

# Who's who in China's Politburo scandal

The ousting of Bo Xilai from China's ruling Politburo comes ahead of a once-in-a-decade leadership change, when seven of the nine members of the standing committee – China's highest authority – are to be replaced



**Bo Xilai, 62:** Son of revolutionary *Bo Yibo* – first finance minister of People's Republic of China

**2004:** Appointed commerce minister, builds China's trade ties with United States and Britain

**2007:** As top official in Chongqing municipality Bo launches bid for elevation to standing committee. Pledge to reverse China's wealth gap and tough fight against organised crime earn him national reputation as reformer

**Mar 15, 2012:** Dismissed as Communist Party chief in Chongqing. **Apr 10:** Removed from Politburo



**Gu Kailai, 53:** Second wife of Bo Xilai. Daughter of Chinese general, successful lawyer and businesswoman

**Apr 10:** Arrested on suspicion of murder of British man



**Neil Heywood, 41:** British businessman based in Beijing with Chinese wife and two children.

Confidant of Bo and Gu, Heywood also works as adviser to several foreign companies

**2010:** Relationship with Bo family ends

**Nov 14, 2011:** Heywood found dead in hotel room in Chongqing. Authorities say he died of alcohol poisoning – body cremated without autopsy

**Wang Lijun, 52:** Chief-of-police and Bo's right-hand man in crackdown on organised crime in Chongqing

**2010:** Beijing starts investigation after Wang arrests almost 5,000 people in just 10 months, Allegations emerge that torture and illegal methods were used to confiscate assets of defendants by Wang, Bo and Gu

**Feb 2012:** Wang tries to defect to U.S. consulate in Chengdu after falling out with Bo. Wang has now disappeared into custody in Beijing

