

THE TRIBUNE

75¢

HOME DELIVERY: 800-288-4128

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2011

9/11 MASTERMIND KILLED NEARLY 10 YEARS LATER NEW PAGE IN TERROR FIGHT

Details emerge on meticulous SEALs raid

Osama bin Laden was recognized and shot in the left eye during 40-minute firefight

By JONATHAN S. LANDAY
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Even as the Navy SEALs slid down ropes from their hovering helicopters, there still was some uncertainty that the man they were after was inside the massive, night-shrouded compound in northeastern Pakistan.

After all, Osama bin Laden was long thought to be hiding in a cave or other refuge in Pakistan's rugged tribal area bordering Afghanistan.

But one of the raiders thought he recognized the leader of al-Qaida, and dropped him with a shot to his left eye as the SEALs stormed into a third-floor

Please see RAID, A9

ANALYSIS

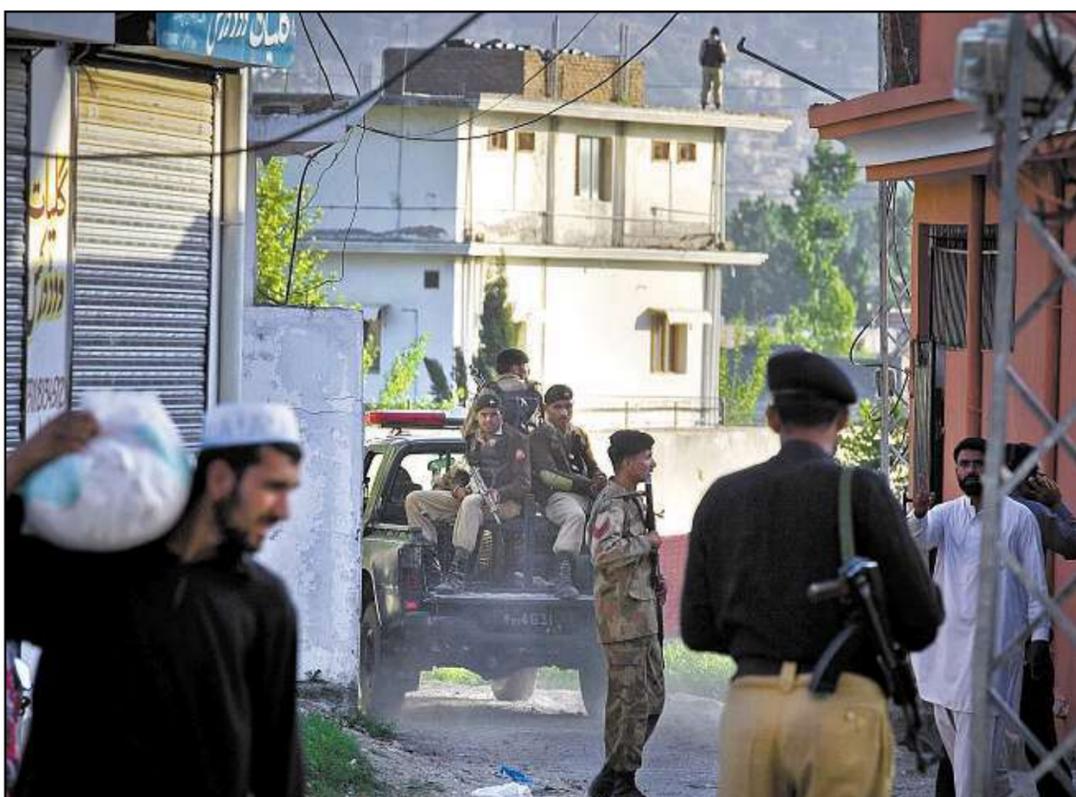
Is bin Laden's al-Qaida a thing of the past like Obama hopes?

The New York Times

In the early days of the Arab Spring, President Barack Obama frequently told his aides that the movement sweeping from Cairo to Yemen — one place where al-Qaida found its intellectual roots, the other where it has taken refuge — created what he called an "alternative narrative" for a disaffected generation.

There were no pictures of Osama bin Laden being paraded through the streets, he noted. Nor were there chants of "Death to America." The question now is whether bin Laden's death at the hands of American Special Forces and

Please see ANALYSIS, A9



Pakistan army soldiers and police officers patrol Monday past the house, background, where it is believed al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden lived in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Congratulations pour in as White House plots next steps in the U.S. battle against extremists

By STEVEN THOMMA
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Americans reveled Monday in the death of Osama bin Laden, a moment the Obama administration hoped would be a pivot point in the long war against terrorism by showing the world that bin Laden lived and died as a hypocrite and a coward, and



Osama bin Laden

that his terror network is headed toward destruction as well. "This is a good day for America," President Barack Obama proclaimed at the White House. "Our country has kept its commitment to see that justice is done. The world is safer; it is a better place because of the death of Osama bin Laden."

Obama and his administration revealed more details of how bin Laden was found and killed early Monday in Pakistan. They told how bin Laden was shielded by one of his wives before both were shot to death, and how the president and his aides monitored events in real time from an anxiety-filled White House situation room.

They also said they hope to parlay the death into a fresh campaign to turn hearts away from terror, and that they will investigate to find out how bin Laden managed to hide for so long in Pakistan, a nominal ally.

With the terror mastermind killed by U.S. forces in a firefight and dispatched to an unmarked watery grave, much of the country felt elated.

See BIN LADEN, A9

Hunting down Osama bin Laden

The raid that killed al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden took shape after detainees identified a bin Laden courier.

