

MAYBE WE'LL LEARN HOW ALL THE CIA LEAK COVER-UP EMAILS DISAPPEARED?

Since some folks are ruining a perfectly good politics-free Trash thread by talking shop, I feel obliged to weigh in with politics. So I'll point to this report that the Administration may finally be willing to explain how all of OVP's emails from the time period when Dick Cheney and Scooter Libby were arranging a cover-up of the Plame outing disappeared—poof!!!—from the White House servers. (h/t RB)

The years-long legal battle over millions of missing White House emails from George W. Bush's presidency may finally be drawing to a close. "We are very close to a final settlement," Anne Weismann, chief counsel for the watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW), tells *Mother Jones*. "We have been in negotiations with [the White House] for months, and I think they really want out from under all this."

CREW and another nonprofit, the National Security Archive, first sued the Bush administration in September of 2007, hoping to force the White House to recover missing emails and implement an effective archiving system that would prevent important presidential records from being lost or misplaced in the future. But the litigation has been on hold since March 2009, when the Obama administration and the plaintiffs jointly agreed to pursue a settlement.

Details of the agreement are still being finalized, but Weismann says CREW expects to prevail in the three areas

that are most important to her organization: “restoration of missing emails, assurances going forward that the White House has an appropriate and effective electronic record-keeping system, and information about what happened.”

That last one—“information about what happened”—might be very informative indeed, if we get a straight story that explains not only where the OVP emails went but why someone was searching for the Hadley-Rove email the night after Rove turned over his version of said email.

But I’m not holding my breath.