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U.S. to Extradite Guantanamo Prisoner to Spain

Reuters
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MADRID - The United States has agreed to extradite a detainee held in Guantanamo and wanted for questioning by a Spanish judge, a Spanish High Court official said on Monday.

Judge Baltasar Garzon says there is evidence in Spain against Lahcen Ikassrien and three others suspected of forming part of an al Qaeda cell in Spain that helped plot the Sept. 11 2001 attacks on the United States.

The court official said Ikassrien would arrive in Madrid later on Monday from the U.S. military base in Cuba. He will be questioned for belonging to an armed group, the official added, without elaboration.

Spain has arrested more than 100 suspects since the Madrid bombings last year, which killed 200 people and were believed to be the work of radicals linked to al Qaeda.

The suspected leader of al Qaeda in Spain was beaten up on Friday in prison, where he is waiting for a verdict after being tried for "terrorist murder" and could be sentenced to 74,000 years in jail.

The man, Syrian-born Imad Eddin Barakat Yarkas, better known as Abu Dahdah, was taken to hospital but was not seriously hurt.