



Release the damned photos of Osama bin Laden

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Over the last few days, since the reported death of Osama bin Laden, there has been debate over whether or not the Obama Administration should release photos of the terrorist's body. CIA Director Leon Panetta said yesterday that it [would "ultimately" happen](#), but would not give a window. The reason for the hold up is the [photos are very graphic](#) and the administration is worried that it "[could be inflammatory](#)."

Over at [Cato's blog](#), David Rittgers [argues for quick release of the photos](#) so that we can put a rest to conspiracy theories:

A lot of people are [asking](#) whether the White House will release photographic proof of Osama bin Laden's death. It should. The operation to get OBL has been very successful thus far, including the decisions to conduct a raid instead of a standoff bombing and the burial at sea. The latter avoided a repeat of [the race to dig up Che Guevara](#).

The Obama administration should [release photos](#) to confirm that we have ended bin Laden's life. We do not need a decade of OBL sightings and conspiracy theories to undermine the positive steps taken in the last two days. Obama's birth certificate has been [vindicated](#), and Osama's revoked. End of story.

The Obama Administration has been quick to put down other conspiracy theories, such as the mindlessly stupid questions into the president's birthplace. And while this is a very serious issue, unlike birther conspiracies, it's important to put any doubt to rest; or at least make an effort to do so. Of course, there are always going to be people that deny evidence, but after what we've endured as a nation, I think we deserve it.