

Not An April Fool's Joke: Osama bin Laden's Second Death

By [Dr. Paul Craig Roberts](#)

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Theme: [Terrorism](#)

Paul Craig Roberts article, first published by GR on May 2, 2011 coinciding with the “official” announcement of the death of Osama bin Laden.

If today were April 1 and not May 2, we could dismiss as an April fool's joke this morning's headline (see below) that Osama bin Laden was killed in a firefight in Pakistan and quickly buried at sea. As it is, we must take it as more evidence that the US government has unlimited belief in the gullibility of Americans.

Think about it. What are the chances that a person allegedly suffering from kidney disease and requiring dialysis and, in addition, afflicted with diabetes and low blood pressure, survived in mountain hideaways for a decade? If bin Laden was able to acquire dialysis equipment and medical care that his condition required, would not the shipment of dialysis equipment point to his location? Why did it take ten years to find him?

National

Osama bin Laden killed in U.S. raid, buried at sea

By [Scott Wilson](#), [Craig Whitlock](#) and [William Branigin](#) May 2, 2011 [✉ Email the author](#)

Osama bin Laden was [buried at sea](#) Monday after U.S. forces raided his well-appointed hideout in Pakistan, shot him in a firefight in which at least one of his wives was used as a human shield, then spirited his body out of the country aboard a helicopter, U.S. officials said.

In a [White House](#) briefing Monday afternoon, [John O. Brennan](#), [President Obama](#)'s chief counterterrorism adviser, said it was “inconceivable that bin Laden did not have a support system” in Pakistan that allowed him to live comfortably with his family in a town north of the capital. He said U.S. officials are pursuing this with the Pakistanis, who were pointedly not informed about the raid before it took place.

Obama made one of the “gutsiest calls” of any president in deciding to go ahead with the raid based on his confidence — but only circumstantial evidence — that bin Laden was indeed living in the compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, Brennan said. He said there were “absolutely” disagreements among Obama's advisers about that course of action.

No it's not “Fake News” it's a report by the authoritative Washington Post (which coincidentally establishes the list of independent media allegedly involved in “fake news”), Screenshot Washington Post, May 2, 2011 (M.Ch. GR Editor)

Consider also the claims, repeated by a triumphalist US media celebrating bin Laden's death, that "bin Laden used his millions to bankroll terrorist training camps in Sudan, the Philippines, and Afghanistan, sending 'holy warriors' to foment revolution and fight with fundamentalist Muslim forces across North Africa, in Chechnya, Tajikistan and Bosnia." That's a lot of activity for mere millions to bankroll (perhaps the US should have put him in charge of the Pentagon), but the main question is: how was bin Laden able to move his money about? What banking system was helping him? The US government succeeds in seizing the assets of people and of entire countries, Libya being the most recent. Why not bin Laden's? Was he carrying around with him \$100 million dollars in gold coins and sending emissaries to distribute payments to his far-flung operations?

This morning's headline has the odor of a staged event. The smell reeks from the triumphalist news reports loaded with exaggerations, from celebrants waving flags and chanting "USA USA." Could something else be going on?

No doubt President Obama is in desperate need of a victory. He committed the fool's error or restarting the war in Afghanistan, and now after a decade of fighting the US faces stalemate, if not defeat. The wars of the Bush/Obama regimes have bankrupted the US, leaving huge deficits and a declining dollar in their wake. And re-election time is approaching.

The various lies and deceptions, such as "weapons of mass destruction," of the last several administrations had terrible consequences for the US and the world. But not all deceptions are the same. Remember, the entire reason for invading Afghanistan in the first place was to get bin Laden. Now that President Obama has declared bin Laden to have been shot in the head by US special forces operating in an independent country and buried at sea, there is no reason for continuing the war.

Perhaps the precipitous decline in the US dollar in foreign exchange markets has forced some real budget reductions, which can only come from stopping the open-ended wars. Until the decline of the dollar reached the breaking point, Osama bin Laden, who many experts believe to have been dead for years, was a useful bogymen to use to feed the profits of the US military/security complex.

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About the author:

Paul Craig Roberts, former Assistant Secretary of the US Treasury and Associate Editor of the Wall Street

Journal, has held numerous university appointments. He is a frequent contributor to Global Research. Dr. Roberts can be reached at <http://paulcraigroberts.org>

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