NAME	'Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi
PHONETICS	AHB-dahl HAH-dee ahl-eeRAHkee
KEY ALIAS	Nashwan 'Abd al-Razzaq 'Abd al-Baqi (true name)
AFFILIATION	Al-Qa'ida
NATIONALITY	Iraqi

'Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi was one of al-Qa'ida's highest-ranking and experienced senior operatives at the time of his detention. He had been one of the organization's key paramilitary commanders in Afghanistan from the late 1990s and, during 2002-04, was in charge of cross-border attacks in Afghanistan against Coalition forces. In recent years, he also directed plots to assassinate perceived opponents of al-Qa'ida, including Pakistani President Pervez Musharaf and a United Nations official.

- 'Abd al-Hadi was trying to return to his native country, Iraq, to manage al-Qa'ida's affairs and possibly focus on operations outside Iraq against Western targets. 'Abd al-Hadi also met with al-Qa'ida members in Iran and believed that they should be doing more with the fight, including supporting efforts in Iraq and causing problems within Iran.

- 'Abd al-Hadi provided leadership and reconnaissance support during a rocket attack in the fall of 2003 against US military forces in Afghanistan.

'Abd al-Hadi was born in Mosul, Iraq, in 1961. He is a former member of the Iraqi military who spent more than 15 years in Afghanistan. Before September 11, 2001, he was a member of al-Qa'ida's ruling *Shura* Council—a now-defunct 10-person advisory body to Usama Bin Ladin—as well as the group's Military Committee, which oversaw terrorist and guerrilla operations and paramilitary training. 'Abd al-Hadi has been a member of al-Qa'ida since the late 1990s, working for a long time as an instructor in one of al-Qa'ida's training camps in Afghanistan.

- 'Abd al-Hadi was known and trusted by Bin Ladin and Ayman al-Zawahiri. 'Abd al-Hadi was in direct communication with both leaders and, at one point, was Zawahiri's caretaker. 'Abd al-Hadi also interacted with other senior al-Qa'ida planners and decisionmakers, such as Khalid Shaykh Muhammad and Abu Faraj al-Libi, and deceased al-Qa'ida members Hamza Rabi'a and 'Abd al-Rahman al-Muhajir.

- 'Abd al-Hadi associated with leaders of other extremist groups allied with al-Qa'ida in Afghanistan and Pakistan, including the Taliban. Abd al-Hadi worked directly with the Taliban to determine responsibility and lines of communication between Taliban and al-Qa'ida leaders in Afghanistan, specifically with regard to the targeting of U.S. Forces.