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From: Sent: To: Subject: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov> Friday, February 24, 2012 11:23 PM H

Fw: Yemeni president returns after medical treatment (AP)

From: OpsNewsTicker Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 10:05 PM To: NEWS-Mahogany; NEWS-Yemen; DS Command Center; M_All Front Office Cc: SES-O Subject: Yemeni president returns after medical treatment (AP)

WASHINGTON (AP) - Yemen's outgoing president has returned to his home country after receiving medical treatment in the U.S.

The Yemeni Embassy in Washington says Ali Abdullah Saleh arrived in Yemen early Saturday local time. Saleh, Yemen's longtime autocratic leader, spent about three weeks in the U.S. receiving treatment for injuries he suffered during a June rocket attack on his compound. U.S. officials also believed Saleh's absence could ease a political transition in Yemen, a key U.S. counterterrorism partner.

Yemenis cast votes this week in a single-candidate contest to install a new leader. Yemeni officials have said Saleh planned to attend a transfer of power ceremony.

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.