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US SANCTIONS HEAD OF IRAQ'S KATAIB HEZBOLLAH

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The U.S. sanctioned the secretary-general of an Iraqi militia group Wednesday that it blames for a deadly rocket attack on a base which killed an American contractor in December.

The designation of Ahmad al-Hamidawi as a global terrorist is intended to deny him "the resources to plan and carry out terrorist attacks," the State Department said in a statement.

Any property belonging to al-Hamidawi subject to U.S. jurisdiction has now been frozen and U.S. citizens are now generally prohibited from conducting transactions with him.

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