CHENEY PISSED AT BUSH: DISTRACTION WITH THE WRONG COVER-UP

Today's news will be dominated with Bush's admission that Cheney was mad at him for not pardoning Libby.

Bush, in an interview aired Monday on TODAY, said Cheney was angry that Bush only commuted the sentence of I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, convicted of lying during the leak investigation.

[snip]

'I can't believe you're going to leave a soldier on the battlefield,' former president says ex-VP told him.

Of course we already knew this. This was widely reported just after Obama's inauguration. And as I pointed out at the time, the underlying story to the non-pardon probably has everything to do with making sure that Libby won't ever reveal Bush's own role in exposing Valerie Plame's identity.

It would have been nice if Matt Lauer asked Bush about whether he refused to pardon Libby so as to keep him silent, but I suppose Lauer's job is to help Bush sell books, not to ask tuff qweschins.

But an even better question would have been to ask Bush whether he believes, with the statute of limitations expiring on the torture tape destruction, his own role in approving torture is now safe. Bush allies have spun a nice story that the White House opposed the destruction of the torture tapes and was mad that Jose Rodriguez did it anyway. If that's true (ha!), then Bush ought to be pissed that Rodriguez is, apparently, getting away with it. But again, I

think Lauer's role is to help Bush sell books, not ask the difficult questions.

As the press is distracted with a rehashing of the successful cover-up of one of Bush's crimes, we ought to remember that today marks the successful cover-up of a more horrible crime.