

# JAY BYBEE SPEAKS QUAVERS

Jay Bybee issues a legalistic statement that attempts to contest stories of his own doubts about the torture memos.

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## **RUSS FEINGOLD: REPEATED ASSERTION OF STATE SECRETS “REMINISCENT OF BUSH ADMINISTRATION”**

Russ Feingold raised two biggest concerns in a press conference on his report card of the Obama Administration's first 100 days. He said Obama's use of State Secrets was “reminiscent of the Bush Administration.” And he suggested the intelligence community continues to stonewall the intelligence committees.

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## **DID BYBEE SAY NO TO WATERBOARDING ON JULY 24, 2002?**

Earlier today, I showed that Jim Haynes personally pushed the SERE people to come up with some materials on waterboarding and other techniques on July 25, 2002, just one day after OLC had given CIA clearance to use some—but not all—of the techniques they had asked for.

I wish I had read this passage from this Charlie Savage story before I wrote that post.

One thing could change that dynamic, however.

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## **DID CONDI REALLY NOT KNOW DEFENSE WAS SLEEPING WITH THE SPOOKS ON TORTURE?**

There's a weird detail in John Yoo's prepared testimony for last year's House Judiciary Committee hearing on Assholes Who Torture. He claims the National Security Committee (so, presumably John Bellinger or Condi or her boss) ordered OLC not to let on what it was doing to either State or Defense.

In particular, the offices of the CIA general counsel and of the NSC legal advisor asked OLC for an opinion on the

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## **TORTURE TIMELINE AND IRAQ-AL QAEDA TIES**

At the same time as the Bush Administration was devising a plan to torture Abu Zubaydah, the the DIA was raising doubts about the intelligence collected by torturing Ibn Sheikh al-Libi.

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# **JIM HAYNES' REQUEST: A[NOTHER] LIST OF TECHNIQUES-INCLUDING WATERBOARDING**

The request to JPRA for a description of waterboarding appears to have come from DOD General Counsel Jim Haynes directly. And he did it already knowing they needed backup to authorize waterboarding.

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## **ABOUT DEMOCRATIC COMPLICITY: THE EARLY BRIEFINGS ON TORTURE**

Porter Goss and Crazy Pete Hoekstra want to claim (and some commentators are buying that claim) that Democrats are complicit in torture and that's why Obama isn't supporting a truth commission. But a review of the known briefing shows that they're not as complicit as Republicans.

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## **WHO GAVE JAMES MITCHELL THE AL- QAEDA RESISTANCE MANUAL?**

How did a guy with neither Arabic skills nor expertise on al Qaeda get a hold of al Qaeda training manuals as early as December 2001?

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# **THE TORTURE DOCUMENT DUMP TIMELINE**

John Lopresti noted that it might be helpful to have a timeline of all the torture documents released in the last several weeks. And you know I can't resist requests for timelines.

April 6: NYRB posts the Red Cross report on high value detainees

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# **PELOSI: OF HIDDEN MEMOS AND COVERT OPS HIDDEN IN SUPPLEMENTALS**

I wanted to point out two more details from the Pelosi press conference the other day when she made her comments about briefings on torture (the complete transcript of this section is below).

First, Pelosi points out that one thing BushCo did was put intelligence-related appropriations through without telling the intelligence committee what they were putting through.