

SOME QUESTIONS

Paul Kiel has an important post on vote caging that raises one big question for me.

Kiel's post quotes the RNC spokesperson as connecting the vote caging activities in Florida with allegations about ACORN registration drives.

In response to Palast's story, the Republican spokeswoman denied in a statement that the list had been generated in order to challenge voters.

WELL THEN, WE'LL TAKE AWAY EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE FOR EVERYONE ELSE

David Shuster (and to a lesser degree Chris Matthews) is the one person in the MSM who recognized Dick Cheney for what he was early on. Which is why Shuster's interview of Cheney-hack Ron Christie is so good. Shuster uses the Libby case to expose the problems with Cheney's method of working around other cabinet members and he smacks Christie down, just as I would have done, by pointing out that

IT'S CALLED R-E-C-U-S-A-L

Tom Maguire usually takes himself more seriously than this. After reading the WaPo's series on Dick, he chose to ignore the widespread

criticism on the part of hardcore conservatives of OVP's dismantling of the Constitution and instead claim that the WaPo article was proof—proof at last!!!—that “Fitzgerald’s prosecution of Libby may have been politically motivated.”

To prove that “Fitzgerald’s prosecution of Libby may have been politically motivated,” Maguire ferrets out the abundant

SOURCES: OR, TEDIOUS KREMLINOLOGY

I’ve talked about Cheney’s and Addington’s Methods. Now I’d like to inventory the sources that Gellman and Becker used for their articles, as a way to understand where the shifting loyalties of the Administration lie. One thing that becomes clear by mapping this out is the centrality of Josh Bolten to many of the more damning accusations against Cheney.

ADDINGTON’S METHODS

Before I get too deep in the detail of today’s installment of WaPo’s series on Cheney, I’d like to remind you of a point I made in my Take Back America speech. While David Addington’s theories on executive power are tremendously dangerous, Addington does believe in the rule of law. He admitted in his Libby trial testimony, for example, that the “Treated as Top Secret/SCI” stamp that OVP had used with

ANGLER

Okay, now something totally frivolous about the Cheney piece (if you want real analysis, go [here](#)). The WaPo piece reveals Cheney's secret service name:

"Angler," as the Secret Service code-named him,

Which is of course the name they've given the series.

Well, I think it perhaps ironic because, as I understand it, Cheney's not that great a fisherman.

SHORTER BUSH: I WROTE IT IN INVISIBLE INK

Kagro X says almost all that needs to be said about BushCo's claims that Bush intended to exempt he and Cheney from rules on classification. I'll come back later to expand on Kagro's point about the insta-declassification theory of leaking Plame's identity. But for now, I'd like to make a teeny tiny point.

SIDNEY'S IMPERIAL

PRESIDENCY

Sidney Blumenthal and I were apparently making the same point at about the same time. Not long after I argued, on a panel on the Imperial Presidency, that there are those within the Administration who believe in the rule of law and can therefore be mobilized against it, Sidney was finishing up his column making that point in much more comprehensive fashion.

In private, Bushadministration sub-Cabinet officials who have been instrumental in formulating

MERCER'S NON-MOVE

Bill Mercer's announcement that he's stepping down is much more interesting than the other clique resignations for several reasons (thanks to TeddySF for the heads up). First, his "resignation" does not mean he leaves DOJ; rather, he simply avoids a nomination hearing. And that's a nomination hearing that would have been challenging, to say the least.

William W.

HOLD > GET AGENCY TO ANSWER THAT, PART TWO

You may recall a theory I postulated a few weeks back that when Libby called Robert Grenier on June 11, 2003, he asked questions he already knew the answers to. He wasn't really looking for information. Rather, he was hoping to get

the information from a source he could use publicly; he was trying to get certain information about the Wilsons out while hiding Dick Cheney's original source for the information