

TABOO OPINIONS #9

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For Adults Only!

5-24-04 THE FALLUJAH SOLUTION

You may recall I said, a few Opinions ago, that the “Coalition” was defeated in Fallujah and was forced to retreat under cover of a fake cease fire. I said there would probably be subsequent such retreats under cease fire cover, and that we had thus unofficially lost the war; opposing ‘militia’ forces would in future understand they could attack us (at last mention about 50 times per day!) fight us in a city and count on us shrinking from a house-to-house battle and its high casualty counts [“Coalition” as well as Iraqi civilians].

It has happened again. The “coalition” has retreated from Najaf and Kufa under cover of a cease fire and allowed the opposing militia to safely get out of the cities, if they choose. Their Shiite leader, al-Sadr, is now supposed to be dealt with by the new, aborning Iraqi justice system.

So, our boys cannot or dare not fully engage and finally defeat our enemy (who chooses where and when to attack us), cannot find and arrest or kill their leader (as we had vowed to do), and cannot muster enough troops to do the job (for domestic political reasons. Hey, don’t you know there’s an election going on?).

Realize, please, that we have retreated from a Sunni militia in Fallujah, and now from a Shiite militia.

Still in abeyance is the Kurd militia who will fight us to keep their power and territory in northern Iraq. [No one has ever told us what our government promised or paid the Kurds to get them to help us in our northern Iraq operations in the opening days of our invasion of Iraq.]

Slowly, the “Coalition” is being marginalized. When we turn over ‘nationhood’ to the newly appointed Iraq “government” at the end of June, how will we ‘maintain order’ when the three militias begin

fighting each other for ultimate power in that sorry collection of religious-ethnic-tribal peoples?

Our failures will become so obvious, so expensive and so tragic even the my-country-right-or-wrong crowd will turn away in disgust.

As for Kerry's just-announced desire/plan to send 40,000 more U.S. soldiers to Iraq---it's stupid. Where is he going to find those soldiers? It will have to be after he wins the election in November...and the situation in Iraq by then may be totally beyond 'fixing'. With any kind of luck we'll be asked to pull out by a shell government, and if Bush has any sense left he'll run--not walk---to the nearest exit.

END TABOO OPINIONS #9