

WHO IS REHASHING THE SHRINKS-4-HIRE REPORT ON BRUCE IVINS?

Slightly over a week after McClatchy focused new attention on evidence that Bruce Ivins may not have been able to produce the anthrax used in the 2001 attacks, and just days after Jerrold Nadler called attention to the FBI's obfuscations about the technical data McClatchy used, the LAT has decided to ignore such technical problems with the FBI's case and return to claims that Ivins must be the killer because he was mentally unstable.

Of note, much of the LAT story fleshes out the Shrinks-4-Hire report, complete with names, a detailed description of how Bruce Ivins' mother tried to abort Ivins by bouncing down the stairs, and descriptions from his psychiatrists.

Ivins grew up in Lebanon, Ohio, a small town 30 miles northeast of Cincinnati. His parents had planned the arrivals of their first two children, both sons, but by late 1945 the couple had no desire to add to the family. In conversations with a sister-in-law, Mary Ivins described how she tried to abort the unwanted third pregnancy:

Over and over, she descended a series of steps by bouncing with a thud on her buttocks.

Bruce Ivins, born April 22, 1946, would eventually hear the story himself.

[snip]

A psychiatrist who treated him in the late 1990s, Dr. David Irwin, confided to a therapist that Ivins was the "scariest" patient he had ever known.

It's as if someone leaked the LAT an unredacted

copy of the report in an effort to drown out increasing focus on the many problems with the case. And it's as if the LAT simply used that as a template for their story, without consulting the information released since the Shrinks-4-Hire was completed that poses problems for it: not the National Academy of Sciences report and the McClatchy stories raising key technical questions about the case, and not Noah Shachtman's story raising doubts about the FBI's claim no one else could have accessed Ivins' anthrax.

I guess some people tied to the anthrax case believe if you keep repeating the story, "Bruce Ivins stalked women, so he must have tried to kill Patrick Leahy" enough times, people will continue to believe it.