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The Military

Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of America'

Posted on Friday, April 14 @ 10:08:15 EDT
This article has been read 5247 times.



ANWAAR HUSSAIN, [FOUNTAINHEAD](#)

About the possibilities of a military coup in the United States, historian Andrew Jonas said this;

"Coup d'etat in the United States would be too fantastic to contemplate, not only because few would actually entertain the idea, but also because the bulk of the people are strongly attached to the prevailing political system and would rise in defense of a political leader even though they might not like him. The environment most hospitable to coups d'etat is one in which political apathy prevails as the dominant style."

The question to ask is whether 'political apathy' now 'prevails as the dominant style' in the United States of today or not?

With the unending 'war on terror' resulting in a heavy tampering of the American Constitution by the current US Administration, and the consequent granting of virtually limitless powers to the President of United States for the duration of the unending war, a real 'Constitutional Conundrum' has been created.

Ironically, this self-granting of limitless powers in turn has now manifested itself in an inverse power vacuum being created at the decision making level that is now becoming more and more visible with each passing day. Despite the fact that American nation seems to understand more than any other nation that the armed forces exist to support and defend government, not to be the government, yet faced with an intractable national problem on the one hand, and having an efficient and capable military on the other, it is all too enticing to start viewing the military as a gainful solution or as the 'ultimate saviors' a la certain banana republics where the military does indeed call the shots.

The seeds of the outrage are all there. The war-ravaged economy is in the dumps, American casualties in Iraq are mounting with Iraq itself now in the throes of a civil war, corruption in high places is rampant, the environment is in trouble, the delicate subject of 'immigration' has been given a needless prod resulting in massive protests and political scandals are exploding on almost daily basis in Washington. In addition to all this, despite a national and international uproar, the current American leadership seems to be inching inexorably towards yet another war.

Americans becoming frustrated with democracy and disheartened with the apparent inability of their elected government to solve the nation's confounding impasses, thus, is a natural response. Unable to effect a change themselves, they may now be looking for someone or something that could produce workable solutions. Despite its misuse by the civilian leadership, the one institution of government in which the Americans continue to retain faith is their military.

Ever since Washington's warnings about the dangers of large military establishments in his farewell address, Americans have generally viewed their armed forces with a careful mix of awe and respect. For over two centuries that admiration was rewarded, and most Americans have come to consider the very idea of a military coup outrageous. To be sure, there always were eccentric conspiracy theorists that saw the Pentagon's hand in the assassination of President Kennedy, President Nixon's downfall, and similar events yet not very many Americans would think that a military coup d'etat in America of today is a tangible possibility.

That fact may be slowly, but surely, changing. [According to a very recent Guardian report](#), for example, the US government is increasingly faced with a intensifying split between its civilian and military leadership over the war on Iraq after a fourth retired general called for the defense secretary, Donald Rumsfeld, to stand down. This latest was retired Major General Charles Swannack, who led the 82nd Airborne Division in Iraq. The other three were Lieutenant General Gregory Newbold, the former director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Major General Paul Eaton, who oversaw the training of Iraqi troops until 2004 and retired Marine General Anthony Zinni, the former head of US Central Command.

The unparalleled ferocity of the attacks and repeated calls for serving officers to go public with their dissent was starting to cause concern among military analysts. "If this opens up so we have more and more officers speaking up and blaming Rumsfeld and blaming senior civilians, then it is possibly heading towards a fairly dangerous civilian-military crisis," opined Andrew Bacevich, a military historian at Boston University.

Richard Gabriel fittingly observed in his book 'To Serve with Honor' that, "When one discusses dissent, loyalty, and the limits of military obligations, the central problem is that the military represents a threat to civil order not because it will usurp authority, but because it does not speak out on critical policy decisions. The soldier fails to live up to his oath to serve the country if he does not speak out when he sees his civilian or military superiors executing policies he feels to be wrong." While Gabriel was right when he described military leadership's responsibilities vis-a-vis the civilian leadership, he may have been off the mark when he dismissed the military's potential to threaten civil order.

Efforts to carve a role for the military in America's civilian affairs can be traced to as far back as the Carter administration. According to two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Knut Royce in a July 1983 series in the San Francisco Examiner, a presidential directive had been drafted by a few

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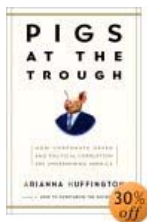
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Carter administration in 1979 "to allow the military to take control of the government for 90 days in the event of an emergency." A requirement on page one of the directive said, "Keeping the government functioning after a nuclear war is a secret, costly project that detractors claim jeopardizes US traditions and saves a privileged few." There was a heated debate, Royce noted, within the Carter administration as to just what constituted an "emergency."

