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Subject:	Fw: Libyan rebels advance towards Zawiyah west of Tripoli (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker Sent: Saturday, August 13, 2011 07:40 AM To: NEWS-Libya; NEWS-Mahogany Cc: SES-O Subject: Libyan rebels advance towards Zawiyah west of Tripoli (Reuters)

NORTH OF BIR SHUAIB, Libya, Aug 13 (Reuters) - Rebels in western Libyan advanced north to within 25 km (15 miles) of the coastal city of Zawiyah on Saturday after fighting a six-hour battle with pro-Gaddafi forces, Reuters journalists at the scene reported.

Rebel fighters pushed government troops back about 7 km from their previous positions, fixing a front-line about 5 km north of the village of Bir Shuaib, near a diaper factory.

Rebels pushing north from the mountains southwest of the capital are hoping to capture Zawiyah, cutting off Gaddafi's stronghold Tripoli from access to the outside world along the coast road.

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