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Chairman Rogers Opposes Supplying Arms to Libyan Rebels

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Mike Rogers, today released a statement saying he does not support the United States supplying arms to Libyan rebels at this point in time.

“As we publicly debate next steps on Libya, I do not support arming the Libyan rebels at this time. We need to understand more about the opposition before I would support passing out guns and advanced weapons to them. It’s safe to say what the rebels stand against, but we are a long way from an understanding of what they stand for.

“We don’t have to look very far back in history to find examples of the unintended consequences of passing out advanced weapons to a group of fighters we didn’t know as well as we should have. Even if you think you know them, you can’t guarantee that those weapons won’t later fall into the hands of bad actors.

“We need to be very careful before rushing into a decision that could come back to haunt us.”