

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Answer To Corruption Is Not Shorter Terms

To the editor:
Why can Israel's Shamir wax indignant when the United States wants simply to postpone guaranteeing the loan to his government of billions and billions and billions of dollars? Because he thinks the U.S. Israeli lobby has our Congress in his pocket, that's why. Because it costs congresspeople enormous sums to get reelected so they need to accept enormous election contributions from many lobbyists.

Why will large numbers of congresspeople vote for the B2 (Stealth) bomber when it is absurdly expensive, no longer needed, and doesn't work? Because the Northrop company which makes it, for the 1990 election gave just the U.S. senators campaign contributions totalling \$123,550! Big supporters got over \$6,000 each for just this one useless weapon. That's why the U.S. Senate voted to spend \$27 billion more on the B2. The senators needed to accept the money because getting elected costs such huge sums.

Why may our Alaskan wilderness risk rape and our unspoiled North Carolina beaches risk ruin from oil and gas drilling? Because a powerful oil and gas lobby gives large campaign contributions, which congresspeople need to take.

Why is the citizen who cares about the ecology at the mercy of

auto lobbies that fight controls on cars, power lobbies that fight solar and wind and wave power, developers who fight wetlands protection, lumbermen and cattlemen lobbies who appropriate our public land? And on and on, lobby after lobby.

The answer to congressional corruption is not shorter terms—those are a Republican plot to try to take over control of Congress. The many talented experts we have in Congress are valuable, needed. What we should demand is election reform, the time and money spent on electioneering to be severely limited. Let PAC money be forbidden. Let the public, perhaps together with the TV stations, pay for a reasonable amount of TV speech-making by candidates only. No Willie Horton-type ads. Let the congresspeople be relieved of now necessary, incessant, degrading, corrupting money-raising. The taxpayer will be saved tens if not hundreds of billions of dollars of wrongful lobbyist-directed spending.

Our 7th District Representative Charlie Rose is chairman of the House Committee on House Administration, which will be dealing with upcoming election reform bills. That puts readers of this newspaper in a key position to affect this critically important issue.

Betty Stone
Wilmington



Habitat areas for plants and animals are being lost and this contributes to the environmental deficits we face.

Some Deficits Worth Noting

BY BILL FAVER

For the last several years we have heard a great deal about economic deficits—how our government continues to spend far more than it takes in and how this adds to the national debt. There are deficits of other kinds which may in the end prove to be far more alarming than the one involved with economics.

Some of the ecological deficits are the ones now shaping our future life on this planet. For example, we burn or cut more trees worldwide than we plant and in 1990 this amounted to a 42-million-acre deficit. The area deforested this decade will exceed the total cropland of the United States if the present rate continues.

Another deficit has to do with farming and erosion. Soil erosion far exceeds the natural formation of soil and the deficit is estimated to be 24 billion tons of topsoil each year.

Water deficits are another area of concern since many countries are now running water deficits. We are pumping out underground water faster than it is being recharged. About 21 percent of U.S. cropland is irrigated using this source and it is contributing to the water deficit. Water tables are falling in many parts of the world, particularly in India and north China.

The loss of plant and animal species is another major deficit area. The destruction of rain forests and other major areas of habitat contribute to this irreversible deficit. The list of threatened and endangered species grows steadily in this country. In Australia some 18 species of mammals have been lost and more are listed as endangered. In the Aral Sea, 20 of the 24 commercially important fish have been lost since 1960. Some species, like our Carolina Parakeet and our Passenger Pigeon, are gone forever. Others can be saved with considerable time and commitment to doing so. Each time one species of plants or animals is lost we lose some of the variety and diversity of life on our planet and we contribute to that deficit.

So, without minimizing the importance of our concerns about our economic deficits, we need to raise our consciousness and our concerns about the very real environmental deficits confronting us. If we fail to do so, we may soon find ourselves far worse off than we would ever be from the economic deficits facing us.

Energy Funds Available

Some Brunswick County families will receive help with their heating bills this winter.

The N.C. Department of Human Resources Division of Social Services will continue its low income energy assistance program for needy families in 1992.

A one-time payment to households that qualify will be made in February, according to a news release from the Brunswick County Department of Social Services. No county funds are involved in the energy payments.

Persons that receive food stamps in October will receive an application in the mail and do not need to report to the DSS office in Bolivia.

Other households that cannot apply by mail must do so at the DSS office between Oct. 14 and Nov. 20. Elderly persons or the handicapped can send someone to apply or may call the DSS office for assistance.

For more information, call Brunswick County DSS, 253-4391, or Care-Line, 1-800-662-7030, which is also a number for the hearing impaired.

Seedlings Offered For Reforestation

Application forms are being offered for forest tree seedlings by the Brunswick County office of the Division of Forest Resources and the Cooperative Extension, according to County Extension Director Milton Coleman in a recent news release.

