

THE CIA'S FIFTH LIE?

As I suggested in comments the other day, I suspect that the fifth lie that HPSCI referred to the other day is one fired CIA officer Mary McCarthy reported—when, at an HPSCI hearing in February 2005, under questioning from Jane Harman, someone from the CIA lied about detainee treatment.

While we don't know what the substance of Harman's questions were, this lie was reported in a 2006 WaPo story.

In addition to CIA misrepresentations at the session last summer, [Mary] McCarthy told the friends, a senior agency official failed to provide a full account of the CIA's detainee-treatment policy at a closed hearing of the House intelligence committee in February 2005, under questioning by Rep. Jane Harman (Calif.), the senior Democrat.

Jan Schakowsky—who is in charge of HPSCI's investigation—spoke at a reception I attended tonight. While I didn't ask her whether this lie was the fifth lie the committee referred to, I did ask her whether this lie was in the scope of her subcommittee's investigation.

She responded that detainee treatment was one of the things the committee was investigating (as is clear from its reference to the lie to Pelosi in 2002), though did not confirm or deny whether that 2005 lie was the fifth referred to the other day.

Which I guess tells us the February 2005 is one possibility among many other lies CIA may have told.