

NEWS

Inside Colin Powell's hot and heavy e-mails

By Laura Italiano

August 3, 2013 | 4:00am



Corina Cretu

Photo:



DIPLO-MATES: Colin Powell and Corina Cretu, the Romanian official he exchanged e-mails with.

Maybe he should've been less diplomatic.

Colin Powell just couldn't give his flirty Romanian pal the heave-ho, despite her numerous needy rants at the bitter end of their racy relationship, the pair's hacked e-mail exchanges show.

Instead, the married Powell, 76, continued to keep the line open throughout 2010 and 2011, as European Parliament member Corina Cretu, 46, whined in her e-mails about their past cyber-flirtations — and scolded him for being slow and icy in his replies.

The former secretary of state urged Cretu to delete all the suggestive e-mails as soon as he discovered that the notorious hacker "Guccifer" was snooping around his AOL account.

DIPLO-MATES: Colin Powell and Corina Cretu, the Romanian official he exchanged e-mails with. (In one clumsily typed e-mail from February 2011, Cretu taunts the four-star general with an apparent reference to an R-rated suggestion he had made to her sometime in the past.

"Sip a glass of wine with me, as you used to tell me — advising me to lie neck [naked] on tha sofa," Cretu reminds him in her tortured English.

"After five six year ust remove, I will be clean and virgin, isn't it?" she snipes about his cold shoulder.

"It will be a gift, isn't it, to celebrate that I not anymore here," she pouts.

Powell has conceded the e-mails with Cretu were "very personal" but insists he has remained faithful to his wife, Alma, to whom he has been married for more than 50 years.

"We occasionally attended the same diplomatic and international meetings," Powell has said in a written statement, acknowledging that he knew Cretu during his tenure at the State Department.

"Over time, the e-mails became of a very personal nature, but did not result in an affair," Powell said. "Those type of e-mails ended a few years ago. There was no affair then, and there is not one now."

Guccifer's hacked Powell e-mails leap from 2005 to Dec. 24, 2010, when Cretu e-mails her cybercrush, "I want you to be happy."

"Is a sense I believe that you also care about me . . . But you are now completely by your own, without letting me any chance to talk to you at leas for a few minutes," she writes Powell.

"Now-you send me from 19 dec 'Merry Chrimas and Happy Year', so I should undertsatnd that we don't talk each during this period," she complains.

"Is first time when you tell me, diplomatically, of course, that is better not to speak until the holiday?"

"Have you such a hearth to leave ne here alone, thibkibg of you, without enjoying your gifts... your small gesters or gifts, which once was wvery powerful, without your words every day," she pleads.

She would see him just once more, in July 2011, when she traveled to DC for a conference.

"Thank you, Colin," she e-mailed during the visit.

"You look so well. We are at the State Department, other memories. Do you think would be too much to have a coffee together thses days?"

"I don't need to attend all the program. Would be nice to chat a bit," she wrote her old cyber-flame.

She later blogged a photograph of herself in a trim black cocktail dress, standing with her left arm around a beaming Powell's back and her right hand holding his wrist.

"General Colin Powell . . . is an old and good friend of Romania," she blogged.

Four months after the conference, she called him "the love of my life" in yet another e-mail but told him she has finally found a more "reaistic love" and is getting married.

"I never did something wrong, but I am a perpetual the pyr [payer] of the bill," she says cryptically.

"Love could endure anything, but wihout reciporocity, nothing is posinnle [possible]."

Most of Guccifer's hacked-and-released e-mails are from 2010 and 2011, when the bloom is clearly off the rose, at least for Powell, a moderate Republican who has endorsed President Obama.

"This hacker is driving everyone here crazy," Powell wrote Cretu on July 30 in an e-mail that was itself hacked.

"The hacker gets addresses from my contact list which he got when he hack[ed] into President Bush's account," Powell complains. "Our security people have been chasing him for months. He may have lots of your emails, maybe not, so best to delete all between us."

But their relationship wasn't always icy.

One e-mail exchange from 2005 shows the staid statesman apparently flirting back.

"Good weather to make you come . . ." Cretu, then the assistant to the president of Romania, wrote to Powell in August 2005, eight months after he left the State Department.

Powell's reply?

"You and the weather could make that happen."

Excerpts of e-mails between Colin Powell and Corina Cretu:

E-MAIL exchange: 8-19-2005

cretucorina@yahoo.com

"Good weather to make you come ..."

LPowell861@aol.com

"You and the weather could makethat happen"

E-MAIL 2-13-11

From ccori567@aim.com to LPowell861@aol.com

"Sip aglass of wine with me, as youused to tell me -advising me to lie neck [naked] on tha sofa.. lamsorry,weare completely deplorable as we don't assume what we had together"

E-MAIL 11-14-11

From ccori567@aim.com to LPowell861@aol.com

"Hi, lmiss you, lhope to be at least afriend to you. I'veloved you too, much, too, many years. wife, children otr daughters they all never pray for yours lsis [did]... butifond finally a reaistc love."

"I never did somethign wrong, but lam a perpetual the pyr [payer] of the bill. Love could endure anything, but wihout reciporocity,nothing id [is] posinnle [possible]."

Recommended by