

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, August 27, 2011 1:59 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: U.S. official: Al-Qaida's No. 2 killed in Pakistan (AP)

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Saturday, August 27, 2011 01:24 PM
To: NEWS-Mahogany; NEWS-Pakistan; NEWS-SCT
Cc: SES-O
Subject: U.S. official: Al-Qaida's No. 2 killed in Pakistan (AP)

WASHINGTON (AP) - A senior Obama administration official says al-Qaida No. 2 leader, Atiyah Abd al-Rahman, has been killed in Pakistan.

Al-Rahman was a Libyan national who was considered al-Qaida's operational leader before rising to the No. 2 spot following Osama bin Laden's death in May.

Al-Rahman's death is a big blow to the terrorist group and comes as U.S. officials have said in the aftermath of bin Laden's killing that a few more high-profile deaths could break al-Qaida's back.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive intelligence operations, says al-Rahman was killed Aug. 22 in the Pakistani tribal region of Waziristan. That's the same day a US drone strike in Waziristan.

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