Then again during the Iran-Contra affair it came to light that a few high officials of the US government were planning a possible military/civilian coup. Miami Herald on July 5, 1987 ran the story. The article, by Alfonzo Chardy, revealed Oliver North's involvement in plans for the Federal Emergency Management Agency to take over federal, state and local functions during an ill-defined national emergency.

With the unending 'war on terror' continuing endlessly, the incessant chant of 'enemies all around' and the inevitable militarization of the American society, the armed forces have now penetrated many vital aspects of American society. There is now an entire generation of young Americans who have grown up comfortable with the sight of military personnel patrolling their streets and interacting with them on their campuses. Military uniforms now draw no stares. Furthermore, with the ever increasing importance attached to agencies like Homeland Security and FEMA, the military is now ideally positioned in thousands of communities to support the supposed coup.

Given these unparalleled times, there are increasing indications that Americans traditional and strong resistance to any military interference into civilian affairs may be waning. The time may not be very far when they start re-thinking the appeal and need of that resistance. Indeed, many may already be comparing the military's principled competence with the shenanigans and uselessness of their elected officials, and finding the former more capable.

American public's unease too is now increasing in a direct proportion to the top military brass's voicing of its opinion. The terms 'impeachment', 'censuring', 'removal from power' etc. have now become a common lexicon not just in the fringe media. Never before has the threat of disorder occasioned by an increasingly isolated Chief Executive so precipitated with each passing day. Needless to say that the inept civilian leadership, on all sides of the American political spectrum, direly necessitates a strong headship in these troubled times.

With the current US administration getting the lowest ever job approval ratings from American public; the country now suffers from a deep pessimism about politicians and government after years of false promises and outright lies. Ruling politicians and their proposals seem rotten and repetitive. With surfacing of reports of vote rigging in the last elections, the American voters now seem to have also given up hope of finding answers through the ballot. Even a cursory glance at the alternative media shows that an increasing number of Americans have come to view the chief function of their government as inventing a security threat and then turning the job over to the military. If that be the case, some may argue, why not remove the corrupt middlemen and entrust the task directly to the military.

The "environment of apathy" Janos characterized as a forerunner to a coup seems to have arrived in America.

America, ladies and gentlemen, has entered a dangerous phase.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [IHateGeorgeBush](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 10:17:35 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

To quote the chimp, "bring it on." If this is the way to get Bush and his vile followers out of office while we still have a constitution, then bring em on.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [WilliamBollinger](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 13:52:11 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

How would General William G. Boykin do as President? "bring em on" is something the chimp would say.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [jamawani](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 10:19:20 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

If Dubya Bush were to suspend elections, unilaterally abrogate term limits, or defy congressional impeachment, then the military would be under an obligation to remove him. All officers take an oath to the Constitution, not to the President. If such a situation were to prevail, I do not believe that military action would constitute a coup d'etat. Rather, it would be a legitimate, constitutional function of the military.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)



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by [RuddyMcCorley](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 13:19:33 EDT ([User Info](#))

I tend to agree -- and I hope like hell you are correct. At this point the military seems to take its obligations under and to the Constitution with much more seriousness than this administration. Additionally, the generals calling for Rumsfeld's resignation have the security and integrity of the nation at heart. This administration, on the other hand, is only interested in its own security, and has no concept of integrity whatsoever.

America is unique. That does not insulate it from the lessons of history (or simple cause-and-effect) as the neocons seem to think. But it does mean we can *with caution* view this potential division as something other than military vs. civilian. Sober professionals vs. delusional fools comes to mind immediately. Keep in mind that however imperfectly, this nation has an unparalleled history of generals warning against the power of the military. Washington and Eisenhower come to mind immediately. Additionally, it was Grant who arguably did more than anyone to restore the wholeness of the nation in the immediate aftermath of the Civil War.

There has been something akin to a cold civil war going on for at least the last ten years -- I would suggest it started in earnest when Reagan took office. The parallel here, to my mind, is less with banana republics, more like this country in the 1850's. And that was a dangerous phase indeed. We all know what the next phase was...

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup i (Score: 1)
by [shonen](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 16:24:07 EDT ([User Info](#))

America is NOT unique. It is one of a collection of nations on a small planet orbiting a star. Get over yourself.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [goodfight](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 10:25:42 EDT ([User Info](#))

I have to agree, a general's revolt is a very real, and frightening, scenario. But I'd not welcome such a move; it would open a Pandora's Box. When Sulla marched on Rome in the 80s B.C., he said he was coming to reform and save the city. And he did actually relinquish his dictatorial powers after a few years, but not before thousands were executed and their property gobbled up (some were put on death lists so that their estates would be up for grabs). From that day forward, Rome increasingly became a republic in name only, ruled by strongmen who graciously allowed the Senate to continue meeting. Then the strongmen fell out (twas but an alliance of convenience anyway), and you get Caesar as dictator for life, then the Second Triumvirate, and finally, the first emperor, Augustus. And all of this began with the increasing size and professionalism of the army, with charismatic generals like Marius allowing himself to be (illegally) elected consul five years in a row.

I don't think we want to follow in Rome's footsteps. Sure, I want to get rid of Dubya, but as peacefully, and legally, as possible; the rule of law must return to the land, and the people shown once more what a responsible government looks like.

And another thing: just because these generals hate Dubya doesn't mean they like progressives. And I wouldn't trust them to return control to civilian hands; too easy to give orders and have your men snap to it. OK, there are some generals who would, surely, or they might intend to, but then again, they might get dizzy with power, or find a temporary arrangement becoming ever more permanent.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [doorma](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:39:43 EDT ([User Info](#))

Using the Roman experience is instructive, but limited. I caught General Batiste's interview today. After 31 years, he turned down a third star so he could quit and publicly demand Rumsfeld's firing. In other words, he believed he still has a duty to serve his country and protect the troops, and this was the best means to do it. You get the exact same message from General Clark, General Shinseki, and especially General Zinni. The former democratic republic known as the United States of America is gone. The coup was complete when the people's vote didn't count. We have an strutting, dimwitted, Emperor in Lincoln's chair. The generals' discontent you hear is a call for a restoration of democracy, American-style, not Roman.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [goodfight](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 12:17:01 EDT ([User Info](#))

That's what you hear the generals say now, but will they whistle the same tune if and when they stage a successful coup? Appeal to the people to get the power, toss 'em a few scraps and be done with their grievances once you have it.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [doorma](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 12:32:19 EDT ([User Info](#))

I don't think an actual coup, with tanks under the command of rogue generals streaming down Pennsylvania Avenue and armed military holding the streets of Washington, is going to happen. They are sending a message to the so-called president that he doesn't have the support of his military and they are sending a message to the citizens that the civilians running the show are incompetent boobs. They are still serving a ideal of the democratic republic they took an oath to defend, effectively so, in my opinion. No one is suggesting (yet) a military takeover. Being good generals, they might have a contingency plan, but these are men motivated by pride. They are proud that they spent their lives serving and protecting a country. They see that country under attack from a domestic threat--incompetent leadership--and are speaking out. The threat you fear resembles the Bush administration more than any these generals are posing, at least at this point.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [timbermonkey](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 13:30:58 EDT ([User Info](#))

Protecting a country from whom? Did I miss an invasion attempt?

I've read several military planning documents that lay out their mission; it doesn't fit with your idealistic interpretation.

If you can find a military planning document that says their mission is to protect the United States and its people rather than maintaining access to resources and markets through force and the threat of force, I'll give credit where credit is due. Until then, my impression is that regardless of their own reasons for being in the military, they serve at the behest of a civilian leadership that has priorities radically different from those we project onto them from the glory days of defeating fascism during WWII.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [Lynx](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 10:35:12 EDT
([User Info](#))

My roses will bloom soon. I can use them to throw at the tanks rolling down Pennsylvania Avenue.

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" an efficient and capable military " (Score: 1)
by [DValdron](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 10:57:37 EDT
([User Info](#))

Give me a break! Do the numbers.

The American military gobbles up 50% of the entire planet's defense budget, it steals money from senior citizens medicine and children's school lunches, it consists of some half a million personnel, using some of the most expensive weapons systems on the planet... and what do Americans get for all this?

\$1400 dollar toilet seats. A revolving door between senior Pentagon officers and defense contractors, an institution which has no coherent budgeting or accounting systems, an organization which cannot account for a *TRILLION* dollars in expenditures over the last few years. An organization whose sole significant accomplishments are knocking over or kicking around such powerhouses as Grenada, Libya, Panama Afghanistan, Bosnia and a thoroughly crippled Iraq.

