

# Kataib Hezbollah factfile

The Iran-aligned Iraqi militia is suspected of launching the drone strike that killed three U.S. soldiers in Jordan on January 28

**Kataib Hezbollah:** Most powerful faction in *Islamic Resistance in Iraq* – umbrella group of Shia armed groups that claims over 170 attacks on U.S. forces since Gaza war began.  
**Strength: 10,000\***

● U.S. bases attacked



◀ **Dec 4, 2023:** Kataib Hezbollah fighters at funeral in Baghdad for five militants killed in U.S. strike in northern Iraq

## TIMELINE

■ **2007:** *Kataib Hezbollah* comes to prominence with series of attacks against U.S.-led forces in Iraq

■ **2009:** Designated as terrorist organization by U.S.

■ **Mar 2011:** Civil war breaks out in Syria – group sends fighters to support **Bashar al-Assad's** regime and begins attacking U.S. targets in Syria

■ **Dec 2011:** U.S. withdrawal from Iraq. *Kataib Hezbollah* continues to attack remaining U.S. forces

■ **2016:** Officially recognized by Iraqi government, becoming part of **Popular Mobilization Forces** – but often operates outside chain of command

## ■ 2020:

Group's founder, **Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis**, (right) killed in U.S. drone strike – **Abu Hussein al-Hamidawi** takes over leadership



■ **Jan 24, 2024:** U.S. strikes group's stronghold in **Jurf Al-Sakhar** in retaliation for drone and missile attacks

■ **Jan 28:** Three U.S. soldiers killed in drone strike at **Tower 22** military base in Jordan

■ **Jan 31:** *Kataib Hezbollah* announces suspension of operations against U.S. forces as Washington ponders response to Jan 28 attack

\*As of Sep 2022, National Counterterrorism Center

Sources: Reuters, Director of National Intelligence, ISW Pictures: Getty Images

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