After Saddam's capture

JUSTICE FOR SADDAM, JUSTICE FOR IRAQ

By Joyce Neu

The capture of Saddam Hussein is a coup for the U.S.-led coalition, a tribute to the skill of U.S. troops and a needed redemption for U.S. intelligence. More importantly, however, having caught Saddam alive may be a turning point in the attempt to help Iraq create a society governed by rule of law, not by the rule of individual people, or, as was the case under Saddam Hussein, the rule of one man.

As Bend Rubfin Franselke, the Iraqi ambassador to the United States pointed out just after news of Saddam's capture, the way that Saddam will be treated and tried for the crimes he committed will show the Iraqi people that Iraq has become a country of laws. This said, others are dubious that the recent tribunal established by the U.S.-sponsored Iraqi Governing Council is capable of meting out justice.

As Human Rights Watch director Kenneth Roth pointed out, Iraq has no experience dealing with complex trials on issues of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The provisions of the new tribunal are inadequate to assure justice for Saddam.

As abhorrent as it may be to consider giving Saddam a fair trial when he denied that to his own people, this is what differentiates democracies from dictatorships. We do not offer a fair trial to Saddam because he "deserves it," but because this is what societies based on democratic principles and based on international law do.

THE END OF RESISTANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY NEAR

By Jay Winkle

No less than Napoleon would recognize today's Iraqi battlefield. Two suicide bombers attacked Iraqi police and American forces Monday, showing that the local insurgency that has plagued allied forces was consumed by a nearly unbreakable cycle of revenge and retaliation. Houses and towns were torched, trains and stages were attacked, steamboats came under repeated attack.

At its essence, guerrilla warfare is how the weak make war against the strong. Insurgency, subversive and chaotic, its application is classic and surprisingly simple: concentration through surprise.

If Hussein has committed war crimes he must be held accountable. But if the United States allows Saddam to be tried abroad, it may yet be possible to declare Hussein's efforts to overthrow Hussein's regime a success.

In Hussein's case, it is vital that Iraqis be called upon to play a role in the prosecution of their former leader. The United States cannot afford to undermine the legitimacy of the new Iraqi government.

When we talk about the law into their own hands, the loser is the law. And when the law loses, freedom languishes," said Robert Francis Kennedy.

A total route persists

It happened 45 years ago as one of all political historians, William F. Knowlton to a Northern Californian, was Republicans. Like many senators, Knowlton thought A handful of caliber could be campaigned as a from his hometown.

What to do? No or Silas B. Wright jr., control of party forum, then governor, stood in mid-term and let McGovern replace him. They w

It didn't work, of and the state was an abortive mashup to Knowlton, whose p

But as any respective, let's look at the 41st president's first year in office. When he took the oath of office, he called his administration a "new era."

"Who gets to explain "guilty until proven innocent"?"

SIGNE WILSON

© 2003

The San Diego Union-Tribune • Wednesday, December 17, 2003

OPINION

THE END OF RESISTANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY NEAR

By Jay Winkle

No less than Napoleon would recognize today's Iraqi battlefield. Two suicide bombers attacked Iraqi police and American forces Monday, showing that the local insurgency that has plagued allied forces was consumed by a nearly unbreakable cycle of revenge and retaliation. Houses and towns were torched, trains and stages were attacked, steamboats came under repeated attack.

At its essence, guerrilla warfare is how the weak make war against the strong. Insurgency, subversive and chaotic, its application is classic and surprisingly simple: concentration through surprise.

If Hussein has committed war crimes he must be held accountable. But if the United States allows Saddam to be tried abroad, it may yet be possible to declare Hussein's efforts to overthrow Hussein's regime a success.

In Hussein's case, it is vital that Iraqis be called upon to play a role in the prosecution of their former leader. The United States cannot afford to undermine the legitimacy of the new Iraqi government.

When we talk about the law into their own hands, the loser is the law. And when the law loses, freedom languishes," said Robert Francis Kennedy.

A total route persists

It happened 45 years ago as one of all political historians, William F. Knowlton to a Northern Californian, was Republicans. Like many senators, Knowlton thought A handful of caliber could be campaigned as a from his hometown.

What to do? No or Silas B. Wright jr., control of party forum, then governor, stood in mid-term and let McGovern replace him. They w

It didn't work, of and the state was an abortive mashup to Knowlton, whose p

But as any respective, let's look at the 41st president's first year in office. When he took the oath of office, he called his administration a "new era."

"Who gets to explain "guilty until proven innocent"?"

SIGNE WILSON

© 2003

The San Diego Union-Tribune • Wednesday, December 17, 2003

OPINION

THE END OF RESISTANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY NEAR

By Jay Winkle

No less than Napoleon would recognize today's Iraqi battlefield. Two suicide bombers attacked Iraqi police and American forces Monday, showing that the local insurgency that has plagued allied forces was consumed by a nearly unbreakable cycle of revenge and retaliation. Houses and towns were torched, trains and stages were attacked, steamboats came under repeated attack.

At its essence, guerrilla warfare is how the weak make war against the strong. Insurgency, subversive and chaotic, its application is classic and surprisingly simple: concentration through surprise.

If Hussein has committed war crimes he must be held accountable. But if the United States allows Saddam to be tried abroad, it may yet be possible to declare Hussein's efforts to overthrow Hussein's regime a success.

In Hussein's case, it is vital that Iraqis be called upon to play a role in the prosecution of their former leader. The United States cannot afford to undermine the legitimacy of the new Iraqi government.

When we talk about the law into their own hands, the loser is the law. And when the law loses, freedom languishes," said Robert Francis Kennedy.

A total route persists

It happened 45 years ago as one of all political historians, William F. Knowlton to a Northern Californian, was Republicans. Like many senators, Knowlton thought A handful of caliber could be campaigned as a from his hometown.

What to do? No or Silas B. Wright jr., control of party forum, then governor, stood in mid-term and let McGovern replace him. They w