

DOWD: National House of Waffles (NYTimes)

By MAUREEN DOWD
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WASHINGTON

[REDACTED]

When the president attributed the information about Iraq trying to get Niger yellowcake to British intelligence, it was a Clintonian bit of flim-flam. Americans did not know what top Bush officials knew: that this "evidence" could not be attributed to American intelligence because the C.I.A. had already debunked it. - Not us. - Tench Rice (copy)

Ms. Rice did not throw out the line, even though the C.I.A. had warned her office that it was sketchy. Clearly, a higher power wanted it in.

And that had to be Dick Cheney's office. Joseph Wilson, former U.S. ambassador to Gabon, said he was asked to go to Niger to answer some questions from the vice president's office about that episode and reported back that it was highly doubtful.

(I)
not as

Tench: Dick reactive
Sanger: Rice not
1999 - was related

Pincus Novak 7/11
Fletcher
Tench - CIA on own
W.R. 5-15

1) Not to us - Fletcher 7/7
2) i Tench 7/11
Sanger: Rice

Rice 7/13: Speechwriter had NIS & wrote it.



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