

Al Qaeda's interim leader

Al Qaeda has chosen a “caretaker” leader following the death of Osama bin Laden. Egyptian militant **Saif al-Adel** will head the terror organization temporarily until the expected permanent appointment of bin Laden's deputy chief **Ayman al-Zawahiri**
SAIF AL-ADEL

▶ **1960/1963:** Born Egypt. Name means “Sword of Justice” in Arabic. Also known as **Muhammad Ibrahim Makkawi** – former Egyptian army officer

▶ **1981:** Suspected of being involved in assassination of Egyptian president **Anwar Sadat**

▶ **1988:** Leaves Egypt to join mujahideen fighting Soviet occupation of Afghanistan

▶ **1990s:** Believed to have set up Al Qaeda training camps in Sudan, Somalia and Afghanistan

▶ **1998:** Accused by U.S. of planning attacks on American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania

▶ **2001:** Flees Afghanistan after U.S. invasion, reportedly held under house arrest in Iran

▶ **2010:** Moves to Pakistan, directed by bin Laden to plan new Al Qaeda attacks on West. Believed to have since moved to Afghanistan or Iran

May 2011: Appointed interim operational leader. **Ayman al-Zawahiri** (above) will take over when Al Qaeda finishes collecting pledges of loyalty to him