First information

- After 9/11, CIA chases leads about bin Laden's inner circle
- Detainees repeatedly mention one courier's pseudonym, identifying him as one of the few trusted by bin Laden; true name, location unknown
- Courier's true identity learned in 2007
- Two years later, locations where courier and his brother operate in Pakistan are learned

Narrowing in

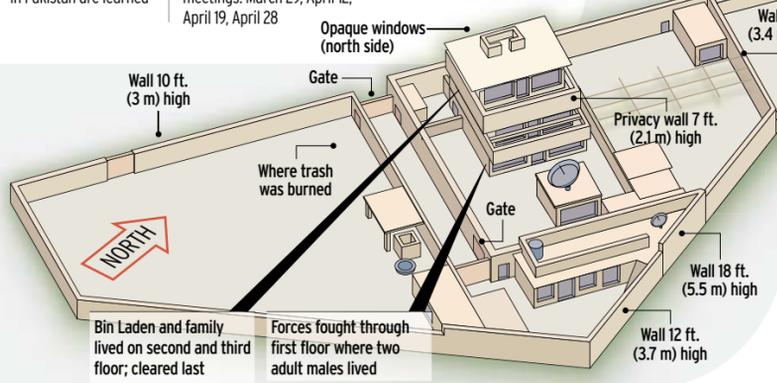
- **August 2010:** Courier's residence found: high-security compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan
- **September 2010:** U.S. thinks bin Laden may be hiding in compound
- **February 2011:** U.S. thinks intelligence is strong enough to begin developing plan for going after bin Laden
- **March 2011:** First of five National Security Council meetings on capturing or killing bin Laden; other meetings: March 29, April 12, April 19, April 28

The operation

- April 29, 2011, 8:20 a.m. EDT Obama authorizes operation
- May 1, 1 p.m. Top advisers gather at White House
- Around 3 p.m. (midnight in Pakistan) Helicopters heard over Abbottabad
- Two dozen Navy SEALs drop into high-walled compound; inside for 40 minutes
- Bin Laden killed in last five or 10 minutes of siege; shot twice in the head on third floor of main building

Inside the compound in Abbottabad

- Built in 2005; about 3,000 sq. ft. (279 sq. m) of space; but no telephone or internet service to avoid detection
- Two men lived on first floor
- Exterior walls topped with barbed wire



2005 aerial image of the compound



Outcome and aftermath All times EDT

- One U.S. helicopter lost because of mechanical failure; destroyed for security purposes
- Along with bin Laden, three adult males killed; bin Laden's son and two al-Qaida facilitators
- Woman identified as bin Laden's wife used as human shield, killed; two others injured
- 3:32 p.m. Obama returns for update
- 3:50 p.m. Obama is told bin Laden appears to be one of those killed during raid
- 11:35 p.m. After confirmation, Obama announces in televised address that U.S. forces killed bin Laden and are in custody of his body
- Bin Laden's body put aboard the USS Carl Vinson, then placed in the North Arabian Sea

SOURCES: U.S. Government, The White House, AP, Reuters, ESRI, National Journal.com

© 2011 MCT

Tour of California won't include Cambria because of Hwy. 1 slide

By KATHE TANNER
ktanner@thetribunenews.com

The nation's largest professional bicycle race won't be coming down Highway 1 through San Simeon and Cambria en route to a finish in Paso Robles, North Coast officials have been told.

Amgen Tour of California

Debris is main concern for organizers, and state of Santa Rosa Creek Road is another

organizers haven't made an official announcement that a landslide along Highway 1 will force rerouting of the event's 144-mile fifth stage May 19.

The North Coast's ambulance

service, though, has been advised that the race route will not go through Big Sur and Cambria, according to Don Melendy, adm-

See AMGEN TOUR, A9

GROVER BEACH

Registered sex offender forgives his attacker

By NICK WILSON
nwilson@thetribunenews.com

A registered sex offender who was attacked in Grover Beach by a schizophrenic last year forgave his assailant at a sentencing Monday and said he would visit him in prison.

David Jordan Griffin, 25, was sentenced to 13 years in prison after pleading no

Schizophrenic who came after man with a sledgehammer in crime spree is sentenced

contest to robbery, assault with a deadly weapon and burglary charges in connection with a two-day crime spree last year that targeted two men who were on the state's sex-crime website.

Griffin's sentence, handed down by Judge Hugh Mullin in San Luis Obispo Superior Court, included a conviction for an attack with a sledgehammer April

Please see GRIFFIN, A9

TOP STORIES, A5 IN LIBYA, MOURNERS CALL FOR REVENGE ON NATO

Supporters of Moammar Gadhafi want to retaliate for strike that killed the leader's son.



NO MATTER WHO'S PLAN PASSES, DEBT WILL GROW

Obama's and GOP's ideas for reducing the deficit merely restrict growth; the government will keep on borrowing. Page A5

LAKERS START SERIES WITH TOUGH LOSS

Dallas takes home-court advantage from L.A., winning Game 1 of the Western Conference semifinals. Page S1

SANLUISOBISPO.COM

MUGSHOTS: Check out our photo gallery of people booked into County Jail, read about their alleged crimes and see how their cases have progressed.

WEATHER AND TODAY'S INDEX



Sunny skies today through Thursday, and mostly sunny Friday. More on S8

8553 7049 8552
SLO Coast N. County

Business A8 Crossword S7 Lottery A2 Opinion A6
Classifieds S5 Dear Abby S3 Movies A3 Stocks A8
Comics S4 Horoscope S3 Obituaries A5 Television S3

