

The events in Iraq Tuesday are going to be the top story, unless and until something else (or worse) happens. Err on the side of doing too much Iraq rather than not enough. Do not fall into the easy trap of mourning the loss of US lives and asking out loud why are we there? The US is in Iraq to help a country brutalized for 30 years protect the gains made by Operation Iraqi Freedom and set it on the path to democracy. Some people in Iraq don't want that to happen. That is why American GIs are dying. And what we should remind our viewers.

For consistency, the town is Ramadi, not Al Ramadi.

"Fierce" is a good word, but let's find a few synonyms.

We'll start to preview Dr. Rice's testimony before congress on Thursday. Angle is the point man for this story.

Kerry's speech on the economy at Georgetown is likely to move onto the topic of Iraq. We should take the beginning of Kerry's speech, see if it contains new information (aside from a promise to create 10 million jobs) and see if other news at that time is more compelling. It is not required to take it start to finish.

The hearing on Rush Limbaugh's medical records could be a death blow to the case against him. If the 3 judge panel rules that his doctor's records cannot be used by the prosecution, the case is likely to go away. Orlando Salinas will be available for lives all day.

Eric Shawn will have another day of Oil for Food lives, to coincide with congressional hearings on the topic. It's possible Kofi Annan will offer some additional information on what was going on at the UN. Either way, Eric will have new, and possibly exclusive information.

fyi, and thanks to the DC bureau, here's part of what senate foreign affairs committee chairman richard lugar will say:

THIS CORRUPTION WAS NOT SOLELY A PRODUCT OF SADDAM HUSSEIN'S MACHINATIONS. HE REQUIRED MEMBERS OF THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL WHO WERE WILLING TO BE COMPLICIT IN HIS ACTIVITIES, AND HE REQUIRED U.N. OFFICIALS AND CONTRACTORS WHO WERE DISHONEST, INATTENTIVE, OR WILLING TO MAKE DAMAGING COMPROMISES IN PURSUIT OF A COMPASSIONATE MISSION.

Meady
4/6/04