

Station # 5

In 1979, Soviet Premier Leonid Brezhnev ordered the invasion of Afghanistan. The goal was to secure a warm water port and spread communism to the region. The Mujadeen were the fighters that fought the Soviets during this battle. With the help of the USA, the Mujadeen stood strong against the Soviets, who eventually left without achieving their goals. The Mujadeen eventually transformed into an Islamic fundamentalist group, known as the Taliban, which ran a brutal dictatorship in Afghanistan until about 2001, when their leaders were removed from power. Many human rights violations were carried out under the Taliban, especially toward women. The Taliban are now a fugitive force that supports Al Qaeda, an international alliance of militant guerilla organizations established by Osama Bin Laden in 1989. The Taliban was officially removed from Afghanistan by the US following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Shortly after eleven o' clock on the night of May 1st, two MH-60 Black Hawk helicopters lifted off from Jalalabad Air Field, in eastern Afghanistan and embarked on a covert mission into Pakistan to kill Osama bin Laden. Twenty-three Navy Seals successfully executed the mission, disposing of Osama bin Laden's body in a remote location to prevent him from being memorialized. American troops remain in Afghanistan today in an effort to secure a democratic government and discourage future terrorist activity.

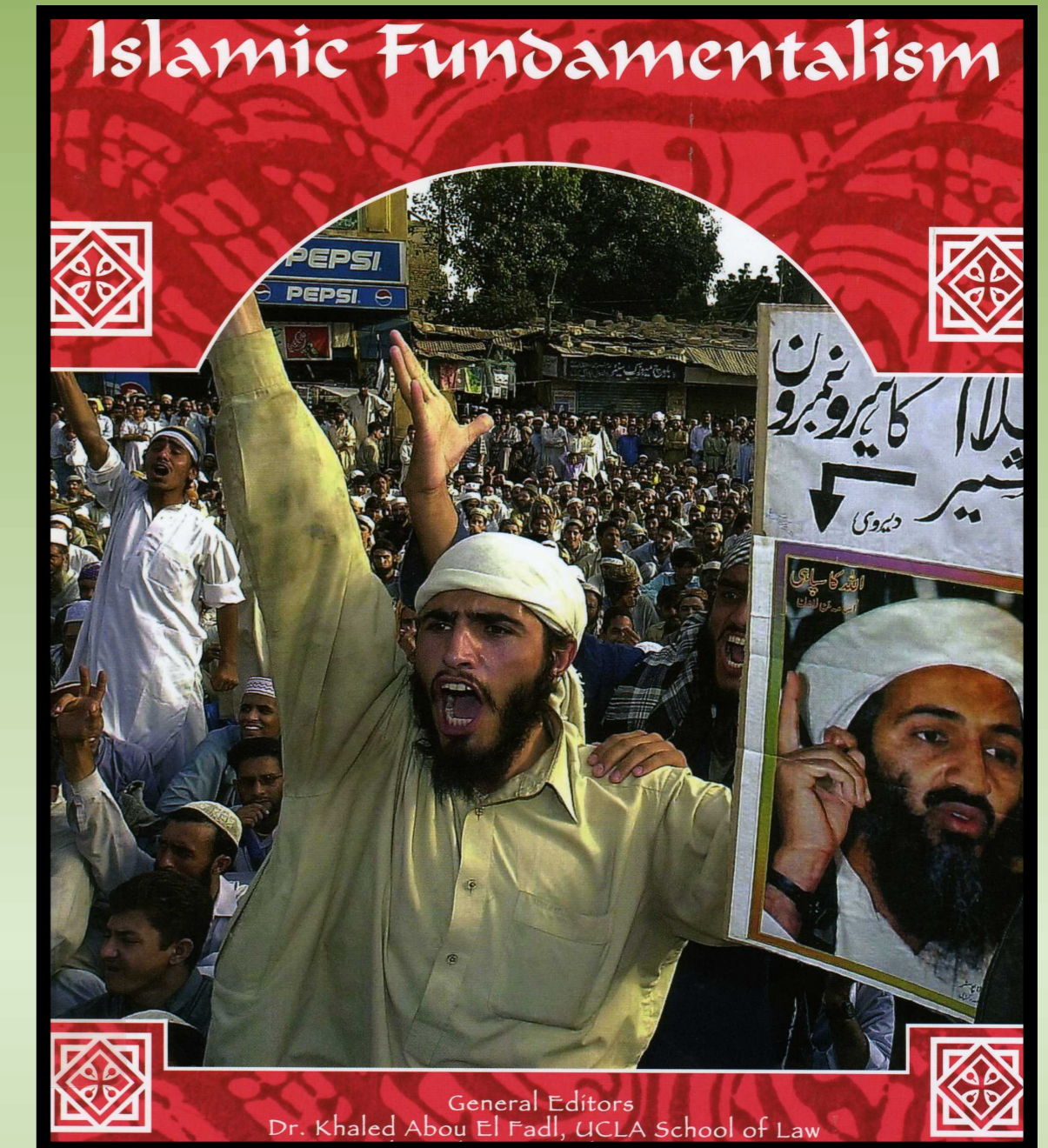


Mujahideen at Kabul Airport (Patrick Robert/Corbis)

