

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 2, 2012 12:06 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Arab League head says Syrian army outside cities (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Monday, January 02, 2012 08:26 AM
To: NEWS-NEA; NEWS-Mahogany; Syria Unrest
Subject: Arab League head says Syrian army outside cities (Reuters)

CAIRO (Reuters) - Syria's military has withdrawn from residential areas and is on the outskirts of the country's cities, but gunfire continues and snipers are still a threat, the Arab League's Secretary General Nabil Elaraby said January 2.

The United Nations says more than 5000 people have been killed in a crackdown on protests which broke out against President Bashar al-Assad in March.

Elaraby was speaking in Cairo as Arab League monitors gathered in Syria to check compliance with a peace plan. He said the League would report on the work of the monitors over the first week and decide if more were needed there.

NewsTickers alert senior Department officials to breaking news. This item appears as it did in its original publication and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources.