

(CNN) -- Fourteen al Qaeda prisoners in CIA custody have been transferred to the U.S. prison camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for trial before a military tribunal, President Bush said in a speech Wednesday.

U.S. officials have linked the suspects to myriad terrorist plots -- successful and thwarted -- including the 2002 bombings on the resort island of Bali, the September 11, 2001, attacks, the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen and the 1998 attack on the U.S. Embassy in Tanzania.

Here is a rundown of the 14 suspected operatives:

- **Khalid Sheikh Mohammed**, the alleged mastermind behind the 9/11 attacks on Washington and New York, was captured in Pakistan in 2003. Mohammed provided information under interrogation that led authorities to other al Qaeda operatives, Bush said. The New York Times reported in 2004 that the interrogation methods used on Mohammed included "water boarding," in which prisoners are made to believe they are drowning. ([Watch how the Pentagon now bans water boarding -- 2:28](#))

- **Ramzi Binalshibh** is a Yemeni suspected of coordinating, financing and arranging money for the 9/11 attacks. Binalshibh was arrested in September 2002 in Karachi, Pakistan. He was allegedly a roommate of lead 9/11 hijacker Mohammed Atta.

- **Abu Zubaydah** is suspected of helping smuggle al Qaeda operatives into the United States and Iraq. He also is suspected of playing a key role in the disrupted Millennium Plot of 1999, which allegedly involved plans to attack California's Los Angeles International Airport and other sites. His 2002 capture in Faisalabad, Pakistan, made him the first major al Qaeda leader to fall into U.S. custody.

- **Walid bin Attash** is a suspected recruiter and former bodyguard for al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. He was captured in Pakistan in 2003. In addition to allegedly helping prepare al Qaeda defenses around the Afghan stronghold of Tora Bora, bin Attash also is suspected of recruiting terrorists who participated in attacks on American interests. Included among his recruits are two of the 9/11 hijackers; one suicide bomber involved in the USS Cole attack that killed 17 U.S. sailors; and a cell leader in the 2003 bombings in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, that killed 40 people, U.S. officials said.

- **Riduan bin Isomuddin**, aka Hambali, is allegedly the operational leader of Jemaah Islamiyah, an Indonesian militant group linked to al Qaeda that was blamed for the 2002 bombings in Bali that killed more than 200 people. Bin Isomuddin is suspected of being the primary liaison between al Qaeda and Jemaah Islamiyah. He was captured in 2003 in Thailand.

- **Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani** is wanted in connection with the 1998 attack on the U.S. Embassy in Tanzania, which killed 11 people. The Tanzanian-born Ghailani is allegedly an expert at forging documents and producing false papers for many al Qaeda operatives, U.S. officials said. Pakistani authorities captured him in 2004.

- **Majid Khan** allegedly plotted with Sheikh Mohammed to detonate bombs at U.S. gas stations, U.S. officials said. The Pakistani citizen also is suspected of helping recruit Lyman Faris, the Ohio man convicted of plotting to destroy bridges in New York by cutting their suspension cables. Khan was captured in Pakistan in 2003.

- **Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri** was the al Qaeda operations chief until his capture in 2002. A Yemeni court convicted al-Nashiri and sentenced him to death after determining he was the mastermind and local manager for the USS Cole attack, in

which two suicide bombers ripped a 40-by-40-foot hole in the U.S. destroyer using a boat packed with explosives.

- **Abu Faraj al-Libi** is described by U.S. officials as an al Qaeda "communications conduit." He is suspected of conspiring to assassinate Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf. He served as a trainer in the early 1990s before administering training camps in Afghanistan, authorities said. He moved up the ranks of al Qaeda after Sheikh Mohammed's 2003 arrest.

- **Mohd Farik Bin Amin** is a member of al Qaeda and Jemaah Islamiyah, U.S. officials said. He was tapped to be a suicide operative for a planned al Qaeda attack in Los Angeles, the officials said. He also is suspected of helping transfer funds to Jemaah Islamiyah's Hambali for various attacks in Southeast Asia.

- **Mohammed Nazir Bin Lep** is one of Hambali's key lieutenants, officials said. He allegedly transferred al Qaeda funds used for the Jakarta Marriott Hotel bombing in 2003 and he knew of Jemaah Islamiyah plots to launch attacks elsewhere in Southeast Asia. He was slated to be a suicide operative for a "second wave" of al Qaeda attacks targeting Los Angeles, officials said.

