

**Miss Indian World named at annual Gathering of Nations**  
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**FAIRBANKS**

# Daily News-Miner

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## Intelligence decision



Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and members of the national security team, receive an update on the mission against Osama bin Laden Sunday in the Situation Room of the White House.

## Tanana ice jam floods Salcha

### Spring ritual raises water levels in community

By **TIM MOWRY**  
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In what has become almost a springtime ritual in Salcha, a large ice jam on the Tanana River was causing flooding in the Richardson Highway community 40 miles southeast of Fairbanks on Monday.

Approximately a half dozen homes along the Old Richardson Highway were surrounded by water after the ice jam formed late Sunday night and pushed water over the riverbank in the Boondox area near 330 Mile, said Fairbanks North Star Borough emergency services director David Gibbs.

No homes had been damaged and no residents had been evacuated as of Monday afternoon, he said.

The water filled Piledriver Slough and submerged sections of the Old Richardson Highway, which parallels the slough, earlier in the day.

While water levels dropped later in the afternoon, the ice jam remained in place. Officials were waiting to see what happened when another run of ice from the Salcha River, which broke up on Sunday and flows into the Tanana River several miles upstream of the jam, reaches the ice-choked section of river.

"We've got another slug of ice coming," Gibbs said. "If the ice from the Salcha piles into the ice jam we could have another problem."

Nobody knew when that might happen.

Gibbs, who was in Salcha on Monday morning to assess the situation, described the ice jam as "fairly significant."

"It's pretty much the same area it is every spring," Gibbs said, speaking by cell phone.

## Clues lead to Pakistan hideout of al Qaida leader

By **MARK MAZZETTI, HELENE COOPER and PETER BAKER**  
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — For years, the agonizing search for Osama bin Laden kept coming up empty. Then last July, Pakistanis working for the CIA drove up behind a white Suzuki navigating the bustling streets near Peshawar, Pakistan, and wrote down the car's license plate.

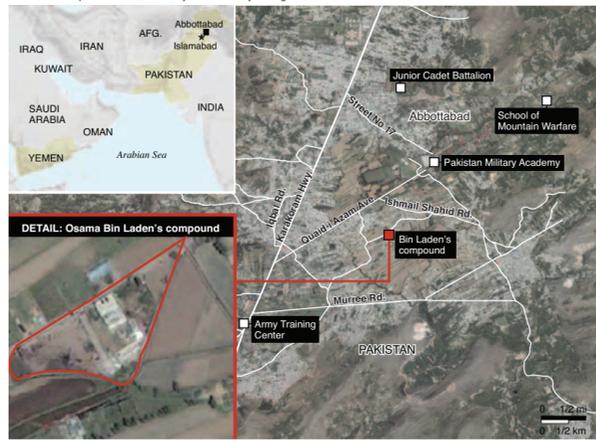
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Fort Wainwright, Eielson AFB increase security, Page A8

The man in the car was bin Laden's most trusted courier, and over the next month CIA operatives would track him throughout central Pakistan. Ultimately, administration officials said, he led them to a sprawling compound at the end of a long dirt road and surrounded by tall security fences in a wealthy hamlet 35 miles from the Pakistani capital.

**Osama Bin Laden's hidden compound in Abbottabad**

Bin Laden's compound was surrounded by various military training centers



SOURCES: Satellite images courtesy of GeoEye; Road data by LeadDog Consulting LLC.

On a moonless night eight months later, 79 U.S. commandos in four helicopters descended on the compound, the officials said. Shots rang out. A helicopter stalled and would not take off. Pakistani authorities,

kept in the dark by their allies in Washington, scrambled forces as the U.S. commandos rushed to finish their mission and leave before

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## Fairbanksans remember 9/11

By **MARY BETH SMETZER**  
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For Alaskans touched personally by the events of Sept. 11, 2001, the death of terrorist Osama bin Laden in a firefight Sunday in Pakistan brought back memories.

Cheryl Davis of Fairbanks had made a plane reservation Sunday to travel to New York for the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attack.

Davis lost her niece that day, Kirsten Janssen Santiago, 26, who she had raised as her own since Kirsten was 9 years old.

"I haven't been back since her funeral," said Davis, who still keeps in touch with Kirsten's husband, Peter Santiago, who has not remarried.

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## 'We got him'



Raid on compound successful  
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**Sourdough Jack sez:**

"That young lady sure has a nicer hat than this ratty old thing I'm wearing."



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## Climbing Mount McKinley's West Buttress

May 1 is the traditional opening for climbing season on Mount McKinley, North America's highest peak. Thousands of climbers from around the world will com to Alaska to take a stab at setting foot on its summit. Each man or woman who tries will have a different experience, and each will come away with a unique story. In part three of this four-part series, we describe the West Buttress ascent.

By **JAMES BROOKS**  
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"High Alaska," the classic description of Mount McKinley climbing routes by Jonathan Waterman, describes the West Buttress ascent with the following description: "The West Buttress route follows

the winding Kahiltna Glacier up a series of low-angled headwalls to the large 14,300-basin. Above this is a 2,000-foot climb up onto the buttress itself. ...

"From 17,200 feet, there is a moderately steep and ascending traverse to Denali Pass, where the route intersects with the 1947 Muldrow variation. Short headwalls are climbed to the 19,600-foot plateau, which presents a half mile of plodding to the final summit ridge."

The reality isn't as simple as those bare words.

Even in good weather, conditions can be hostile. "As soon as we landed, we needed full skin protection from the sun. With clear skies above and



Photo by Matthew Gilbertson  
Climbers work their way to 17,200 feet on Mount McKinley.

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**Alaska GROWN** May 3 is Alaska Agriculture Day  
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