It is an institution charged with the protection of American shores and air, yet it was caught flatfooted on 9/11. It was caught flatfooted on the Cole. It screwed up the Iran hostage rescue effort. It screwed up in Lebanon. It screwed up in Somalia.

So, do we see a pattern? Good at attacking tiny pathetically weak countries with no functioning government or marginal state apparatus. Not terribly good at anything requiring diligence, competence. God help America if this pack of milkfed mooncalves should ever go into the field with a real enemy, someone with comparable weapons and technology.

I say its time to take a poke at this most sacred of American sacred cows. Let's all open our eyes:

- The American military is not efficient. With effectively unlimited resources it has never needed to be.
- The American military is not particularly capable, except of course, at securing its unlimited resources from the American people.
- The American military's successes generally comes down to the application of virtually unlimited resources.
- Despite virtually unlimited resources, the American military frequently fails. Suggesting that it is neither efficient nor particularly capable.

Jesus H. Christ on a Crutch. Give me a half a trillion dollars, just one year, and I'll conquer the planet for you. Think of how much money the American Military has consumed since 1989. Think of what that money could have done.

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Re: (Score: 1)
by [timbermonkey](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:30:44 EDT
([User Info](#))
Thank you.

Sacred cow, indeed--as if these weren't the same people who have proven time and time and time again that they're perfectly willing to carry out the illegal orders of the politicians whom we criticize in order to avoid having to work at WalMart, or to take advantage of the kind of subsidized health care, subsidized housing, subsidized consumer goods at base exchanges, taxpayer-funded pensions, and other benefits that would be called "socialism" if they were afforded to anyone not carrying a gun in the service of the government and its corporate sponsors.

The military's stated purpose--as anyone can read for themselves in a myriad of publicly available documents, like "Vision for 2020"--is to protect private global investments at public expense, not to protect "the homeland" or advance democracy.

The courage of people willing to endure the hardships of military service may not be in question, but we would be better served to view the Pentagon as a necessary evil, like taxes, rather than as an unassailable symbol of high ideals.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup i (Score: 1)
by [notax](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:04:31 EDT
([User Info](#))

The coup already occurred long ago, it just wasn't one of a military nature, but one of economics. Our monetary system was stolen from us with the passing of the Federal Reserve Act of 1913.

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You need to back up your allegation (Score: 1)

by [jeffbiss](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:27:51 EDT
([User Info](#))

Come on, you can't blame the Federal Reserve Act and not explain specifically why you see this as the sole coup actor. You must provide some sort of explanation, succinct if possible.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [Kebo](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:12:51 EDT
([User Info](#))

I SAY NEVER SEND A SOLDIER TO DO A SENATOR'S JOB..

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [durango](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:16:12 EDT
([User Info](#))

While I appreciate the discussion of a very interesting topic I doubt that a military coup would be possible in the USA. (whether a political coup occurred in Nov. 2000 is another question.)

One major problem is "How would it play in Peoria?" Which is to say it wouldn't play.

America is too big and diverse for the military to take over. Even if they took over Congress, White House etc, etc in DC that leaves 50 state governments outside control of the plotters.

Would the coup consist of Army, Navy, Airforce troops? How could you coordinate all the different branches?

How would they take control in my small town? Thru the local US Forest Service offices?

Even more to the point is the professionalism and intelligence of America's officer corp. Not only is there no "tradition" of military control, most officers would see it as inconceivable. You cannot accomplish what you can't visualize.

And can you see the troops and noncoms obeying the orders to take over the govt? I can't believe that American soldiers would ever have the personal loyalty to commanding officers a coup would require. They may be soldiers but they are Americans first.

But it is certainly a fascinating topic, worthy of discussion.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [SergeStorms](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 12:45:14 EDT
([User Info](#))

You hit the nail on the head. If 150,000 soldiers in Iraq cannot control a population of 20something million in Iraq, how could perhaps 3 millions members of the military control 300 million people with millions of guns?

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [BlueTigress](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:17:29 EDT
([User Info](#))

The way I interpreted this article, what's to prevent Dumbya & Co. from using the military to install themselves permanently? Other than having the military refuse such a blatantly illegal order, I mean.

So long as 'American Idol' and 'Desperate Housewives' stay on the air, who will care besides us?

