

D&I WORDS OF VISIONARIES

Module: Thrilling Operations Feb 21, 2021



Dreamers & Innovators is a knowledge and skill-building platform for 21st century learners. We aspire, design and execute interactive learning experiences where global knowledge relevant to today and tomorrow is brought to young Dreamers. At D&I, 21st century skills are honed, confident communication is developed and independent, informed opinions are nourished.

January 2021 is hallmarked at D&I with the module: **Thrilling Missions**. This module focuses on the epic missions carried out by the forces of nations of global significance. In the fifth session, on the **Operation Neptune Spear**, we entered a narrative of espionage, intel gathering and hi-tech surveillance including sheer planning in the takedown of the architect of 9/11, **Osama bin Laden**...



BUTTERFLY EFFECT OF CONFLICTING FAITHS

By Rohina Mehra

In the recorded history of the human race, the differences in our religious faiths have created extremist views that have challenged our brothers from other mothers with contrary faiths. This has triggered a conflict of views and ideologies that has escalated over the years leading to devastation for both sides. With low tolerance and increased comradery, one incident in one part of the globe has a ripple effect elsewhere. In the year 1979, the Soviet-Afghan War laid the foundation for masterminding the 9/11 attack in the USA. This led to the Second Gulf War and thereafter a ten-year hunt for a man - Bin Laden until the year 2011. In the aftermath, all sides suffer to date!

But time has come for us to realize the enemy is not amongst us. Pandemic, Global Warming, Aliens from outer space or asteroids are perils that could once again end the human race on planet Earth. We urgently need to put our differences aside and collectively put our heads together to address them before its too late.



REVIEW BEFORE PRACTICE

By Keith Gomes

In the unsettling climate of the times, where people are more susceptible to bias than ever before, it is crucial to analyse anything before digestion. You won't sip a cup a stranger offers without cursory scepticism, then why do people often believe every detail found in various media?

In the era of fake news and post-truth, our goal must be to conduct our own vetting of facts before we state them in public. The bite-sized nature of digital consumption has marred the quality of our knowledge of global and national matters. Terrorism is a case in point: we believe the justice of it, yet are never provided complete context by talk-show news. To understand terrorism we must analyse the past of all religions of the world to acknowledge how extremism was the only way of converting into believers, and in modern history, we must take into account the rise of colonialism in the Middle East, Asia and the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan that led to the coming of persistent rebellion.



USA'S RESPONSE TO ATTACKS OF 9/11

by Nihaal Solanki, 13yrs

The story started on September 11, 2001, a plane had been hijacked and crashed over the World Trade Center's North Tower at 8:46 a.m.

Then a second plane crashed into the South Tower at 9:03 a.m. More than 2600 people were killed including people in the tower and the plane. At 9:37 a.m. the third plane crashed at Pentagon, the US Military Head Quarters in Arlington, Virginia.

After 26 minutes at 10:03 a.m. the fourth flight crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania after the passengers had fought the hijackers. Its target was believed to have been the Capitol or the White House. Nearly 3000 people were killed in these attacks and over 6000 people were injured, most of them were US citizens. USA identified the man behind all the 4 attacks to be Osama Bin Laden.

USA's reply back was Operation Neptune Spear. On May 2 2011 the US army had a plan to execute the man. Two choppers carried 25 US Marine soldiers. The Soldiers entered Osama's house and soon the world heard the word "Geronimo".



SEALS TEAM SIX: 1 TERRORISTS: 0

by Nivaan Jain, 13 yrs

May 2, 2011, witnessed a significant event in U.S history and by extension, the entire globe: Osama bin Laden's demise at the hands of U.S forces. As the de facto fanatical architect of the 9/11 attacks in the U.S, bin Laden became a high priority target of the country's counterterrorism units.

Elite forces such as the U.S Navy's SEAL Team Six who are specialists in highly classified military missions shouldered the responsibility of infiltrating Osama bin Laden's lair in Abbottabad, Pakistan with orders to either capture or kill the then infamous leader and founder of al-Qaeda.

The entire operation, which lasted only forty minutes from start to finish with Osama being found and killed in nine minutes, was the culmination of years of calculated planning and training. This daring raid was codenamed Operation Neptune Spear, after the trident which appears on the U.S Navy's Special Warfare insignia.



OPERATION NEPTUNE SPEAR

by Ananya Jalan, 13 yrs

The sole focus of this operation conducted by the United States Navy SEALs Team Six, in cooperation with the intelligence body of the US Defence Forces as well as the CIA, was to kill or capture Osama bin Laden.

The operation was launched out of Afghanistan and carried out in Abbottabad, Pakistan in the early hours of May 2, 2011. SEALs flew into Pakistan from a staging base in eastern Afghanistan after originating at Bagram Air Base in north-eastern Afghanistan.

Two helicopters piloted by U.S. Army aviators transported the SEALs, an interpreter, and a combat dog to carry out the raid. Gunfire was exchanged as SEALs made their way through the compound, up to the second and third floors, where they encountered bin Laden and his family. A shot on the head and chest by Navy Seal Robert O'Neill ended the life of the man regarded as the mastermind behind the terror attacks of 9/11.

