

Prince Harry's Iraq service reconsidered

by UPI

LONDON - The planned deployment of Britain's Prince Harry to Iraq is under review by British military officers.

The London Evening Standard reported that the Ministry of Defense said the 22-year-old prince's deployment is under "constant consideration."

Threats against the prince by Iraqi insurgents have led officials to fear his presence on the front lines could endanger troops serving with him, The Sun reported.

"There is a groundswell of opinion across senior ranks now that to allow Harry to serve in the open with his men will lead to an inevitable disaster," a source told the Sun.

A Ministry of Defense spokeswoman told the Evening Standard, "It is still our intention that Prince Harry will deploy as a troop Leader."

Conservative Member of Parliament Patrick Mercer rejected calls for Prince Harry to stay home when his regiment is deployed next month.

"There's no doubt that the situation is deteriorating, more soldiers are being killed, and it would be quite wrong for us to value a member of the royal family's life more than we value the life of a humble private or a humble trooper," he said on BBC Radio, the Evening Standard reported.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Prince Harry's Iraq service reconsidered by UPI