Coleman said landowners are beginning to realize the value of prompt reforestation with good stock and are using the seedlings for erosion control and windbreaks as well. He is expecting high demand to cause certain species, especially the genetically improved lots, to sell out quickly.

Species available include these softwood species: loblolly pine (piedmont), loblolly pine (coastal), loblolly pine (improved piedmont), loblolly pine (improved coastal), longleaf pine, longleaf pine (improved), shortleaf pine (improved), Virginia pine (improved), white pine (two years old) and red cedar.

Hardwood species offered are black walnut, black locust, sweetgum (improved) and yellow poplar.

Coleman recommends that people with questions about the proper species to plant, planting instructions and methods of site preparation contact the county ranger or county forester, or call the Cooperative Extension Service at 253-4425.

Seedlings are allocated in the order applications are received, so Coleman suggests that buyers order as soon as possible. Applications must be received no later than four weeks prior to shipment date. Full payment by check or money order must accompany the completed application and both must be mailed to the Director of the Division of Forest Resources, P.O. Box 27678, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Complete refunds are given for orders canceled prior to Jan. 30, although no cancellations are honored after that date.

Convenient Tours & Travel
Full Service Travel Agent & Bus Company
We Are The Best. Why Settle For Less
★ Jan. 30—Cruise to the Bahamas! Deposit needed by Nov. 1st ★
Nov. 16—Sothern Living Christmas Show
Nov. 30-Dec. 1—Biltmore Estates ★ Dec. 07-11—New York
FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS Air, Land or Sea
Convenient Tours and Travel
P.O. Box 2964, Shallotte, NC 28459, (919) 754-4222

I want to be your agent for Life.
Rusty Russ
5211 S. Main Street
Suite 509, Brunswick Square
Shallotte • 754-6596
Let the same agent who insures your car and home give you a hand with the right plan to insure your life. Call today. I'm right here ready to help.
Allstate®
You're in good hands.

Yankee Candles
in wonderfully delicious scents for the Holidays & **Handpainted Holiday Folk Art Made Of Recycled Oil Drums**
Bulbs are here!
Dana's Creative House & Garden Shop
Your Plants Deserve **ferti-lome**
In The Gore Center, Hwy. 130, Whiteville
2.9 Miles From Whiteville 642-0629
Open Monday-Saturday 8:30-5:30

Airport Shuttle Out of Town Trips
L.C.'S Limo & Taxi Service
Serving Shallotte and South Brunswick Islands
OFFICE (919)287-3197
CELLULAR (919)540-7725
Same Day Package Delivery Lawrence Crutchfield Owner

XPRESS LUBE
YOUR OIL CHANGED IN 30 MINUTES OR IT'S FREE!
MOPAR SUPPORTS THE 1992 U.S. OLYMPIC TEAM ... AND SO CAN YOU!
Come in now for an oil change and we'll give...
• You a free Mopar oil filter with your next oil change.*
• The 1992 U.S. Olympic Team a donation of \$3.
*Performed on a Chrysler Corporation vehicle at a Chrysler Corporation dealership.
Follow the Express Lube Signs **\$22.65** Top off all fluids. No extra charge plus 21 point service check. **USA**
NEUWIRTH MOTORS
219-229 So. College Rd., Wilmington • 919-799-1815 • 452-1992
Xpress Lube Hours: Mon-Sat. 7:30-6:00
Mopar Express Lube MasterCard VISA Stop by today for details.
Offer good August 26, 1991 - November 22, 1991 © 1991 Chrysler Corporation

Please Re-Elect
Jody Simmons
Alderman
Shallotte - Nov. 5

Express CARE
PROMPT MEDICAL CARE
—HOURS—
Monday -Saturday 9 am-7 pm
Sunday 12-4 pm
579-0800
South Brunswick Islands Medical Park
Hwy. 17, 4 miles south of Shallotte

The 10th Annual
Dickens Christmas Show
FOUR BIG DAYS
Thursday, November 7 1:00-9:00
Friday, November 8 10:00-9:00
Saturday, November 9 10:00-9:00
Sunday, November 10 1:00-6:00
Myrtle Beach Convention Center
Travel back in time... to 19th Century London... stroll down avenues lined with magnificent Victorian decorations.
View hundreds of Artists... Craftsmen and Vendors of fine Gifts... all decked in period attire... offering jewelry... wreaths... smoked turkeys... carved food... handmade gifts... antiques... lace... popcorn... children's toys... and much much more.
See the Festival of Trees... offering a multitude of elegantly decorated trees.
Visit the Festival of Worlds... experience foreign customs and partake of their many culinary specialties.
See the Gingerbread House Festival... featuring sugar spun works of fantasy by the Grand Strand Chefs & Confectioners Association.
Santa's Station... your direct connection with the South Pole.
"Truly an enchanting show with something for everyone."
Admission \$5.00 Adults • \$2.00 Children
Multiple Day Pass \$8.00 (Prices include Tax)