

## WikiLeaks: Guantanamo detainee is now Libyan rebel leader

A man who spent six years in Guantanamo is now a senior figure in the Libyan rebels' fight against Colonel Gadaffi.

By Holly Watt

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In a newly disclosed file by WikiLeaks that was written in 2005, **Abu Sufian Ibrahim Ahmed Hamuda Bin Qumu** was identified as a “probable member of Al Qaida and a member of the African Extremist Network”.

The revelation will raise concerns about the range of factions fighting Gadaffi in Libya, some of whom have been associated with Al Qaeda.

Qumu was previously a member of the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group, but allegedly left the proscribed group in 1998 to join the Taliban.

In the report, **US investigators classified Qumu as a “medium to high” risk because he was “likely to pose a threat to the US, its interests and allies”.**

**Qumu was imprisoned in Libya for ten years for alleged “murder, physical assault, armed assault and distributing narcotics”, but escaped in 1993 and fled to Afghanistan.**

After fighting against the Russians during the war in Afghanistan, Qumu allegedly moved to Sudan, where he worked for a company belonging to Osama Bin Laden. **He was capture in 2001 shortly after 9/11.**

According to notes, the Libyan government considered the detainee a “dangerous man with no qualms about committing terrorist acts.”

**Qumu was sent back to Libya in 2007 and released from prison in 2008 under an amnesty.**

On Sunday, the US Senator John McCain urged America to step up its involvement in NATO air strikes on Libya, warning that a stalemate would likely draw Al-Qaeda into the conflict.

How we moderate

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