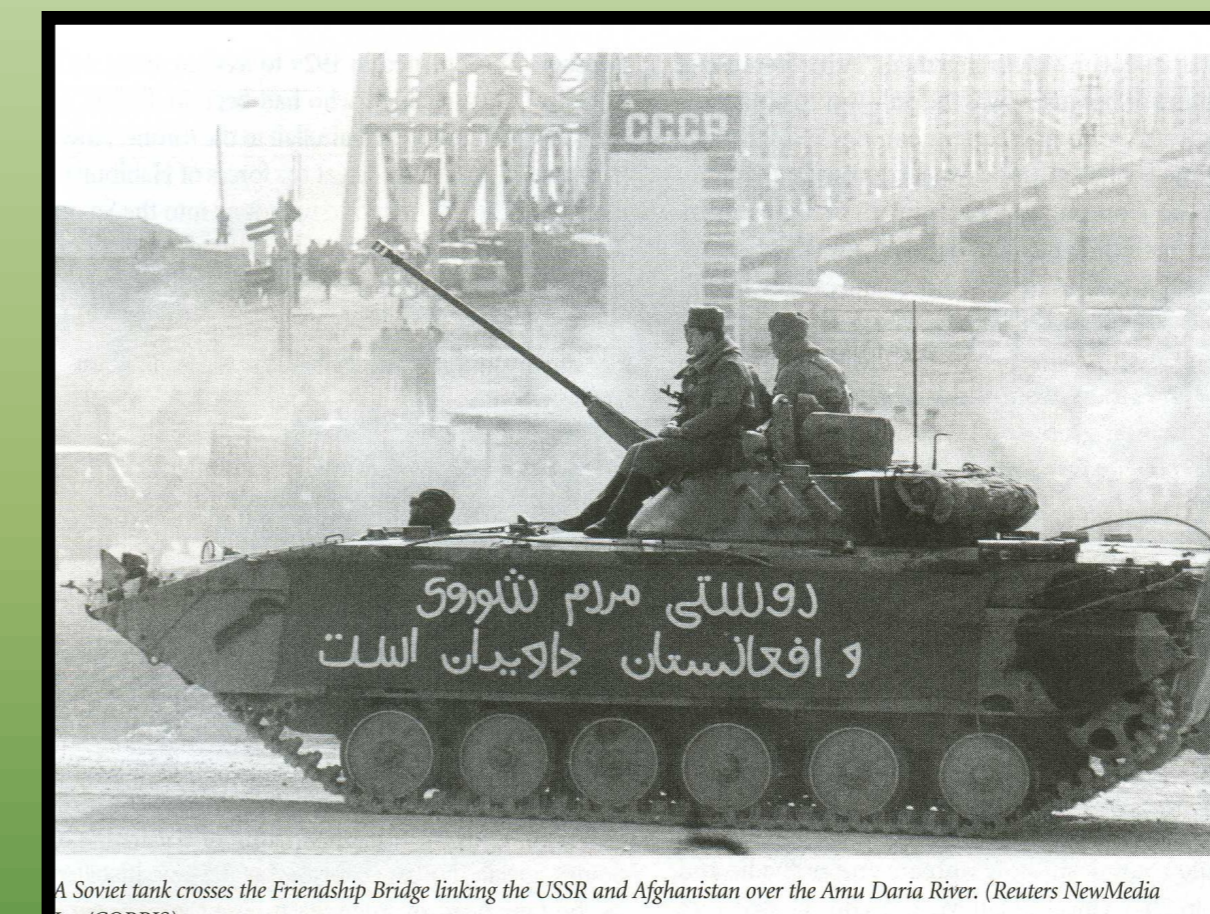


Bin-Laden Raid-2011

This picture was taken in the White House Situation Room during the Raid on Osama bin Laden's Compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan



This undated photo shows Saudi-born dissident Osama Bin Laden (C) and top deputies Ayman Al-Zawahiri (L), a physician and the founder of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad, and Muhammad Atef (R), who has been indicted in the United States for his alleged involvement in the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Tanzania and Kenya. (AFP/Corbis)



A Soviet tank crosses the Friendship Bridge linking the USSR and Afghanistan over the Amu Darya River. (Reuters/NewsMedia)

Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan-1979

Jihad-a holy war that can only be waged against non-Muslims

