

RELEASE IN FULL

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**From:** Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 4, 2011 12:22 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: UK's Cameron on surprise visit to Afghanistan (Reuters)

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**From:** OpsNewsTicker  
**Sent:** Monday, July 04, 2011 12:11 PM  
**To:** NEWS-Afghanistan; NEWS-EUR; NEWS-Mahogany  
**Cc:** SES-O  
**Subject:** UK's Cameron on surprise visit to Afghanistan (Reuters)

CAMP BASTION (Reuters) - British Prime Minister David Cameron, on an unannounced visit to Afghanistan on Monday, said while Afghan security forces were increasingly able to operate independently, Britain planned to withdraw only a "relatively small" number of troops.

Highlighting the fragility of security gains in the near decade-long conflict, Cameron's planned trip to the town of Lashkar Gah in southern Helmand province had to be cancelled to concentrate resources on finding a missing British soldier.

*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.*