

# Yemen Al Qaeda leader killed by U.S. strike

The United States has conducted a counter-terrorism operation in Yemen that killed Qassim al-Rimi, the leader of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), President Donald Trump said



Three undated pictures of suspected AQAP chief, identified as Qassim al-Rimi

■ **1978:** Qassim al-Rimi born near Yemeni capital, Sanaa

■ **1990s:** Joins Al Qaeda. Works at training camp in Afghanistan under **Osama bin Laden**

■ **2004:** Captured in Yemen and imprisoned for five years over plot to attack foreign embassies in Sanaa. He escapes in 2006

■ **2009:** Helps oversee merging of Yemeni and Saudi branches of Al Qaeda to form AQAP. Linked to failed Christmas Day bomb plot against U.S.-bound airliner

■ **2015:** Named head of AQAP after former leader **Nasir al-Wuhayshi** is killed in U.S. drone strike

■ **2018:** U.S. offers \$10m reward for information on al-Rimi's whereabouts

■ **Jan 2020:** Reports say U.S. drone strike in Marib province kills al-Rimi

■ **Feb 2:** AQAP releases audio message with al-Rimi's voice in which he says AQAP was behind deadly Dec 2019 shooting at U.S. naval base in Pensacola, Florida

■ **Feb 6:** White House announces U.S. has killed al-Rimi

