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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

Middle East-North Africa: Situation Update as of 5 April 2012

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5 April 2012

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Syria: UN officials remain focused on UN-Arab League Special Envoy for Syria Kofi Annan's six-point plan to cease hostilities. The UN Security Council today adopted a Presidential Statement calling on the Syrian Government to comply by 10 April with the plan's requirement to withdraw forces stationed in or near population centers and cease reinforcing or shelling those areas. Additionally, the statement called on the opposition to cease violence within 48 hours of the regime's implementation of these measures. A UN advance team today arrived in Damascus to discuss with Syrian officials the deployment of 200-250 observers to monitor the regime's compliance following the 10 April deadline and Annan expected a full cessation of violence from both sides by 12 April, according to his spokesman.

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- Syrian activists today claimed 38 people were killed, as many as half were civilians, in clashes in several Syrian towns including Dar'a, and continued shelling in the Damascus suburb of Duma.

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- Annan today told the UN General Assembly that opposition groups claimed they would call for a cessation of violence once Damascus fulfilled its commitments.

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Syria's neighbors continue to wrestle with increasing refugee flows.

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1,622 Syrians fled to Turkey during the past 24 hours, marking the highest figure in recent months and bringing the total number of refugees in Turkey to about 21,000

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This report was prepared by the CIA Middle East Task Force. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Task Force

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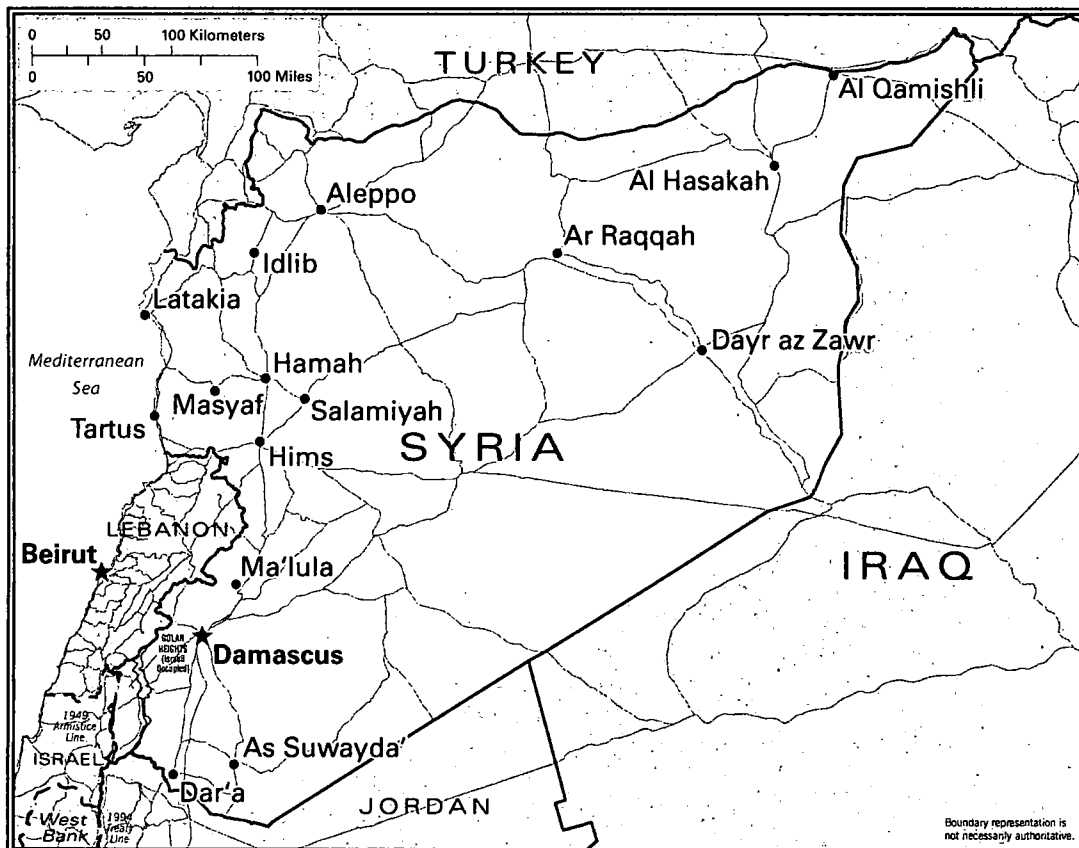
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North Africa and Middle East Situation Report (U)

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