A LULLABY OF CONCERN
- and a questionable legacy -

One would believe the oft uniformed military leader of Iraq (Saddam Hussein) would be with his troops to inspire them as they faced the American assault from Kuwait in the second Gulf War, but instead he was located in a spider-hole in ragged Arabic dress. Too, the scuttlebutt inferred the Islamic icon, Osama bin-Laden, was somewhere along the mountainous border between Afghanistan and Pakistan, found in relative comfort in 3-story compound, a few miles from the military command center (Abbottabad) and the nation's capitol. AUS Navy SEAL team in two helicopters flew from a vessel, landed, assaulted the compound, killed several guards, family members, and then accosted bin Laden and killed him while the entourage, mostly women to include 3 of his wives, scurried to hide, screaming. Returning to the ship with bin-Laden's body plus computers, materials, -a treasure trove of intelligence performed a sea burial in Islamic fashion. Fearful of compromise, raid went in without notifying Pakistan, though Obama, Mullen, and Panetta informed their counterparts subsequently.

Thus, it can be said that Obama got Osama and bespeaks of the irony of a Muslim-American son commanding a daring raid killing the last son of Muhammed bin-Laden, a Yemen, whose riches aiding the Saud family, and built mosques in Mecca, Medina and the al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem. We recall the meeting of our President and the Saudi King in flourished bow.

President Obama whose leadership has been consistently questioned in domestic matters and seen as weak in the matter of military strategy has to be commended for his courage and decision to initiate the special operations raid without informing the Pakistanis. It was audacious and to his immense credit. Yet it did not happen in a vacuum as much intelligence to include successful so-called enhanced interrogation helped and Obama should acknowledge this and thank President Bush. Raids of this nature were considered.

Transfixed by Obama's soothing words of 'hope and change' –like a father singing to his children –ie, Supporters (young, less fortunate, most media and the academic world) roll-on almost oblivious to creeping socialistic mantra, and lulled by words, not actions of economic foibles, an over-whelming takeover of health, entitlement problems, massive debt, uncontrolled spending and despite the raid, very suspect leadership. Major obstacles include a failure to capitalize on the Arab Spring and protest, and the wars, both old and new in some kind of end game, and what of the bin Laden fall?

It is time for diplomacy with a decision to define who the enemy is. The Bush administration muddled through the moment (9-11) when they could not affix militant Islam, the problem: to go after those who attacked us and those who harbored them. He did the former, not the latter and chose the non-sequitur: 'War against Terror'. Obama dismissed it all, calling Islamic attacks: man-made disasters, and al-Qaeda, a cult, or facsimile. Remember bin-Laden money and call for action against the Soviets with US compliance led to the creation of the Taliban, pure fanatic Islam and a takeover in the eighties of Afghanistan. Now, liable is the possibility of militant Islam in Egypt, Yemen, an influence in Libya and Tunisia, and the real fear of the downfall of the royal emirates of Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Bahrain. Meanwhile Israel worries about the threat of nuclear Iran, on-going threats of Hizbollah and Hamas. Syria's son, like father, continues to shut down protest shooting many, rounding up others.

Obama must finally define the enemy as militant Islam, ensure Stealth Islam is stopped and sharia-if a threat to our way of life-recognized, despite Muslim citizen's wishes: A laying of the cards on the table in the mideast to forsake Islamic Jihad and Islam's unwillingness to accept Western ways; Or except the consequences and possible military action! This President will never do this so we had better consider a change in the next election.

"Walk softly but carry a big stick!"