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From: Sent: To: Subject: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov> Monday, October 24, 2011 7:30 PM H FW: Hezbollah: Syria largely out of 'danger zone' (AP)

Apropos of our conversation.

From: OpsNewsTicker Sent: Monday, October 24, 2011 4:33 PM To: NEWS-Mahogany Cc: SES-O Subject: Hezbollah: Syria largely out of 'danger zone' (AP)

BEIRUT (AP) - The leader of the militant group Hezbollah says the regime in Syria is largely "out of the danger zone" despite a 7-month-old uprising against President Bashar Assad.

Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah's comments Monday appeared to be an attempt to portray confidence that the Assad regime will survive.

Hezbollah is one of Syria's strongest allies, but the group has struggled to respond to the regime's bloody crackdown on protests.

Nasrallah has largely supported the Arab uprisings, saying Egypt, Tunisia and even Libya were too close to the U.S.

Syria's crackdown also appears to be eroding Hezbollah's reputation. At recent protests, Syrian protesters also unleashed their anger at Hezbollah over its blunt support for the regime.

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