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [azmtman](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 15:13:48 EDT
([User Info](#))

"what's to prevent Dumbya & Co. from using the military to install themselves permanently?"

A more plausible happening and a lot more frightening!

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [FlushBush04](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:27:27 EDT
([User Info](#))

Human nature will ensure that if the military does take over the portions of government that they haven't taken already, they won't behave altruistically and they won't relinquish power of their own accord. Looking at the bible thumping evangelical shenanigans at the Air Force academy, its easy to visualize a theocratic fascist flavor to the new government. No thanks. Just wish I knew how to address Big Larry and the apathy factor because, as the author points out, the heart of the problem and a whole host of related outcomes like military coups lies squarely there.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [jtree](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:28:54 EDT
([User Info](#))

This is a very complex issue with great potential for disaster.

The officer corps as a whole may just be more nazi-like than cheney/numbsfeld/pnac. Certainly not all of them would be inclined to stage a coup no matter the sitchie.

The troops under them may not be inclined to participate with their officers. Although many have no qualms about following illegal orders to torture and such.

Americans might welcome this in some locales (coasts, NE, michigan) and would absolutely go apeshit ballistic in others (south). The military does not have sufficient manpower, even if all of them follow orders, to keep order in the country. If local and state police forces resist, you'd have lots of small civil wars.

The fascist judiciary would not look on benignly. Perpetrators of a coup, should they actually step down sometime, could and would be shot for treason.

If staged, they would need to remove more than cheney, saint king dumbfuck and their entire cabinet. The fascists in congress would need to be punted. The fascist crony appointees in all areas of government would need to be cashiered. They would need to ship hundreds off to the Hague along with evidence so they could be tried as criminals against humanity. They would have to basically gut DOJ, DOD, State, CIA, NSA and DHS. Fascist judges SHOULD be removed, but it would be very difficult to do that.

Let's look back at a similar sitchie in Germany. The small number of officers who plotted for years to remove Hitler knew all the risks. These risks were what kept them from attempting to remove Hitler until it was WAAAY too late.

I don't see this as viable here now. Not yet.
Dream on.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [azmtnman](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 15:23:53 EDT
([User Info](#))

This is a situation for the Big Boys to decide. The "dumbed down" apathetic populous with their questionable vote capability have nothing to contribute to the arguement.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [cannibisavior](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:32:51 EDT
([User Info](#))

Military coups are the result of banana republic style policies and bush has certainly taken us there, but check the civil rights records before and after real coups in places such as Argentina and Chile before considering this as a possible way out of our national nightmare.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [ShadowEyes](#) on Saturday, April 15 @ 02:30:39 EDT
([User Info](#))

but check the civil rights records before and after real coups

Beginning with how they handled the drowned city of New Orleans.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup i (Score: 1)
by [dogen](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 11:42:54 EDT
([User Info](#))

Ah yes, the old fascist fantasy of the general on a white horse riding in to save the day. Too bad it never quite works out.

And sadly, these days so few americans have served in the military and acquired any grasp of military reality, that they can actually happily maintain these mindless fantasies.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup i (Score: 1)
by [W2Hague](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 13:26:59 EDT
([User Info](#)) <http://www.bruindesign.com>

When it comes to a functioning democracy, Posse Comitatus is right up there with the separation of Church and State. As these basic concepts get whittled down over time we all slip-slide from citizen to slave.

The military is a necessary evil. It exists primarily for one purpose: Destruction.

...And what the military destroys Halliburton rebuilds, with inferior material at a greatly inflated price. All of which is bank-rolled by us, the tax-payin' citizen-slaves. If you stop and examine it, the entire concept is rather brilliant in a Hannibal Lecter sort of way.

For the military to be deployed in any American city for any purpose OTHER THAN offering humanitarian assistance, during a Natual Disaster, would signal the demise of America.

The Powers-That-Be want Chaos to reign. It is always best to distract the Great Unwashed whilst ye pillage the treasury.

BTW- Official Easter Greetings from the Gang at the White House

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup i (Score: 1)
by [W2Hague](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 13:28:19 EDT
([User Info](#)) <http://www.bruindesign.com>

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [veritas78](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 15:01:09 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

No, thanks. They've been running the show for the past 50 years and look where we're at. I'd much rather see a constitutional crisis over who actually runs the civilian government.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup i (Score: 1)

by [lordradish](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 15:19:34 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

I don't necessarily see a full-fledged military coup happening. I could possibly see a rise in desertion or a concerted effort of a refusal to follow orders. The second would have a MAJOR impact on public opinion, especially because of the publicity it would generate. This seems to be popping around the blogosphere quite a bit...

