

MONDAY CHENEY GAMES

Why did Cheney sneak off to Dallas?

TALIBAN CELLS AND CABLES

The Taliban have just threatened to start taking out cell phone towers in Afghanistan. They say the US is using cell phone signals to facilitate attacks on insurgents. What a coincidence, then, that the telecom power in Pakistan went out recently, not longer after a strike at a top Al Qaeda leader.

OR MAYBE THOSE CABLES WERE CUT

The UN adds support to the theory that the telecom cables to the Middle East were cut intentionally.

MUSHARRAF'S PARTY PROJECTED TO LOSE-BADLY

Pervez Musharraf's party is projected to have lost today's election—resoundingly. While that's

good for democracy, it's unclear what it means for US policy in Pakistan.

BANDAR BUSH KICKS THE POODLE

The Guardian reports that Bandar allegedly threatened Tony Blair to force him to halt an investigation into BAE-related bribes of Bandar.

THE NEXT MUJAHADEEN?

Walter Pincus finds a troubling appropriation in the Defense Appropriation this year: \$75 million dollars for what sounds like early Special Forces intervention in Pakistan's tribal lands.

CABLE NEWS

This is a thread for speculating wildly why Egypt and Pakistan have lost much of their connectivity.

HOW TO ESTABLISH AN EMPIRE WITHOUT

CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL

Charlie Savage has a great article summarizing Bush's threats to establish a security relationship with Iraq without consulting Congress.

President Bush's plan to forge a long-term agreement with the Iraqi government that could commit the US military to defending Iraq's security would be the first time such a sweeping mutual defense compact has been enacted without congressional approval, according to legal specialists.

After World War II, for example – when the United States

THE SUPPLICANT TO KINGS AND “ENTREPRENEURS”

Bush's speech to Saudi investors really highlights the degree to which America has become a suppliant nation.

THE SUDDEN CHANGE OF STORY ON IRANIAN EFPS

Noah Shachtman has a post linking to Steven Boylan alerting us that we're no longer at war with Eastasia.