

# Report: U.S.-Trained, 'Vetted Moderate' Syrian Rebel Leader Defects to Al-Qaeda, Turns Weapons Over to Terror Group

So much for the John McCain, Lindsey Graham school of thought on Syria. Patrick Poole writes in [only 4 to 5 U.S.-trained Syrian fighters are effectively engaged against ISIS](#) as a result of a \$500 million program [Since July 2014](#), I have repeatedly covered the frequent defections of "vetted moderate" Syrian rebel groups to al-Qaeda and ISIS here at PJ Media.

Late yesterday, the reports that Atareb rebel commander Anas Obaid had defected to Jabhat al-Nusra and turned over his weapons began to emerge:

[who now admit](#) they knew that such groups were working with designated terror groups all along – are bemoaning the damage this development does to their efforts:

Who is going to take responsibility for the disaster that the \$500 million program has predictably become? The White House made clear last week that