

Cheney declared, "It's been pretty well confirmed that [Atta] did go to Prague and he did meet with a senior official of the Iraqi intelligence service in Czechoslovakia last April, several months before the attack."

On April 30, 2002, FBI Director Robert Mueller gave a speech in San Francisco, in which he publicly refuted the Atta-in-Prague story, citing the FBI's detailed evidence that Atta was in Virginia Beach, Va. on that date. "We ran down literally hundreds of thousands of leads and checked every record we could get our hands on," he explained.

The FBI trashing of the Atta links to Iraq did nothing to deter Cheney. On another "Meet the Press" appearance on Sept. 8, 2003, the Vice President reiterated, "There has been reporting that suggests that there have been a number of contacts over the years. We've seen, in connection with the hijackers, of course, Mohammed Atta, who was the lead hijacker, did apparently travel to Prague on a number of occasions. And on at least one occasion, we have reporting that places him in Prague with a senior Iraqi intelligence official a few months before the attack on the World Trade Cen-

ter." Cheney went so far as to describe Iraq as "the geographic base of the terrorists who have had us under assault for many years, but most especially on 9/11."

Cheney's Parallel Intelligence Stovepipe

To further counter the assessments of the official U.S. intelligence establishment that there were no Iraqi ties to the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, in October 2001, the Cheney-Rumsfeld Cabal created a secret "Iraq intelligence unit" in the office of Undersecretary Feith, Wolfowitz's policy deputy. This Policy Counter-Terrorism Evaluations Group (PCTEG) initially consisted of two well-known neo-cons with no intelligence backgrounds: David Wurmser and Michael Maloof. They produced scores of reports, based on a combination of "cherry-picked" raw intelligence from the community's data base, and information gathered from outside sources, particularly from the Iraqi National Congress. Their reports claimed that the CIA, DIA, and other agencies had ignored "proof" of Saddam's role in the 9/11 attacks, and similar "proof" of Saddam's nuclear weapons and other

The Fat Lady Sings

Out of the blue, six days after Thanksgiving, Lynne Cheney, the wife of the Vice President, launched into a bitter, last-ditch defense of her puppet-husband and his lies and crimes.

How desperate they must be, to bring her out now.

As a guest on National Public Radio's "Diane Rehm Show" Nov. 30, Mrs. Cheney said that her politics had come to resemble her husband's in the same way that people come to look like their pets. Or has pet Dick come to resemble her? In any case, resemblance there is: He lies, she lies. She told host Rehm that neither Cheney nor Bush had ever said that there were links between Iraq and al-Qaeda.

When a caller cited the statement of Colin Powell's aide, Col. Larry Wilkerson, that Cheney was the inspirer of the torture of prisoners by the United States, Lynne Cheney claimed never to have heard of Wilkerson and refused to answer. When host Rehm repeated the question in a gentler way ("Do you ever have doubts?"), Mrs. Cheney claimed that the question was offensive and refused to answer again.

In refusing to answer any questions about torture, Mrs. Cheney is saying that what goes on in her bedroom, is no one else's concern.

The same evening, at an event planned as a book chat at the National Archive in Washington, D.C., Mrs. Cheney startled her host, Archivist of the United States



AFPS/Kathleen T. Rhem

Lynne Cheney is attempting to stop revelations of her husband's lies, with lies of her own.

Allen Weinstein, by launching into an unprovoked tirade in behalf of the Iraq War. Weinstein asked the audience to take note that it had been Cheney who had introduced Iraq, not he. She went on to a series of attacks against her and her husband's opponents.

Is it a coincidence that Lynne Cheney has reportedly added a *bobcat* to the menagerie at the Naval Observatory (or the bunker beneath it), which already featured two huge dogs and the Vice President?