- **Mustafa Ahmad al-Hawsawi** was one of two financial backers used by Sheikh Mohammad to manage the funding for the 9/11 attacks. Sheikh Mohammad had a "close relationship" with al-Hawsawi and he apparently was key to Sheikh Mohammad's operational team, U.S. officials said. He also allegedly shared a United Arab Emirates-based financial account with one of the 9/11 hijackers.

- **Gouled Hassan Dourad** was head of a Mogadishu, Somalia-based network of al-Ittihad al-Islami members who supported al Qaeda and worked for the terror network's east African cell, officials said. Dourad is suspected of casing a U.S. military base in Djibouti as part of a plot to conduct a suicide truck-bomb attack. He was privy to several terrorist plots considered by al-Ittihad al-Islami members, officials said.

- **Ali Abd al-Aziz Ali** is the nephew of Sheikh Mohammed. Ali also is thought to be a Pakistan-based al Qaeda operative and a key Sheikh Mohammed lieutenant during the 9/11 attacks. After the collapse of the Taliban in Afghanistan, Ali helped direct al Qaeda members and their families to safe houses in Pakistan, U.S. officials said. He also helped plan a variety of terrorist attacks against the West, officials said.

### **KHALID SHEIKH MOHAMMED**

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed - described by US intelligence as "one of history's most infamous terrorists" - is the suspected mastermind of the 11 September 2001 attacks.

He was believed to be the Number 3 al-Qaeda leader before his capture in a safe house in Pakistan in March 2003. He was held in US custody at an undisclosed location from then until his transfer to Guantanamo Bay.

Born in the Balochistan region of Pakistan and raised in Kuwait, Sheikh Mohammed grew up in a religious family and claims to have joined the Muslim Brotherhood at the age of 16.

After graduating from college in the US, he went to



Khalid Sheikh Mohammed:  
alleged 9/11 lynchpin

Afghanistan to participate in the anti-Soviet jihad. It was there that he is believed first to have met Osama Bin Laden.

He went to the Philippines and was implicated in the plot to blow up US airliners over the Pacific in 1995, known as Operation Bojinka.

He features prominently in the US 9/11 Commission Report on how the 11 September 2001 attacks were carried out. Testimony from Sheikh Mohammed was also used by defence lawyers for Zacarias Moussaoui, jailed for life in 2006 for his role in the plot. Sheikh Mohammed helped build close operational ties between al-Qaeda and the shadowy militant group Jemaah Islamiah (JI) in south-east Asia, according to US intelligence.

By late 2001 he had become external operations chief for al-Qaeda and was involved in plots targeting Britain and the US, the Pentagon says.

These included a plan that year for JI operatives to hijack a plane over the Pacific and crash it into a skyscraper on the US west coast and a 2003 plot to use Pakistanis to smuggle explosives into New York to attack petrol stations, railway lines and a bridge.

Sheikh Mohammed was also behind plans uncovered in 2003 to attack Heathrow airport using hijacked airliners, US intelligence says.

Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf alleges in his memoirs, published in September 2006, that Sheikh Mohammed either killed or at the least took part in the murder of US reporter Daniel Pearl in Pakistan in 2002.

Gen Musharraf also claims the Kuwaiti helped lay the groundwork for the 7 July 2005 bombings in London.

### [Full profile](#)

#### **ABU ZUBAYDAH**

Abu Zubaydah is thought to have been the link between Osama Bin Laden and many al-Qaeda cells before his capture in Pakistan in March 2002.

The Americans describe him as "one of al-Qaeda's senior travel facilitators" and credit him with helping to smuggle the former al-Qaeda in Iraq leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and some 70 fighters out of Afghanistan into Iran.

At the time of his capture, Abu Zubaydah was trying to organise a terror attack in Israel, US intelligence officers say.

Believed to have been born to Palestinian parents in Saudi Arabia, he is also known as Zayn al-Abidin Mohammed Husain and Abd al-Hadi al-Wahab but has used dozens of other aliases.

He has strong connections with Jordanian and Palestinian groups and was sentenced to death in his absence by a Jordanian court for his role in a thwarted plot to bomb hotels there during millennium celebrations.

US intelligence officials say that although he is not believed to be directly linked to the 11 September attacks, money he procured from donors may have helped fund that plot and others.

Zubaydah is also thought to have helped run a number of al-Qaeda camps in Afghanistan, at which some of the 9/11 hijackers and other terror suspects trained.

According to a Senate report, Zubaydah has told US interrogators that while he believed some al-Qaeda members had good personal relationships with Iraqi government officials he was unaware of any real relationship between Baghdad and the network.



