



DrumBeat: August 1, 2006

Posted by [threadbot](#) on August 1, 2006 - 9:30am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Update by Leanan on 08/01/06 at 9:32 AM EDT]

[Tropical Storm Chris](#) heads toward the Gulf:

[Scorching temperatures send natural gas futures to three-month high](#)

[Drivers try another gas to save gasoline.](#) People are filling their tires with nitrogen to improve gas mileage. I guess buying a smaller car is out of the question...

From Military.com: [Withdraw or Stand Firm?](#)

So how do we get of Iraq with our dignity and not have a costly energy crisis?

In the short term, we can't. In the long term, America is the Saudi Arabia of coal. Technologies are already proven for making coal into synthetic gas and liquid fuel, and when crude oil runs low enough that it becomes unduly expensive, we'll put this technology in the field and become a net exporter of fuel to the world. That's two decades in the future, however.

In the meantime, we'd better get to work drilling for oil in the Gulf of Mexico and the North Slope of Alaska and ramping up production, with apologies to the environmentalists.

Or we can continue to get shot at in the streets of Baghdad.

Bangladesh: [Power outages protested](#)



People formed a two-kilometre human chain in Gaibandha protesting frequent power outages.

U.K.: [Single households 'waste energy'](#)

Efforts to get households to reduce energy use are being hampered by the appliance and gadget-packed homes of single men, research suggests.

The suggested solution? An "occupancy tax" to discourage people from living alone.



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