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07/16/05 12:36 PM**ROVEGATE-BOLTONGATE LINK? The proliferation of gates closed after the horses are out** [Post [293790823](#)]**Category:** News & Opinion (Specific) **Topic:** Warfare and Conflict: Iraq**Synopsis:** John Bolton might be implicated in identifying Valerie Plame to White House Iraq Group led by Rove**Source:** [WayneMadsenReport](#)**Published:** July 16, 2005 **Author:** Wayne Madsen**For Education and Discussion Only. Not for Commercial Use.**

ROVEGATE-BOLTONGATE LINK?

July 16, 2005

Amid the scandal over who leaked the name of Joseph Wilson's CIA covert operations wife to Karl Rove and other White House officials, there is renewed focus on a June 10, 2003 State Department memo that recapped Ambassador Joseph Wilson's trip to Niger to check on deceitful "intelligence" on that nation's uranium export controls. The State Department memo was written by the State Department based on the notes of a State analyst who attended a multi-agency intelligence meeting in early 2002 to investigate alleged Iraqi uranium purchases in Africa, including Niger. The memo reportedly contained the name of Wilson's wife.

In a significant development, The New York Times is reporting today that the memo was written by Marc Grossman, the Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs and a copy of it was requested by Secretary of State Colin Powell before he left for Africa with President Bush on the evening of July 6, 2003. Deputy Secretary Richard Armitage called Carl W. Ford, Jr., the Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research at his home on July 6 (a Sunday) and requested a copy of the memo. The fact that State's Intelligence and Research Bureau (INR) and Grossman were involved in the discussions about Niger and uranium are important in light of the revelations that UN ambassador nominee John Bolton, who was then Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. Grossman, Armitage, Powell, and Ford were all reportedly subjects of Bolton's request for National Security Agency (NSA) intercepts of communications. Bolton, who had declared war on INR, was working closely with Vice President Cheney's staff, including Chief of Staff Scooter Libby; Karl Rove; UN ambassador John Negroponte; the National Security Council; and the Pentagon neocon cell to hype and fix intelligence to justify the invasion of Iraq.

The Associated Press is also reporting today that on July 11, 2003, Rove sent an email to Deputy National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley discussing Rove's previous phone call to Time's Matt Cooper about Wilson and his wife. Rove, Hadley Libby, then-National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, and Press Secretary Ari Fleischer were all members of the White House Iraq Group, set up to craft propaganda justifying the war.

Bolton -- Is he also a central player in Rovegate?

The discrediting of the "intelligence" about yellowcake uranium exports by Niger to Iraq was a reeling blow to Bolton's war justification activities as State's counter-proliferation chief. If special prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald is able to link Bolton's illegal use of NSA intercepts against opponents of the Iraq war to the White House Iraq Group and the leak of Valerie Plame Wilson's name to Karl Rove and others, Rovegate will take on truly Watergate proportions, with illegal wiretaps being added to the mix of possible violations of national security, perjury, criminal conspiracy, and obstruction of justice.

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