

FISA UPDATE (AND WHY IS JOHN BOEHNER CRYING AGAIN?)

The week starts off with Main Core, Glen Fine's much anticipated IG Report has been released, today is another state election (Kentucky) in the most hotly, and closely, contested primary that many of us can remember, and, now, the tragic and deflating news that Senator Ted Kennedy has a malignant brain tumor and ... FISA is back! There is important news on the granting of retroactive immunity and it is time to get back to work.

MAIN CORE

Radar provides an explanation for what so offended Jim Comey about the warrantless wiretapping program. They were using the warrantless wiretaps to collect information for a database called Main Core, which is basically a database of anyone the federal government considers potential enemies of the state.

PREVIEW: BOOK SALON ON SPIES FOR HIRE

Tim Shorrock's book, *Spies for Hire*, shows how the Bush Administration and Mike McConnell have handed over the keys to our privacy to CEOs interested in fighting "Islamofascists" and making lots and lots of money.

I DON'T THINK "EXCLUSIVITY" MEANS WHAT JOHN YOO THINKS IT DOES

Sheldon Whitehouse reveals that the Administration used word games to get around the exclusivity provision in FISA.

THE COMMISSION ON WARRANTLESS WIRETAPPING AND FISA COMPROMISE

What would it take to make a commission—including as part of a compromise on FISA—really meaningful?

EFF BAGS A BIG WIN ON NSLS

Our good friends at EFF have a big announcement. They have bagged a big win against the Bush Government on the improper use of National Security Letters.

FISA: THE COMING BATTLE

As I am minding the store while mom is away tilting kilts, I was party to a group discussion among several notable powers that be in the blogosphere early this afternoon, and the various blogs, all of which you are intimately familiar with, will be rolling out over the next few days somewhat of a battle plan on FISA/immunity.

THE UNCOUNTED WIRETAPS

Did the number of wiretaps last year go up? Or simply the number of wiretaps the Administration had to reveal?

JELLO JAY AND HOYER SLITHER BACK INTO THE FISA LIMELIGHT

Crikey, this is getting old. You may have seen by now that rumors of a new push on passage of FISA, and, of course, full retroactive immunity, are bubbling to the surface again. The bottom line is we know what the goal of the FISA push is (immunity), we know who wants it and why (the Bush/Cheneys because they have engaged in a mass criminal conspiracy), and we know the path the

push will take (GOP assimilation of Blue Dogs). Really, the only part of this puzzle we do not yet know is what the precise nature of “the compromise” that will cravenly be peddled.

ARTICLE I V. STATE SECRETS

It looks like the al-Haramain suit in CA will really pit Congress’ power against the President’s ability to invoke State Secrets.