

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Sunday, February 19, 2012 11:54 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: DPRK threatens to attack ROK over drills (AP)

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Sunday, February 19, 2012 05:30 AM
To: NEWS-Mahogany
Subject: DPRK threatens to attack ROK over drills (AP)

SEOUL (AP) - The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has threatened to attack the Republic of Korea accusing it of planning live-fire drills near their disputed sea border.

The DPRK military said the ROK planned artillery drills from five front-line islands off the western coast Feb 20.

It says the drills are "reckless military provocation" and the DPRK will launch "merciless" strikes if the training is implemented.

The DPRK warned people living on the islands to evacuate before the drills start.

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.