

# TABOO OPINIONS #40

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## 3-9-05 SYMPTOMS OF FAILURE

News item on cable tells that U.S. forces in Iraq are pulling their prisoners out of the scandal-ridden Abu Ghraib prison and are turning the prison over to Iraq forces because of constant, effective attacks on the prison by the insurgents.

How long do you think the Iraq military will be able to hold it?

Once again the dangerous-as-hell road to the Baghdad airport confirms the fear of attack felt by U.S. Army soldiers who are tasked with protecting it from endless day&night attacks by insurgents. Our boys shot up a car occupied by Italians, killing one security agent and wounding two (one a just-released insurgent-captured woman journalist). The Italians bought her freedom for \$6 million.

The car driver's story differs radically from those of our shooters. I read that we were sending a barrage of .50 caliber bullets from a tank. A slug that size will go through a car like an ice pick through butter.

The stock market dropped 107 points today, the price of oil is climbing still (into the \$55 per barrel range), the value of the US\$ is falling as usual, and interest rates are rising dramatically...to mention the most dangerous developments.

In a good old phrase, the debt chickens are coming home to roost. The Wall Street professionals are in denial and the Asians are shifting to buying 'a basket of other currencies' with dollars to safeguard their reserves from dollar losses as our currency degrades before their eyes.

Yes, Virginia, personal, state, federal deficits do matter. And there really isn't a Santa Claus.

END TABOO OPINIONS #40