



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2004

### The Everlasting Gob-Stopper

by Michael in New York on 10/17/2004 01:48:00 AM

Willie Wonka invented a candy -- the Everlasting Gob-Stopper -- that kids could suck and suck and would never wear out, keeping them forever sated. Bush has invented the Never-Ending Terror Alerts.

Harper's Index (in the October issue) reminds us that Bush placed our country under an "elevated terror alert" more than two years ago. How many days -- not weeks or months, but **days** -- has the terror alert been relaxed back to regular levels? Not one. Not one day. Surely if we are **always** at an elevated terror alert, then that elevation is meaningless. It is simply the way of the world. We can't go back to sliding onto planes without being metal-detected or walking into the New York Stock Exchange without passing serious security.

But the only purpose of flashing lights that "raise" the terror alert whenever Bush's poll numbers fall is to terrorize the populace. (The recent school "scare" was especially evil.) When will someone call Bush on this fear-mongering?



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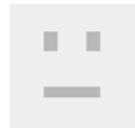
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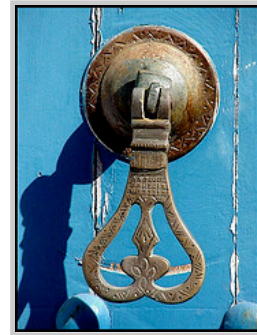
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### HOT OFF THE WIRE

#### Daily Kos

Open Thread and Diary Rescue - \*Tonight's Rescue Rangers are Louisiana 1976, jlms qkw, shayera, dopper0189, ybruti, and srkp23 with vcmvo2 editing.\* ~ World order will be secured only ... 8 minutes ago

#### Eschaton

The Stupids - When I was growing up what always pissed me off more than anything was when my sense of justice was violated. I'm not claiming that my sense of such things... 40 minutes ago

#### Crooks and Liars

Open Thread - Blog Against Theocracy, a blogswarm in favor of separation of church and state, is this weekend. Open Thread below. 58 minutes ago

#### HuffPost Politics

Norman Solomon: Democrats and War Escalation - Top Democrats and many prominent supporters - with vocal agreement, tactical quibbles or total silence - are assisting the escalation of the U.S. war effort... 1 hour ago

#### Firedoglake

Late Nite: Michele Bachmann Stars in "Birth of an Aberration" - Minnesota's wackiest export treads the boards of the Wingnut dinner theater. 1 hour ago