

Business In The Black Saudi Arabia Gives U.S. \$15 Billion — \$285 Billion To Come

His Excellency Sheikh Faisal Alhagelan, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to the United States, presented a strong case for the U.S. to reconsider its irrevocable policy position in favor of Israel with the Middle East. Before an over flow crowd luncheon speech to members of the staunch Commonwealth Club of California in San Francisco, His Excellency Sheikh Alhagelan stated that the Saudi Arabian people had already sacrificed "over \$15 billion in just the last year and a half" to the U.S. economy.

In a tone which was much more conciliatory than one might expect from a country which contains over a fourth of all the discovered oil in the world, he reminded the U.S. of its major problem in the oil dominating Middle East. Elegantly espoused, His Excellency put it this way, "The Palestinian-Israeli problem is the one issue which divides the U.S. and Saudi Arabia — and, in truth, now divides the United States from its key supporters abroad and from practically all of the rest of the world."

Saudi Arabia's sage ambassador wondered aloud why "Vice President Mondale recently proudly pointed out that Israel had received \$11 billion in assistance from the United States in just the last three and a half years." After all, U.S. taxpayers were paying for that during an inflationary period.

At the very same time, Saudi Arabia had been selling its oil below both OPEC and non-OPEC prices worldwide and maintaining production at extraordinarily high levels. In fact, a decade ago, Saudi Arabia was sending the world only three million barrels of oil a day, now it is ten million! All because they believe they are helping to reinforce international stability.

This is the prevention of economic destruction or more poverty in the lesser developed poor countries who make up three quarters of the world. With one eye on its own future generations, as well as, those of the rest of the world, Saudi Arabia prays for peace, according to the Prince.

Petroleum prices, according to His Excellency on behalf of the Saudi Arabian people, have been pegged as much as "\$5.50 below OPEC prices" in the past, which he had hoped big U.S. oil companies passed on to the U.S. consumers. Common sense suggests the big oil companies probably pocketed the difference but this does not diminish the decent decision by the Saudi Arabian people to slow down spiraling world oil prices.

The problem is still a "comprehensive peace" in the Middle East as Ambassador Alhagelan is after for all people of the world. When the Saudi-U.S. relationship began some fifty years ago, it was "a shared venture bet-

ween two distant and distinct peoples" according to His Excellency Alhagelan.

Almost everyone in both countries is aware and interested in each other today. Saudi Arabia is asking the U.S. to reconsider its short sighted view of human rights violations in 1948 in Palestine and see the whole picture.

Palestinians and Jews have just as much right to discuss their homelands as Americans or Arabs. Saudi Arabia has sacrificed her precious personal resource by selling petroleum at a price well below the going rate. The U.S. runs the risk of ever climbing oil prices to consumers by not allowing all parties to participate in peaceful negotiations for a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Consumers unfortunately, especially poor ones, will continue to pay higher out of pocket expenses for heating oil, gasoline and taxes for

foreign aid unless some solution is found in the Middle East conflict. His Excellency Alhagelan has asked for a hand in friendship. Following him into

the city of Saint Francis is His Excellency Sheikh Hisham Nazer, Minister of Planning for the Royal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. His Excellency Nazer will

address the U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce (Pacific), Inc. in January on his nation's new \$285 billion Third Five-Year Plan and to the methods

by which U.S. businessmen may take advantage of the Saudi Arabian market. It undoubtedly will then make more sense for America

through the eyes of a Reagan Administration to rethink its Middle East policy, unfortunately only after the numbers are added and subtracted.