• <http://fivebeforechaos.blogspot.com/2006/04/losing-military.html>

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup i (Score: 1)

by [ArtFart](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 15:57:59 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#) <http://www.axenhammer.com>

There is certainly an element of altruism and duty involved, but more importantly, these guys have had a belly full of Rumsfeld's abuse, and don't want to be saddled with the blame for this monumental clusterfuck when everything has completely fallen apart.

If BushCo is true to form, not only will their warnings be ignored, but there's no doubt an ongoing purge of any and all of the dissident generals' former staffs. Just like with the intelligence community, they'll be replaced with cronies and stooges. You think "leadership" of the Mike Brown type was a disaster in New Orleans? Wait 'till you see what happens in a wartime theater.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [regular_joe3_0](#) (mad@monkey_boy) on Friday, April 14 @ 16:53:10 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

A Coup d'etat? We already had that. It happened when the eXtreme Court decided that the people could not be trusted to elect the president and installed the chimp as POTUS.

The chimp, as expected, has proven particularly ill-suited for the job. Mostly he just "catapults propaganda" to pre-screened audiences who aren't likely to ask him any tough questions. He delegates the real job of being POTUS to Cheney, a man whose arrogance is exceeded only by his own greed and incompetence; and Rove, a man who routinely puts politics before national security without a second thought.

The fact that the sheeple stood for that Coup d'etat makes it highly likely that they would stand for a military one as well -- as long as it didn't disrupt cable TV service.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [farnorth](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 16:56:50 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

Assuming that Gen. Pace suddenly turns to the Chimp one day (at a press gaggle, for instance) and says, "Sir, you're under arrest," while other officers elsewhere take Cheney into custody, we'd be left with President Hastert.

I think I could live with that, assuming that some coalition of Congressional moderates was telling him what to do. Wonder who's pulling ol' Denny's strings now, with DeLay tied up in legal troubles.

As for troops patrolling our streets, I could easily believe that many (NOT all) of the young gung-ho volunteers would obey even those orders. But what about the older reservists and National Guard who got dragooned into combat? These guys have had their lives seriously disrupted, have lost jobs and businesses and houses. I doubt many of them have kind feelings about the way they've been used.

Then again, there's always Blackwater and other mercenaries ...

But if the alternative is Bush provoking a nukular war with Iran -- with unknowable consequences involving Israel, Pakistan, Russia, China and Europe -- I'd be willing to see Article II, Section 4 invoked.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [ClearAsMud](#) (impeachbush.wmd) on Friday, April 14 @ 17:26:21 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [BajanMan](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 18:57:55 EDT
([User Info](#)) <http://communities.msn.com/PlanetStahl>

To be sure, there always were eccentric conspiracy theorists that saw the Pentagon's hand in the assassination of President Kennedy

Well, hate to be the one to spring this on you, but the military *did have a role* in the JFK assassination - but they were not the prime architects of it.

Let's first get it into our noggins that the military - especially Joint Chiefs, had it in for JFK since he committed what was basically "appeasement" in their eyes (especially for Gen. Curtis LeMay), in the 1962 Cuban Missile crisis. ((cf. *The Baltimore Sun*, Oct. 26, 1996, 'Bomb Cuba! Le May Urged JFK', p. 2A). According to this article:

"Tapes of secretly recorded White House conversations released this week show that President John F. Kennedy's military advisers strongly pressured him to bomb and invade Cuba during the missile crisis 34 years ago this month. Indeed, they forecast that war would occur whether he invaded Cuba or not.

"Blasting Kennedy's cautious approach, the Air Force Chief, Gen. Curtis LeMay told the President at a White House meeting on Oct. 19, 1962,
'This is almost as bad as the appeasement at Munich.'

This would have metastasized to a sense of betrayal after the JCS and other military-Pentagon learned that JFK was also in the process of rapprochement with Castro's closest aide, Rene Vallejo- and had agreed to move Jupiter missiles out of Turkey as part of the deal with Krushchev to get Russian missiles dismantled and out of Cuba.

Getting to cases, we have no evidence that any military personnel actually fired at JFK in the motorcade, however the military enabled the action by ordering a "stand down" of the usual protection (from Fort Sam Houston) that would have made its presence felt in Dallas that day.

