

PUTIN INVADES ALASKA

I thought Sarah Palin promised she'd prevent Vladimir Putin from invading the US. But while she's been distracted with her VP bid, the Russians went and invaded Alaska.

FROM POLLAN TO THE PRESIDENT

I've been arguing for a while that Michigan—the state with the second greatest agricultural diversity after California—ought to use innovations in sustainable agriculture as part of its plan to drive economic recovery. Agriculture is going to have to be more sustainably produced in the future, and MI is uniquely suited to lead in developing the policies and technology to accomplish this goal.

But then, we should be talking about how to

JOHN MCCAIN AND SARAH PALIN WALLOWING IN OIL

Apparently, the McCain campaign has a new lie: the Alaska provides 20% of our nation's energy. That would only be true if we only relied on oil and gas.

MCCAIN MAKES THE CASE THAT ENERGY STATE GOVERNORS ARE GREAT ON NATIONAL SECURITY

John McCain's making a new argument about what kind of national security experience Sarah Palin has. She comes from a state that supplies a lot of US energy.

Sort of like George Bush, I guess.

WHAT ELSE MUKASEY DECLINES TO PROSECUTE: SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A SUBORDINATE

I've just gotten through the first Department of Interior IG report, and wanted to pull out these few discrete details as an example of what Attorney General Mukasey has declined to prosecute.

The first report describes the corrupt acts of Gregory Smith, who managed the Royalty in Kind program. In that program, companies drilling on Federal land, give the government oil or gas, which the government then contracts to sell in lieu

WHAT REPUBLICANS REALLY MEAN WHEN THEY SAY DRILL! BABY! DRILL!

I guess when Republicans say “Drill! Baby! Drill!” they really mean “throw a frat party.”

OIL WARS

Both the Democrats and the new Republican VP nomination are busy trying to pull off some jujitsu on energy issues. Your guess is as good as mine who will be more successful.

IS DICK STEALING FROM THE US AND GIVING TO HIS FRIENDS, AGAIN?

The Minerals Management Service has been one of the most corrupt parts of the very corrupt Bush Administration, repeatedly finding ways to give taxpayer oil to Dick and Bush’s friends for free (or cut rates). It looks like they’re at it again; a recent Department of Energy IG audit found that 28% of the oil that the MMS was supposed to deliver into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve never made it into the Reserve.

WHY HIDE THE ENERGY TASK FORCE

Once the CIA released its Crown Jewels, it was only a matter of time before the list of Cheney's Energy Task Force meetings would be liberated.

A confidential list prepared by the Bush administration shows that Cheney and his aides had already held at least 40 meetings with interest groups, most of them from energy-producing industries.

NOT QUITE THE ENERGY TASK FORCE

I get the feeling today's installment of Cheney started out as a story about the Energy Task Force. It also tells the story of the Klamath fish kill and snowmobiles in Yellowstone. The big news, though, is Christine Todd Whitman's side of several issues, where Cheney blindly put business issues ahead of environmental requirements.