

“VERY HARSH CONCLUSIONS” ABOUT YOO AND BRADBURY

Remember that Office of Public Responsibility investigation that Congress requested, Bush squelched (by refusing the investigators clearance to do the investigation), but that, under Mukasey got reinstated?

Brad DeLong has word of what has happened to it:

[T]he OPR... came to "very harsh conclusions" about the professional competence of a number of the [Yoo and Bradbury] memos, making "recommendations for further action" with respect to both John Yoo and Stephen Bradbury. Attorney Genera Mukasey and Deputy AG Filip were reported to be apoplectic about the report and to have attempted to squelch it. Their concern is... for the defense of reliance on advice of counsel that Mukasey put forward in a series of speeches, and that the OPR reports will make, I understand, something of an absurdity...

There's a lot to be said about this. But I'll just start with the suggestion that—given that these "straws in the wind" have come to Berkeley Professor Brad DeLong—I can't help but wonder whether Berkeley Professor John Yoo's acceptance of a visiting position at ~~Liberty University~~ West Chapman University reflected some concern that Berkeley might see such "very harsh conclusions" to be the excuse they were looking for to get rid of the torture apologist.

Let's hope this leak of Mukasey and Filip's attempt to squelch this indicates that they have failed in doing so.