

Britain plans Iraq war exit, inquiry

by UPI

LONDON -- The British government says it plans to open an inquiry into the Iraq war when British troops leave that country in July.

Confirmation in Parliament for the probable July 31 inquiry date touched off warnings to British Prime Minister Gordon Brown not to use the timing of the announcement for personal political advantage, The Times of London reported.

British Foreign Secretary David Miliband told Parliament that the inquiry would be set up "as soon as practical" after the withdrawal of British troops.

But the foreign secretary and others warned the timing of the two events too close together undermined the non-partisan nature of the inquiry, The Times said.

There was speculation that Brown would announce the inquiry at his Labor Party conference to get a jump on the investigation, the newspaper said.

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