

7/8/06

## ■ Solemnly Swearing to Do Better

Some lessons come hard. Nobody knows that better than Egil (Bud) Krogh, a former Nixon staffer, who went to prison for his role in the Watergate scandal.

Krogh's done a lot of thinking since overseeing the "plumbers" who broke into the office of psychiatrist Lewis Fielding in 1971 in an



Plumber in the house: 1973

attempt to discredit Daniel Ellsberg, leaker of the Pentagon Papers. He's now promoting a concept called the "Integrity Zone"—a model to help public servants and others stay out of similar trouble.

"I basically deviated from all the questions that integrity requires," admits Krogh, who now practices law in Seattle. They include such essentials as "Is it right?" and "Is it good?" He added, "You'd think people should know this stuff."

Maybe not. Krogh was incensed by the Bush administration's 2002 effort to codify torture. "They knew it was a results-oriented memo to justify torture, and it was flagrantly wrong," he said.

Krogh is writing a book on integrity and resists flinching from his past. "You can't sidestep what happened," he said. —Randy Barrett

**Elvis, Elvis, Puke** It was inevitable. The recent visit to Graceland by Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and President Bush uncorked a flood of Elvis-inspired political gags. The International Fund for Animal Welfare sent a quartet of marginal Elvis impersonators to the late rock 'n' roll king's home to decry Japanese whaling by singing the song



"Don't Be Cruel—to Whales." The song-pirating theme was picked up by the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, which released a list of "Top 10 Bush Hits," including "Jailhouse Rock," by G. Bush, S. Libby, and D. Safavian" and "Baby I Don't Care," by G. Bush, M. Chertoff, and M. Brown." Elvis can be glad he's left the building. —Randy Barrett

## Murmurs

Psst! With Thursday's stunning federal-court ruling that **Tom DeLay** cannot withdraw as the GOP nominee on the November ballot, Republicans are paying the price for sloppy legal maneuvering complicated by DeLay's refusal to withdraw before the March primary. And Texas Democrats, for a change, have done something right. If DeLay does not prevail on appeal, Democrats will now benefit from having ex-Rep. **Nick Lampson** running against a Republican who told *The Galveston County Daily News* earlier this week, "You never know what can happen.... There may even be a chance for me to win." This obviously wasn't what DeLay had in mind during his farewell address to the House last month, when he buried the partisan sword to the hilt in the belly of liberal Dems...

## Vital Statistics

### ■ 150 million

Estimated number of hot dogs consumed on July 4, 2006

—National Hot Dog and Sausage Council

### ■ \$450 million

Cost of one space shuttle mission

—NASA

### ■ 1,000

Number of unauthorized aircraft incursions into Washington's no-fly zone since 2003

—Federal Aviation Administration

### ■ 62

Black workers' income as a percentage of white employee pay in 2004

—Economic Policy Institute