For Immediate Release: October 20, 2011

Contact: Heather Moeder Molino

Office: (202) 225-7690 Mobile: (703) 615-5371

Ruppersberger Releases Statement on the Death of Libyan Leader Moammar Gaddafi

(Washington, DC) – Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD), Ranking Member on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, released the following statement today on the death of Libyan Leader Moammar Gaddafi.

"Close to eight months ago, the people of Libya took to the streets calling for an end to the oppressive regime of Moammar Gaddafi and demanding that their voices be heard in a new government. Today marks the beginning of a new era in Libya with the end of the 42-year reign of a ruthless dictator who was wanted by the International Criminal Court on charges of ordering the killing of civilians.

"The Libyan people now have the opportunity to build a better future for themselves and their families. The Transitional National Council (TNC), with support from the international community, can now focus its efforts toward promoting democracy, freedom and human rights for all Libyans with a unity government, so the will of the Libyan people can be expressed. The international community looks forward to a peaceful transition and free and fair elections in Libya.

"The UN-led mission, supported by an unprecedented coalition of countries including the Arab League and European allies, prevented the widespread massacre of thousands of innocent Libyan people without putting American boots on the ground. The United States and the international community are proud to have helped the Libyan people get to this momentous day," said **Ranking Member C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD).**

#######