

## Sanctuary

**Sanctuary** by Bill Whittle.

Read it. We don't think you'll regret it.

Thu, 05/19/2005 - 11:08 | [digg](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [permlink](#)

## Uniforms

So the un-uniformed Kurds and marsh Arabs that rebelled against Saddam, if they were tortured, just got what they had coming to them?

by a reader on Fri, 05/20/2005 - 04:27 | [reply](#)

## Re: Uniforms

Did those rebels abuse the sanctuary of Saddam's notorious **reluctance to harm innocents**? Did they fire from the midst of civilians or holy sites because they knew that Saddam's soldiers would not fire back? Did they set traps for those soldiers that relied for their effectiveness on the humanity and self-restraint of those soldiers?

If so, then ... the answer would still be no. No one has torture 'coming to them'. But the argument that Whittle makes about uniforms and the like would then begin - just begin - to apply to them.

by [Editor](#) on Fri, 05/20/2005 - 09:39 | [reply](#)

## Uniforms

Did the lack of uniforms protect the residents of Dresden?

by a reader on Fri, 05/20/2005 - 11:47 | [reply](#)

## or for that matter...

did taking refuge in their churches and hospitals protect them?

by a reader on Fri, 05/20/2005 - 12:25 | [reply](#)

## Dresden (was Re: Uniforms)

A reader writes:

Did the lack of uniforms protect the residents of Dresden?

The British bombed **Dresden** during World War II because it had a railhead and an armaments factory. During World War II the RAF judged that they couldn't do bombing raids during the day because it would cost them too many pilots and planes. And they couldn't do precision bombing during the night. So they flattened Dresden to destroy the Nazi armed forces, killing many of Dresden's residents was an accidental byproduct of that decision.

by [Alan Forrester](#) on Fri, 05/20/2005 - 12:36 | [reply](#)

## Re: Dresden

A few weeks before the end of World War Two, Winston Churchill drafted a memorandum to the British Chiefs of Staff:

'It seems to me that the moment has come when the question of bombing of German cities **simply for the sake of increasing the terror**, though under other pretexts, should be reviewed ... The destruction of Dresden remains a serious query against the conduct of Allied bombing.'

by a reader on Fri, 05/20/2005 - 23:58 | [reply](#)

## Some sarcasm

Oh I understand now. The British were wrong to bomb Dresden. Therefore the Iraqi insurgents are right to bomb Baghdad.

Or is it:

The Iraqi insurgents are no worse than the British were in World War 2. Therefore the Americans fighting them are like those who were fighting the British in that war. They were Nazis. Hence Bush=Hitler. Yes, that must be it.

(A different reader)

by a reader on Sat, 05/21/2005 - 00:44 | [reply](#)

## Re: Dresden

Some **context** for that much-quoted Churchill memorandum.

by [Editor](#) on Sat, 05/21/2005 - 01:57 | [reply](#)

## Re: Sarcasm

No you don't get it. The principle of sanctuary has been obsolete since at least the start of the 20th century. The bombing of Dresden is just a classic example of this.

To claim that the torturers were motivated by a sense of indignity at the violation of sanctury is laughable.They were probably motivated by the same thing Uday was - The sheer joy of playing god with a defenseless victim.

by a reader on Mon, 05/23/2005 - 15:02 | [reply](#)

---

Copyright © 2007 Setting The World To Rights