With the protection withdrawn, open windows all over hell's half acre (errr. ... downtown Dallas) that day, the way was paved for the actual assassins to "have at it" with impedance only from the Dallas PD - who were already bought and sold (see Walt Brown's excellent book, *Treachery in Dallas*).

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [WHAK](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 19:43:45 EDT
([User Info](#))

I see the Repubs keeping their majority in the 2006 election due to diebold and gerrymandering. It won't be pretty though. Exit polls will show democrats sweeping the field, but for some reason, these polls will prove "innaccurate."

The repubs will view this win as a "mandate" and amp up the corruption and beating of Iran war drums. The rejection of the Dubai ports deal put a damper in the game plan because they will now have to think of a new way to manufacture a terrorist attack. They have until October 2008 for that though so plenty of time.

I doubt there will be any republican senators not in jail in 2008.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [downindixie](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 19:50:10 EDT
([User Info](#))

I for one would be satisfied with the Democrats taken over the senate or house. Waxman would go crazy requesting investigations and release of documents. Maybe then the people would drag chimp and his cronies out of the White house and march them to the gallows.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [opeluboy](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 20:22:44 EDT
([User Info](#))

Unless any of those documents have anything to do with Israeli involvement.

]

Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [opeluboy](#) on Friday, April 14 @ 20:24:10 EDT
([User Info](#))

That's the last thing we need. What we do need is for our government to be taken over by us.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)
by [katncandy](#) on Saturday, April 15 @ 00:07:05 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)
Anything!

I think we can take 'em! We got generals on our side and if the generals are this frustrated you KNOW the rest of the military is.

You realize I'm half kidding, right?

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [layman](#) on Saturday, April 15 @ 00:16:14 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

Can't find the article but remember reading about a study the DoD actually did themselves about this very scenario and it came to the conclusion that after taking power around '07 or so the military relinquished power back to civilians after a few years when they realized they weren't any better at governing as the pols.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [katncandy](#) on Saturday, April 15 @ 00:47:36 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

Military Oath of the United States:

[B]"I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God." (Title 10, US Code; Act of 5 May 1960 replacing the wording first adopted in 1789, with amendment effective 5 October 1962).[/B]

'nuff said.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup i (Score: 1)

by [Antifederalist](#) on Saturday, April 15 @ 10:53:18 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

"Despite the fact that American nation seems to understand more than any other nation that the armed forces exist to support and defend government, not to be the government ..."

The armed forces exist to support and defend the Constitution and the nation, not the government.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [MizzGrizz](#) on Saturday, April 15 @ 12:14:45 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

If anyone is fantasizing about a Von Stauffenberg trip, that isn't going to happen. And remember, even his attempt was not successful.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup i (Score: 1)

by [camaxtle](#) on Sunday, April 16 @ 12:33:24 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

I can't believe some of the comments on here supporting the military taking over. Man this country is lost. A Military coup isn't the answer and it seems some of you have missed the point. This author isn't supporting a military take over. He is stating simply that we are in a difficult position because of the CITIZENS (that's you and me) APATHY. We have brought this on because we don't care and would let others make our decisions for us.

A Military coup isn't the answer. It's up to the people to remove this bunch of corrupt zealots from power. It's always been about the PEOPLE.

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Re: Anwaar Hussain: 'On the possibility of a military coup in the United States of Am (Score: 1)

by [MarcoBaudoir](#) on Sunday, April 16 @ 16:26:08 EDT

[\(User Info\)](#)

All over South America, where without any doubt most military coups have take place during the last 2 centuries than in any other continent, you see the same pattern when a military coup takes place:

- A small group of idealistic officers/frontmen who really believe in their case, to save the country, even if they were actually dead wrong.
- A bigger group of henchmen who either fear their (idealistic) superiors, or support the coup because of financial or other personal gains.
- Apathy under the population, nurtured by month-long rioting and economic mayhem, NOT (vote)frauds, dictatorlike behaviour, and such.
- Financial and logistical support from at least one foreign power. CIA has played this role in the majority of cases.

So comparing with the situation in the US, the only condition that is met is the first: funding of the US military is nowadays far too huge to allow the surge of the second group of "henchmen". The population of the US might be apathic, they are (not yet) the victims of economic mayhem and general malfunctioning of the system, and last but not least, there is no foreign nation (yet) to support any subversive activities.

So instead of hoping for the impossible, get those impeachment papers out of Lieberman's office.

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