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From:

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Sent:

Wednesday, January 19, 2011 6:53 PM

To:

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Subject:

Fw: Tunisia PM tells Ben Ali not to return (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker@state.gov < OpsNewsTicker@state.gov >

To: NEWS-Mahogany

Cc: SES-O_OS; SES-O_Shift-III Sent: Wed Jan 19 17:07:07 2011

Subject: Tunisia PM tells Ben Ali not to return (Reuters)

TUNIS (Reuters) - Tunisia's ousted leader Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali told Prime Minister Mohamed Ghannouchi he was considering returning from exile, but Ghannouchi told him that was impossible, a government minister told Reuters.

Najib Chebbi, an opposition leader who is now regional development minister in a coalition government, said the exchange happened in a telephone conversation after Ben Ali, toppled by weeks of protests, fled to Saudi Arabia last week.

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