video of a crowd in a street), along with the recurring daily reports of "human shields" at the Sirte satellite communications centre and Al-Qadhafi's Bab al-Aziziyah compound.

2 June 2011

Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV

"Two massive explosions rock the Benghazi Courthouse [quarters of the opposition National Interim Council," said a caption on Libyan state-owned Al-Jamahiriyah TV at 0951 gmt.

1 June 2011

Source: Al-Libiyah TV

The host spoke with a caller who started showering the Libyan leader with praise and lauding Libya, "the land of freedom". "It is also the land of love. Excuse me brother, are you ready to open a new page and forgive all those who have done us wrong? All those who condemned us?" she interrupted. "We forgive all those who were deluded in the eastern region. Those are our young people. We forgive them."

## **Opposition Media**

2 June 2011

Source: Birniq Newspaper

The Tibesti Hotel bombing in Benghazi was the top story in Libyan online opposition newspapers.

The Benghazi-based newspaper Birniq reported the arrest of three suspects involved in the bombing (see separate report "Rebel security forces arrest three on suspicion of being behind Tibesti bombing"). Birniq spoke of citizens complaining about "lax security" in Benghazi, especially around strategic quarters. It also quoted a "security source" as saying that the Military Council ignored a car bomb threat in Benghazi it had received two days before the bombing. Birniq said that a state-TV analyst (most likely Yusuf Shakir on Al-Jamahiriyah TV; see separate report "Prominent Libyan state TV host lambasts British journalists as 'spies'") had previously asked pro-Qadhafi men in Benghazi to carry out "sabotage" acts in Benghazi, including "the targeting" of Tibesti Hotel.

31 May 2011

Source: Benghazi-based rebel radio station Voice of Free Libya

Another caller said the defections were "logical" since the "big wigs" had already defected, while another one called for "just trials" for those officers involved in the death of the "15,000 martyrs".