

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Congressman Jeff Fortenberry today voted to rein in U.S. military engagement in Libya. He issued the following statement:

"My sentiments are it is time to pull the United States back from this endeavor. The President has dramatically increased hostilities in Libya far beyond the original intent of preventing the imminent slaughter of the Libyan people and creating space for new civil society to emerge. As the President has been unable to give a compelling explanation to Congress and the American people, he has acted to move the mission beyond the scope of a humanitarian relief and stabilization operation and into a phase of regime change.

"Space must develop for the African Union and the Arab League to take increased responsibility. North Africa must ultimately be in the hands of North Africans."

Fortenberry is the Vice-Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee with jurisdiction over Africa.

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