Abu Zubaydah was said to be a key al-Qaeda travel facilitator

## Full profile

### **RAMZI BINALSHIBH**

Following a role facilitating the 11 September attacks, the Yemeni national is described by the US as a lead operative in plans to attack aircraft and crash them into Heathrow airport in the UK.

He is said to have become a key member of the al-Qaeda cell in Hamburg, Germany, after seeking asylum there in the late 1990s and becoming a student.

According to US officials, he met Mohammed Atta, the leader of the Hamburg cell, and two other hijackers, Marwan al-Shehhi and Ziad Jarrah, in 1997. Two years later, the four travelled to Afghanistan where they met Bin Laden.

Binalshibh was intended to be one of the hijackers but was unable to get a US visa, intelligence officials say.

Instead, he reportedly assisted the 11 September attacks by relaying orders from al-Qaeda's leadership in Afghanistan and Pakistan to operatives in the US and Germany, as well as organising travel and money transfers.

US intelligence says he left Germany a week before the attacks and made his way to Afghanistan and then to Pakistan, where he worked with Sheikh Mohammed on plots against Western targets.

He was captured in Pakistan in September 2002.



Ramzi Binalshibh is one of the alleged masterminds of 9/11

### **HAMBALI (RIDUAN ISAMUDDIN)**

Indonesia-born Hambali is believed to have been the operations chief for the shadowy militant group Jemaah Islamiah (JI), and has been named as a key suspect in a string of bombings across the region.

According to the US, he was the main liaison between JI and al-Qaeda from 2000 until his capture in 2003.

Intelligence officials accuse him of planning the first Bali bombing in 2002, in which 202 people died, and raising funds from al-Qaeda for the 2003 attack on the Marriott hotel in Jakarta, which killed 12.

They say he was also involved in the attempted assassination of the Philippine Ambassador to Indonesia in August 2000 and in the bombing of churches in nine Indonesian cities on Christmas Eve that year, in which 18 people died.

Born in West Java in 1964, he is said to be the oldest of 11 children and to have been a devout Muslim youth.

As a teenager Hambali joined a network of local groups known broadly as Jemaah Islamiah.

He became involved in radical Islam as a reaction against the religious repression of the Suharto regime throughout the 1970s and 1980s. In 1985, when Hambali was aged 19, he sought exile in Malaysia, along with radical Muslim cleric Abu Bakar Ba'asyir and other followers.

Ba'asyir was last year convicted of conspiracy over the 2002 Bali bombings.

From Malaysia, Hambali travelled to Afghanistan in 1988 to fight as a Mujahideen guerrilla against Soviet occupation.



Hambali is suspected of playing a leading role in the Bali bombing



He returned to Malaysia in 1990, where he is believed to have travelled the country recruiting young Muslims to join a jihad (holy war) with the eventual aim of setting up a pan-Asian Islamic state.

Philippine prosecutors have charged Hambali in absentia with involvement in a plot to smuggle explosives from the Philippines to Singapore in 2000, for an attack on US and Israeli targets, which was foiled.

### Full profile

#### **MUSTAFA AHMAD AL-HAWSAWI**

A Saudi said by US intelligence officials to be one of two key financial people used by Khalid Sheikh Mohammed to arrange the funding for the 11 September hijackings. He is suspected of meeting many senior al-Qaeda figures, including Bin Laden, soon after the attacks. Financial links have been found between Hawsawi, other terror suspects and some of the hijackers, US intelligence says., and he helped arrange travel for some of them.

Testimony from Hawsawi was used in the trial of Zacarias Moussaoui, saying he had seen him in an al-Qaeda guesthouse in early 2001 but was never involved with him.

He was captured in Pakistan in 2003.

#### **ABU FARAJ AL-LIBBI**

##### **Abu Faraj al-Libbi**

Abu Faraj al-Libbi was arrested in Pakistan along with five other al-Qaeda suspects in May 2005, after a gun battle in Waziristan, North-West Frontier Province.

A Libyan, he is said to have taken over as third in command of al-Qaeda when his mentor, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, was captured in 2003.

The Americans say he carried messages between Bin Laden and senior al-Qaeda members. He is also accused of trying to recruit new operatives.

He is described as the mastermind of two failed attempts to assassinate Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf.

He is thought to have used Pakistan as his base, and from there was reportedly in contact with militants in

the UK. Following his arrest, he was handed over by Pakistan to US custody.



