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## Hoekstra Statement on Reports of Death of Key al-Qaeda Leader al-Libi

WASHINGTON, D.C. – *U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., the top Republican on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement on the reports by radical jihadist Web sites of the death of key al-Qaeda leader Abu Laith al-Libi:*

“The reported death of Abu Laith al-Libi would be a positive development in our ongoing fight against radical jihadist terrorism.

“Intelligence points to, and his increasing role in al-Qaeda propaganda suggests, that he would have been a top field commander and planner for al-Qaeda. His death, if confirmed, clearly will have an impact on the radical jihadist movement.

“Through the committee, I will continue to closely monitor the effects on al-Qaeda’s operations and the ongoing efforts of the United States to confront, contain and ultimately defeat the radical jihadist threat.

“Many challenges remain, but this is likely an important blow to the al-Qaeda leadership – and it will not be the last.”