

THE BANALITY OF THE UNITARY EXECUTIVE

It's weird, blogging the Libby trial. I'm putting out details at such a tremendous rate all day that I have a real hard time getting the big picture—though I do get that by the time I talk it through with others here. But I do feel like I'm missing the middle ground.

Except relating to one thing. David Addington. By far the biggest surprise to me, in terms of personal impressions, is David Addington.

As I've been reminding at every opportunity, David Addington is Mr. Unitary Executive, the guy who has provided legal justification for many of Cheney's biggest power grabs: torture, extraordinary rendition, domestic spying, and so on.

I truly expected his interviews to be terribly hostile. I truly expected to see Addington bristle at every question. But that didn't happen.