

INVESTIGATION

Dick Cheney's Halliburton & Nigeria's missing millions

In this exclusive report, we examine how international companies and politicians ran Africa's biggest corruption scandal on the back of a \$6bn gas export project

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U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney is credited to Africa's biggest corruption scandal following an admission of guilt by his former secretary Alberto Fujimori. Cheney is suspected for oversteering over \$100m of bribes on behalf of a consortium led by Halliburton, the US oil giant and more profitable oil and gas services company.

According to documents obtained by The Africa Report as well as news wire accounts, Halliburton and three other companies paid the bribes to win a contract to build a \$6bn gas export project on Nigeria's coast (see 'See the gas' on page 10). In 2003, the US Africa biggest industrial project and should be the most profitable.

Nigerian investigators have discovered that their country has lost hundreds of millions of dollars through a series of contracts and bribes linked to the project. And in August, Nigeria's House of Representatives passed evidence suggesting that the country could be losing billions of dollars through the underpricing of its gas exports. The report average cost making price for gas is about \$2 for a million British Thermal Units (BTUs), with some companies paying as much as \$25 per BTU. We estimate overlinked to the international

companies involved in the gas project requested supply contracts for Nigeria to utilize gas at between 20 cents and \$1 per BTU.

Cheney's guilty plea to the US Department of Justice on 2 September states that many of the bribes on behalf of Halliburton were paid when Cheney was chief executive and chairman of the company from 2001-2006, immediately prior to his election as Vice President of the US under George W. Bush. When asked about these payments in the 2004 election campaign, Cheney

THE SCANDAL

How 100 pages that documented the company to bribe Nigerian politicians and other Western businessmen to take contracts

dismissed the allegations as "a misstatement" and said "the charges are false". Cheney has also admitted making \$100,000 from the bribe fund for his personal benefit.

It was Cheney who appointed Cheney as president of Halliburton's wholly owned Kellogg Brown & Root (KBR) subsidiary in 1998. "We took back Cheney to head up the organization and that has helped tremendously," Cheney said at the time.

