



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2004

## The Chickens Are Coming Home To Roost

by Michael in New York on [10/29/2004 02:00:00 PM](#)

Thank God in America you can only get away with indecency and breaking the law for so long before justice begins to prevail again.

First, former British detainees held in Guantanamo Bay are **suing Donald Rumsfeld**, the head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and nine other military officials because they say they were tortured in violation of US and international law. I'd love to see Rummy take the stand and explain himself. The men involved say they were initially held in custody by the Taliban on suspicion of being British spies and then sold by an Afghan warlord to US soldiers for \$35,000 each. What a nightmare. But that's what happens when you think you're above the law and can throw people into a hole for years on end and never have to justify to anyone who you're imprisoning and why.

Then, USA Today also reports two Navy SEALs are facing court martials for allegedly assaulting a detainee at Abu Ghraib who died in custody.

And finally the **UN condemns the use of torture** in a pointed rebuke of the US, pointing out the obvious -- that you can't claim the moral high ground and then break all bonds of decency by using the methods of the enemy.

"The absolute nature of the prohibition of torture and other forms of ill treatment means that no exceptional circumstances whatsoever, whether a state of war or a threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency, may be invoked as a justification for torture," the report said.

"No executive, legislative, administrative or judicial measure authorizing recourse to torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment can be considered as lawful under international law."

Isn't it shocking that this is directed at the US instead of Saddam Hussein, North Korea, Saudi Arabia or some other nightmarish country?



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