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Subject: (AP) Lebanese PM seeks support in Iran visit

TEHRAN (AP) - Lebanese Prime Minister Hariri expressed concerns for stability in the Middle East as he began a visit to Tehran November 27 to rally Iran's support for his efforts to keep Lebanon stable amid tensions over a UN probe into the assassination of his father, Rafik Hariri.

The visit follows President Ahmadinejad's October tour of Lebanon, during which the Iranian leader reinforced Tehran's ties to the Lebanese militant Hezbollah group, a longtime protege of the Shiite powerhouse.

The exuberant welcome the Shiite Hezbollah staged for Ahmadinejad in Lebanon threw Hariri's Western-backed factions in the government on the defensive.

After touchdown in Tehran, Hariri was greeted by Iran's Vice President Mohammad Reza Rahimi and reviewed an honor guard before heading in to meetings.