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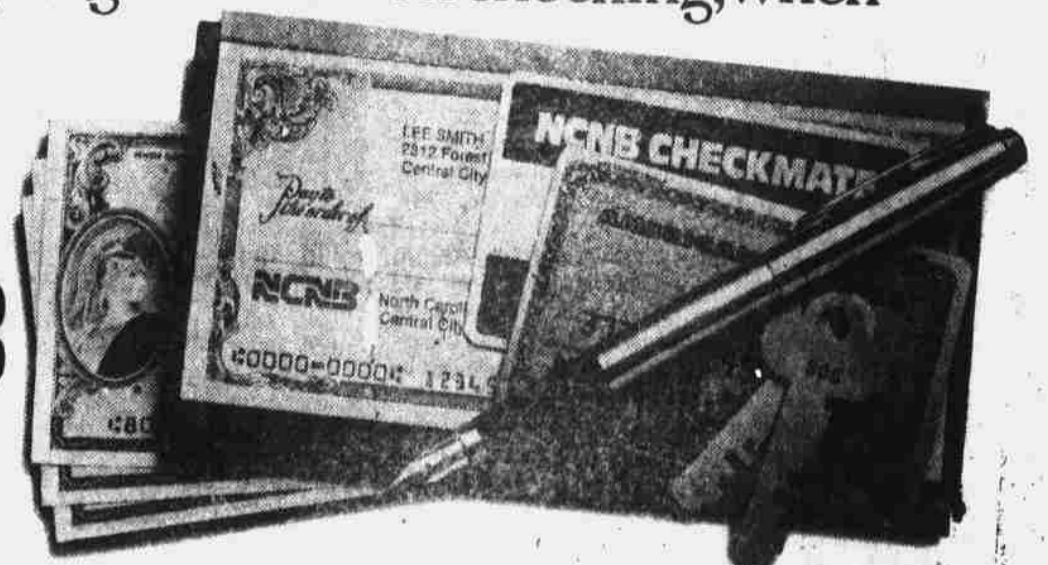
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Simple Plan Is Best Start in Landscaping

Start your landscape plan with the idea of keeping it as simple as possible. This way your chances of being pleased with the long-term outcome will be greatly enhanced.

Simple landscapes are easier to care for and "wear well" over the years, according to North Carolina State University agricultural extension horticulturists.

One of the main ingredients of a simple landscape is the use of ground covers for problem spots in the yard. Consider using such plants as ajuga, periwinkle, liriopie and ivy, particularly for shady areas under trees where grass doesn't grow well.

Where exposure to the sun is a problem for cool season grasses, the use of pine straw, gravel or bark chips may be a desirable alternative. Dwarf junipers are another good choice in sunny areas, especially on difficult slopes.

One problem you're likely to run into if you're re-landscaping an older home is, what to do about old foundation plantings. Most likely, you'll have to remove these plants, particularly if they have

gone unpruned for many years.

The NCSU extension specialists point out that any shrub up against the house should be pruned annually.

The number of plants in a foundation planting will vary according to the size of the house and the kinds of plants that will be used. Use just enough to tie the house to the ground but not enough to smother or hide the house.

It's desirable to use a few good shrubs and repeat the species several times rather than using a variety of species. The average home needs only about three species of shrubs across the front—seldom more than four.

Some of the best landscape designs contain only two species. Some good ones can have only one species, such as outstanding specimens of boxwood, for example.

If you just love plants and like to have some of many kinds around the house, the best approach may be to establish a shrubby border. The back property line or along the side of the lot may be the best places for the border.

In Cuba in 1952, Miss Betty Bennett took off, flew and landed a plane solo at the age of ten, the youngest pilot ever.

AFRICA NEWS

(Continued from Page 13) replies indicated that, for now, at least, there is little hope for a reconciliation with much of the exile community.

President Teodoro Obiang: Our country has been destroyed by the former regime, the most important task is that of national reconstruction. Consequently, we are determined to struggle against all political and ideological divergences; one can't do two things at once, rebuild the country

and install democracy.

Eya Nchama, ANRD Secretary-General: I think exactly the opposite. National reconstruction requires a break with the past. We need, for reconciliation, the right to free political activity, free movement. To build a country, which doesn't belong only to one person, consensus is necessary. The government must convolve a constituent assembly to draft a new constitution with participation of all the parties.

A Vile Ploy

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and others in the Middle East are also our allies. We do get their oil which we drastically need — not just rhetoric.

Finally, we must not penalize the UN by withholding U.S. participation, the formula for contributing is based on a country's Gross National Product (GNP). We are a rich nation. We still, even with our record of giving more than any other state, have never met this formula.

The oil-producing Arabs need to give more in all fairness.

But, no one must be allowed to inhibit the UN.