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Terrorist camps deserted in Iraq

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Illustration: Photo, A terrorist's bomb wrecked this Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant in Lima, Peru, Saturday.

Several terrorist training camps set up recently inside Iraq were abandoned shortly after allied bombing raids began and are now empty, according to U.S. officials. Bush administration officials with access to intelligence reports said one of the camps was used by the notorious international terrorist Abu Nidal. The terrorists trained there may now be in the West preparing to carry out pro-Iraqi actions, the officials said.

Meanwhile, Iraq's official radio yesterday renewed earlier threats that Iraq will carry out terrorist attacks against the United States.

Recent U.S. intelligence satellite photographs showed that at least three terrorist training camps - which were detected by a U.S. spy satellite last month - are deserted, the officials said.

One camp in the western Iraqi desert near the Jordanian border was used by Abu Nidal terrorists for weapons and explosives training.

A second new camp for terrorists of Arab Organization May 15, headed by noted airline bombmaker Abu Ibrahim, has been spotted near Baghdad. A third camp, also near the Iraqi capital, was occupied by terrorists whose affiliation was undetermined, the officials said.

U.S. intelligence agencies suspect the terrorists who were training at the sites fled the country for Western and Middle East capitals, they said.

A training camp for Palestine Liberation Organization terrorists, that had been identified by U.S. intelligence months ago, also appeared abandoned in satellite photos, the officials said.

The terrorist camps were not targeted by allied bomb and missile strikes, but the officials gave no reason for sparing the camps.

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