

WHO WAS-AND WAS NOT-IN ON RUMMY'S "PLAN"

Gawker has liberated Iraq some of Rummy's papers on Iraq and Afghanistan. (h/t Rosalind) And while I hope to return to the series on John Walker Lindh (79ff) and the memo, cc'ed to the public affairs people, in which Rummy ordered Jim Haynes to write a memo saying that the way DOD was detaining people was "perfectly legal," (75ff)

But I just wanted to make a real minor point about the memo he sent on December 13, 2003 to Dick Cheney, cc'ed to Andrew Card and Condi Rice (3):

Attached are some remarks I have been making that talk about planning for post-war Iraq.

With opponents saying we had no "plan," it is important that we keep referring to our "plan."

This was the Secretary of Defense sending a messaging note to the Vice President, cc'ing the Chief of Staff and National Security Advisor. It might be the kind of thing that the public affairs office would generate, not the Secretary of Defense. And it's certainly not the kind of thing you'd normally see the VP as primary recipient of.

And of course, note who's missing? Colin Powell. Who of course knew Rummy didn't have a plan.

Interestingly, page 39ff makes it clear that Rummy had not received a copy of the White House propaganda piece, "A Decade of Deception and Defiance," before he read about it in the NYT (in either a Sanger/Bumiller or a Patrick Tyler piece).