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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2004

US Concedes Iraq Falling Into Disarray

by Michael in New York on 9/08/2004 01:38:00 AM

Who said Iraq was always going to be a positive for Bush? In the latest news, the US finally admits the reality of what is happening in Iraq: rebels/insurgents/terrorists/religious fanatics/patriots or whatever you wanna call them are taking increasing control of major chunks of Iraq.

This comes after the US death toll goes above 1,000 and attacks on our troops there have shot up almost 400% from 700 in March to 2,700 in August. Force in dealing with these insurgents is of course always an option. But US military officials thought they might hold off on that for say, oh, I don't know, maybe two months which -- wouldn't you know -- would mean until after the US elections.

As the New York Times pointed out,

"A two-month hiatus before major force is applied to rebel areas would also mean a delay until after the American presidential election, but senior officials insist there is no domestic political calculus in the decision to wait - only a conviction that time is needed for negotiation and for Iraqi forces to gain strength."

Uh-huh. One more sign of US desperation: local residents say insurgents control the city of Samarra but US commanders say that isn't true, claiming that "the messages at Friday prayer are becoming more and more moderate." Military officials having to characterize the tenor of Friday prayers is a sad sign indeed.



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