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From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2011 10:52 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Arroyo's health improving, asks for house arrest (AP)

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2011 09:05 PM
To: NEWS-Mahogany
Subject: Arroyo's health improving, asks for house arrest (AP)

MANILA (AP) - A lawyer for the former Philippine president arrested on electoral fraud charges in her hospital suite says her health is improving and she can now be detained in her house.

Former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo had argued before her arrest last week that she needed to travel abroad for a bone treatment. The government refused to let her go, even after the Supreme Court ruled in her favor.

In a change of tactic, lawyer Jose Flaminiano told a court Friday he was withdrawing his motion for a hospital arrest in favor of house arrest.

Arroyo successor President Benigno Aquino III has said the government wouldn't object and wants the former leader treated with respect.

Arroyo is charged with ordering the rigging of 2007 congressional polls, which she denies.

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