

THE WSJ'S CURIOUS PICTURE OF CONGRESS AND TORTURE

The WSJ is warning Congressional Democrats not to investigate Bush's torture policies. But there are holes in its case.

TURNABOUT WOULD BE FAIR PLAY: US SEEKS 147 YEAR TORTURE SENTENCE

This report from MSNBC is almost sublimely ironic: U.S. prosecutors want a Miami judge to sentence the son of former Liberian President Charles Taylor to 147 years in prison for torturing people. Huh. Go figure. I wonder who will prosecute the denizens of the Bush Administration for the same acts?

THE HOLDER DELAY, THE OLC DELAY, THE SJC DELAY

Not only is Bush withholding OLC opinions from Obama, he's still not fulfilling obligations to share opinions with Congress.

ANOTHER 16 WORDS: BOUMEDIENE BITES BUSH AGAIN

Laura Rozen rocks, and today she rolls up more jaw dropping malevolence and fraud on the part of the Bush/Cheney Administration. A potentially explosive new court filing by the lawyers for Lakhdar Boumediene and five other Guantanamo detainees suggests that the Bush administration ordered the Bosnian government to arrest and hold the men after an exhaustive Bosnian investigation had found them innocent of any terrorism related activity and had ordered their release, in order to use them as props in Bush's January 2002 State of the Union speech.

WHO SIGNED THE EXPLICIT AUTHORIZATION TO TORTURE?

Joby Warrick reports about two memos that explicitly authorized the CIA to torture. What he doesn't reveal is who signed those memos. Did George Bush sign a memo authorizing torture?

THE CONTENTS OF

ALBERTO GONZALES' SAFE BRIEFCASE

Here's what Alberto Gonzales thought was so sensitive, he illegally kept it in an unsecure safe and brought it back and forth to work in his briefcase.

THE STRANGE CASE OF HIWA ABDUL RAHMAN RASHUL (PART 2)

In part 1, I laid out the facts surrounding the detention and illegal transfer of Hiwa Abdul Rahman Rashul. In this post, I want to demonstrate why this case matters. There is a pattern to the Bush/Cheney Administration's illegal usurpation of executive power. Because the pattern broke down in this case, the strategy behind that power grab is laid bare. The struggle within the administration over the disposition of Rashul and the way it was resolved helps to illuminate the true nature of the current regime. Perhaps it leaves an opening to unravel the authoritarian infrastructure that has been built within our country in the last eight years.

THE GITMO SHRINKS FIND THEIR SUPER EGO

AND COWBOY UP

As several of you have noted, there has been a rather significant event at the Gitmo Show Trials. Lt. Colonel Diane M. Zierhoffer, a US Army psychologist who ordered the illegal torture of a juvenile, Mohammad Jawad, invoked her right not to incriminate herself and refused to testify in the case of Mohammad Jawad.

MAHER ARAR GETS A(NOTHER) DAY IN COURT

The 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals has decided to rehear Maher Arar's lawsuit against the government for sending him to Syria to be tortured.

THE LOGIC BEHIND THE SCRIPT "THE REMOVAL OF CLOTHING IS NOT NUDITY"

All the lawyers behind the torture regime keep repeating the same mantra: the removal of clothing is not nudity (or naked). Jane Mayer's book includes an explanation for the logic of that statement.