

BREAKING: PREVIOUSLY UNRELEASED OLC OPINIONS NOW RELEASED

A bunch of DOD-related OLC opinions just got released (h/t Spencer)

Of note, the one eviscerating the 4th Amendment has been released, and a key one on FISA that I believe Steven Bradbury didn't include in his FOIA response on opinions relating to FISA.

Consider this a working thread.

WHO WATCHED THE TORTURE TAPES?

In addition to the news that the CIA destroyed 92 torture tapes, DOJ has informed Judge Hellerstein that we will shortly get a list of all the witnesses who may have viewed those tapes.

DIFI'S WHITEWASH

Just as Pat Leahy kicks off his investigation into Bush era crimes, DiFi is leaking news of her own investigation: a secret one that will have much more circumscribed scope than Leahy's. Is she serious about this investigation—or just trying to tie Leahy's hands?

KIRK LIPPOLD, GITMO ARCHITECT, STILL MAKING TORTURE COOL

Kirk Lippold, one of the architects of Gitmo, is back, complaining that Obama has let a Gitmo detainee free. But, surprise surprise, in their quotations of Lippold, the press ignores Lippold's significant ties to Gitmo policy, instead simply referring to him as the USS Cole Commander.

SCOTT SHANE'S LOVE AFFAIR FOR DICK CHENEY AND KIT BOND

Scott Shane wrote an article that is really about investigating Dick Cheney. But the whole thing is completely neurotic about any discussion of Cheney.

OBAMA HATES THE TRUTH ON BINYAN MOHAMED

The news last week that President Obama had bought into and signed off on the full boat of shameful state secrets assertion in the case of Binyan Mohamed v Jeppesen Dataplan set off a wave of criticism. Obama came to the criticism

the old fashioned way, he earned it by breaking his campaign promise and continuing the wretched excess of unitary secrecy.

THE PUSH TO PUBLISH THE OPR REPORT

Michael Isikoff adds more details to Brad DeLong's hints yesterday that Yoo and Bradbury are in trouble.

BREAKING: OBAMA CONTINUES BUSH POLICY ON STATE SECRETS

Earlier this morning, Looseheadprop wrote about the case of Binyam Mohamed, the British subject tortured at the hands of the United States at Gitmo, including having his genitals carved selectively with a scalpel. The Mohamed case is of critical significance for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is the fact that there was an oral argument in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco this morning in which the Obama Administration has shown its true colors and continued the assertion of state secrets to conceal US torture policy.

WHAT EXPLAINS COMMANDER LIPPOLD'S NEWFOUND IMPATIENCE ON THE COLE PROSECUTIONS?

Commander Kirk Lippold only ever criticized the Bush Administration's failure to bring the plotters of the Cole bombing to justice once. But all of a sudden, on the same day a Bush dead-ender tries to make it more difficult for Obama to close Gitmo, Lippold is out with accusations that Obama is politicizing the war on terror.

CONYERS INVOKES THE CIA INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT ON TORTURE

Every time I've raised the 2004 CIA IG report on torture on the Hill, whomever I've been talking to has gotten all hush hush, as if even they had to pretend the report never existed. Today, Conyers invoked it as one of the things that a Commission investigating the crimes of Bush and Cheney would focus on.