

From: "Copleston, John SEPA-EPG-CI" <SHELL/AG1-SHELL/RECIPIENTS/INGJCO2>
 Date: 11/4/2008 11:45:50 AM +0000
 To: jdecopleston@yahoo.co.uk
 Subject: FW: russian ambassador

John Copleston
 Strategic Investment Adviser
 Shell Exploration & Production Africa Limited
 +2348070380141 60141
 +447724484854

-----Original Message-----

From: Colegate, Guy J SIEP-EPB-S
 Sent: 04 November 2008 12:44
 To: Copleston, John SEPA-EPG-CI
 Subject: RE: russian ambassador

John

see below relevant bits of my longer piece (on its way later)-Info mix sourcing from my meeting last week, some internet searching and other associates you are aware of:

1. The source was able to provide a detailed account of UC Russal/Mulaba meetings held in London (see detail below). He stated the parties were put into contact with each other through an intermediary- General Aliyu Mohammed GUSAU, who met with Ambassador Ednan AGAEV in Abuja in Sept 2008. (F2)
2. AGAEV is a former Russian diplomat, previously based in Nigeria and is believed to be close to Prime Minister PUTIN. A career diplomat, he has held senior positions during the Gorbachev, Yeltsin and Putin eras. Former posts include Ambassador to Columbia, Head of the Division of International Security Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Negotiator during the START process. He is believed to work closely with Russian intelligence agencies, principally the FSB. Amongst his present business interests is partnership in the St. Petersburg-based law firm EGOROV, PUGINSKY and PARTNERS (EP & P). This law firm acted on behalf of two Russian FSB agents tried in Qatar for the assassination of Chechen leader Zelimkhan YANDARBIEV in Feb 2004. Source stated that then President PUTIN had personally instructed AGAEV to facilitate the release of the agents, which was achieved in December 2004. (F2) EP & P's founder, Nikolay EGOROV, was a course-mate of PUTIN at the law faculty of St Petersburg State University.
3. AGAEV worked through EP&P on UC Russal's purchase of the ALSCON Aluminium venture, a former Nigerian State owned asset sold to UC Russal in Feb 2007, in a deal brokered by the OBASANJO administration. (A1)
4. Source stated that the relationship between AGAEV and OBASANJO went back a number of years, and was cemented in 1998, when upon OBASANJO's release from jail following the death of Sani ABACHA, he and his wife were guests of then serving Ambassador AGAEV in Bogota, Columbia, for a period of months. (F2)

Source stated AGAEV facilitated a number of meetings between President PUTIN and OBASANJO between 1999 and 2007. Towards the end of this period, OBASANJO allegedly came under increasing pressure from PUTIN to show his gratitude for AGAEV's hospitality at state expense in 1998. OBASANJO had allegedly "promised much and delivered little" to PUTIN regarding possible business opportunities for Russian companies in Nigeria. Source stated he believed OBASANJO's reluctance to facilitate Russian entry into the Nigerian hydrocarbon play was a result of his wish not to alienate USG.

-----Original Message-----

From: Copleston, John SEPA-EPG-CI
 Sent: Thursday 4 November 2008 11:38
 To: Colegate, Guy J SIEP-EPB-S
 Subject: russian ambassador

Guy, pending your longer piece, can you zap me the name of the Russian Ambassador - I'd like to get him traced asap John

ps did you get the Fusion piece - the sepcol company in Houston?

John Copleston
 Strategic Investment Adviser
 Shell Exploration & Production Africa Limited
 +2348070380141 60141
 +447724484854

 RIM_MSG_STATUS: 1
 RIM_MSG_FOLDER_ID: -6
 PR_RIM_MESSAGE_SUBMISSION_ID: 633D57573B613D3430304E45543B703D5348454C4C3B6C3D4C41472D532D30333030342D30383131303431313433535305A2D3734343200
 PR_RIM_PAGER_TX_FLAG: true
 PR_RIM_MSG_REF_ID: -334504113
 PR_RIM_MSG_ON_DEVICE_3_S: true
 PR_RIM_INTERNET_MESSAGE_ID: -B18B8A23A8842C43910B8BD8532BCC70013796BD@lag-s-03004.africa-me.shell.com