

Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2020

Statement on the Death of Al Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula Terrorist Organization Leader Qasim al-Rimi in a United States Counterterrorism Operation in Yemen

February 6, 2020

At the direction of President Donald J. Trump, the United States conducted a counterterrorism operation in Yemen that successfully eliminated Qasim al-Rimi, a founder and the leader of al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) and a deputy to al-Qa'ida leader Ayman al-Zawahiri. Rimi joined al-Qa'ida in the 1990s, working in Afghanistan for Osama bin Laden. Under Rimi, AQAP committed unconscionable violence against civilians in Yemen and sought to conduct and inspire numerous attacks against the United States and our forces. His death further degrades AQAP and the global al-Qa'ida movement, and it brings us closer to eliminating the threats these groups pose to our national security. The United States, our interests, and our allies are safer as a result of his death. We will continue to protect the American people by tracking down and eliminating terrorists who seek to do us harm.

NOTE: The statement referred to Ayman al-Zawahiri, leader of the Al Qaida terrorist organization.

Categories: Statements by the President : Deaths :: Rimi, Qasim al-, leader of Al Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula terrorist organization.

Names: Rimi, Qasim al-; Zawahiri, Ayman al-.

Subjects: Deaths : Rimi, Qasim al-, leader of Al Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula terrorist organization; Terrorism : Al Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula terrorist organization; Terrorism : Al Qaida terrorist organization; Terrorism : Counterterrorism efforts; Terrorism : Global threat; Yemen : U.S. airstrikes.

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