Libbi is wanted over assassination attempts on

President Musharraf

#### **MOHAMMED NAZIR BIN LEP**

A Malaysian better known as Lillie, he is said by the US to be a key aide to Hambali. He was allegedly involved in transferring al-Qaeda funds for the 2003 Marriott Hotel bombing in Jakarta, in which 12 people died, and is also accused of involvement in other plots against targets in South-east Asia.

According to US intelligence, he was intended to be a suicide attacker in a planned al-Qaeda operation in Los Angeles.

#### **ALI ABD AL-AZIZ ALI**

Also known as Ammar al-Baluchi, he is accused of serving as a key lieutenant to Khalid Sheikh Mohammed - his uncle - during the 11 September operation.

Born in Balochistan and raised in Kuwait, his chief mentor was his cousin, Ramzi Yousef, jailed in the US for masterminding the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center.

US intelligence officials say he delivered funds to the 11 September hijackers and later helped Sheikh Mohammed communicate with "shoe bomber" Richard Reid and other plotters, including Majid Khan.

Following his uncle's arrest, he is said to have assumed responsibility for planning hijacking attacks from Heathrow airport and bombings against Western targets in Karachi in 2003.

He was within days of completing preparations for the Karachi plot when captured, the US says.

### **WALID BIN ATTASH**

Yemeni national Walid bin Attash, also known as Tawfiq bin Attash and Khallad, was a key al-Qaeda operative from 1998 until his capture in 2003, according to the US.

He is alleged to have worked on the attack on the USS Cole, an American destroyer in Yemen, which killed 17 US sailors.

He is also accused of involvement in the 11 September 2001 attacks and met two of the hijackers, Nawaf al-Hamzi and Khalid al-Midhar, to help them check out US flights in Asia.

He was allegedly picked as one of the hijackers himself but was prevented from taking part when he was briefly arrested in Yemen earlier that year. He is said to have served as Bin Laden's bodyguard.

US intelligence officials say he was planning an attack on the US consulate in Karachi with fellow suspect Ali Abd al-Aziz Ali when he was captured in a raid in the city. They believe he was also involved in a plot against Heathrow airport.

### **MAJID KHAN**

Pakistani-born Majid Khan moved to the US in the late 1990s, where he went to high school in Baltimore.

According to the US, on his return to Pakistan family members introduced him to senior al-Qaeda figure Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, who groomed him for a possible attack to blow up petrol stations within the US.

He is said to have been selected for his familiarity with the US, his excellent English and experience of working at an American petrol station.

The alleged plot was at the centre of a 2005 trial of a young Pakistani man accused of trying to help Khan obtain fake travel documents to enter the US.

Khan is also accused of having links to fellow suspect Ali Abd al-Aziz Ali and of passing money to Jemaah Islamiah (JI) operative Mohd Farik Bin Amin, better known as Zubair.

### **ABD AL-RAHIM AL-NASHIRI**

A Yemeni court in September 2004 sentenced Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri to death over the bomb attack on the USS Cole, which killed 17 sailors in 2000.

The Saudi-born militant was tried in absentia, having been in US custody since his arrest in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in October 2002.

According to US intelligence, he was the leader of the al-Qaeda network's operations in the Gulf and the mastermind of the bombing of the USS Cole off the coast of Yemen.

He is also believed to have been involved in plots against Western targets in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, the Strait of Gibraltar, Morocco and Qatar.

He allegedly fought with the Taleban in Afghanistan and was involved in earlier Chechen and Tajik insurgencies.

### **AHMED KHALFAN GHAILANI**

A Tanzanian, he allegedly helped facilitate the 1998 bombings of US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

He moved to Afghanistan the day before the attacks, where he attended al-Qaeda training camps, according to US intelligence.

He allegedly went on to become one of al-Qaeda's top document forgers after 11 September 2001.

### **GOULED HASSAN DOURAD**

Originally from Somali, Gouled Hassan Dourad is accused of heading a Mogadishu-based network which supported al-Qaeda members in the country.

According to the Americans, he was privy to several plots, including one to attack a US military base in Djibouti and another to shoot down an Ethiopian airliner.

### **MOHD FARIK BIN AMIN**

#### **Mohd Farik Bin Amin**

Better known as Zubair, Mohd Farik Bin Amin is said to have been a member of al-Qaeda and Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) serving directly under Hambali.

The Malaysian allegedly assisted major JI operations and was picked as a possible suicide attacker for a planned al-Qaeda operation in Los Angeles, US intelligence officials say.

Links:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/09/07/us/07detain.html?ex=1315281600&en=1574239ac4fa3fc2&ei=5088&partner=rssnyt&emc=rss>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2006/POLITICS/09/06/terror.detainees/index.html>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/5322694.stm>