

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Sunday, May 15, 2011 11:29 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Kerry: alliance with Pakistan at 'critical moment' (AP)

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Sunday, May 15, 2011 09:50 AM
To: NEWS-Pakistan; NEWS-Mahogany
Cc: SES-O_Shift-II; SES-O_OS
Subject: Kerry: alliance with Pakistan at 'critical moment' (AP)

KABUL, Afghanistan - (AP) U.S. Sen. John Kerry says the U.S. relationship with Pakistan is at a "critical moment" because of the killing of Osama bin Laden.

Kerry, chairman of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was speaking Sunday in the Afghan capital. He is visiting both Afghanistan and Pakistan to repair relations following the unilateral strike against bin Laden.

He said that there was some evidence of Pakistani knowledge of Taliban sanctuaries in Pakistan, a finding that he called disturbing.

But he also said that bin Laden's death may present a new opportunity for reconciliation with the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Kerry is expected to continue on to Pakistan later Sunday.

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.