

Willmotts and Why-Nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Slaughter In The Skies

The track record of the United Nations in solving the problems which crop up around the globe has been dismal, at best. Those who sit in that seemingly powerless body too often become embroiled in senseless battles which do little more than serve the self interests of the countries involved. The United Nations now faces its biggest challenge, one which should seriously affect its future.

There are few words to describe the happenings of last week when Russian aircraft deliberately shot down a commercial airliner with 269 innocent people, men, women and children, aboard. That action was best described in the headline of New York City's sensationalist publication, the New York Post, which described the atrocity in bold headlines which cried: "Slaughter in the Skies." That's an accurate description, it was slaughter, pure and simple. The needless, senseless, inhumane slaughter of 269 people for an apparent reason other than the fact the airliner may have wandered into the airspace above Soviet-held land.

Cries of outrage echoed throughout the world. Leaders of this country began assessing their options in responding to the vicious, barbaric action. Calls were sounded for the United Nations to convene to deal with the tragedy and the Security Council did, indeed, begin debating the matter. As of this writing the Russians have refused to fully account for their actions, or admit to the atrocity, beyond claiming the airliner was on a "spy mission."

There is simply no justifiable excuse for what the Russians did. People everywhere, in this land and abroad, and even those in the Soviet Union and in the lands of its friends, must raise their voices in total disgust at the senseless slaughter of 269 human beings, sent hurtling to their deaths aboard an unarmed airliner. Those who do not speak out against such uncivilized action are no better

than the perpetrators of the horrible crime. For anyone to accept the Russian rhetoric that the airliner was on a "spy mission" is ludicrous.

Governments will wage a war of words, and the United Nations will undoubtedly debate for weeks over what it can and cannot do. In the end it will probably do nothing, for the Russians have the power of veto over any resolutions that may come out of such debates. Incredible. Can any convicted murderers have veto power over the verdict of any jury?

In our view, those who would take such horrifying action should be totally shunned by the rest of the world. Russian ships and planes should be turned away from every port and airport throughout the world. Its diplomats, with all the special privileges they enjoy here and throughout the world, should be sent from all lands until they, themselves, stand up and speak out against the horror of this deed.

The Russian people are not directly responsible, of course, for it was not their finger on the trigger nor their voice that gave the command. But if they condone what has happened in silence, then they set the tone of their country's actions and deserve to be treated as accomplices.

We cannot permit the memory of this barbaric action to record that we, the people on this earth, allowed this to happen without a protest so strong that it insures that never again the command "Fire" will send innocent people to senseless deaths. If we do, we invite a future filled with needless and horrible atrocities.

Russia and its people should know, now and forever more, that the actions of last week have no place in a civilized world, and will not be tolerated by civilized people. The Russians must endure the shame of this incident and the scorn of the world, so strongly delivered they will never forget.

And why not?

Overtime, A Needless Cost

Suffolk County residents, already reeling from threatened LILCO rate increases which could double electricity rates in the future, took it on the chin again recently with another blow that will eventually be felt in their pocketbooks. That came with an arbitrator's decision giving sheriff's deputies one hour overtime each day, 7.5 hours a week, while they drive to and from work in county vehicles.

The deputies had sought and won the one hour overtime clause in the contract they negotiated with the county. But in December of last year the legislature rejected the contract because of that clause. A new contract was finally agreed upon and approved in January which eliminated the overtime payments.

Not long after, however, a top official of the sheriff's department, at a

time when Sheriff John Finnerty was hospitalized, put out a memo approving overtime pay for travel time for the deputies. Suffolk Life covered that story, and was told by Finnerty he was unaware of the memo's existence and that it violated his orders on the matter. He rescinded the memo and the payments were stopped.

But, apparently, the damage was already done, for in ruling in favor of the overtime, the arbitrator, Philip J. Ruffo, took note of the fact the deputies had received such payments. Ruffo ruled that as long as the deputies must call in by radio upon entering their cars in the morning, vehicles they take to and from work, they are entitled to the pay.

The problem is one that should be cont. on page 4

Power for the People!

I join with you as a partner in your effort to secure much needed help for the residents of Suffolk County. Here is my \$5 for a subscription to Suffolk Life. Power for the People! Make check payable to Suffolk Life. Send to Box 262, Westhampton, N.Y. 11977

Name: _____

Street: _____

Town: _____ Zip: _____

Please include mailing label on your issue of Suffolk Life.

Power For The People

We're on our way! The class action suit on behalf of all ratepayers of LILCO, seeking low cost PASNY power for the public and not only businesses, has been prepared and the papers have been served. The people, through Suffolk Life's Power for the People campaign, have entered the fight.

This Power for the People campaign started when businesses began reaching out for low cost power from the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY), and public officials began meeting those demands with agreements to provide some firms, Grumman was the first, with low cost power. But no mention was made by anyone, at any time, of the plight of the public and the financial impact that would be thrust upon them by LILCO rates expected to nearly double within a few years.

Suffolk Life, long a champion for the public and its needs, announced its intent to file a class action suit on behalf of the public. That suit is now underway, seeking not only PASNY power, but monetary damages because of PASNY's discrimination against the people of Long Island in selling low cost power upstate, but not here.

And the response from the public demonstrates clearly not only the frustration and anger against LILCO, but the desperate need for financial relief against soaring electricity rates. With the checks of support have

come letters of praise for our class action suit action, our coverage of the controversial Nuclear plant in Shoreham, and our dedicated fight against a utility company which threatens the economic future of Long Island. And pleas for help against the mounting financial burden.

Funding for the Power for the People drive has come in the form of \$5 subscriptions to Suffolk Life, with a substantial portion of that sum earmarked for the Power for the People legal battle. While the law firm of Marchese and Sallah has, in true public spirit, volunteered its time for the effort, there are many legal expenses for filing court papers and the like that must be met. The public's support of Suffolk Life in this partnership against the exorbitant LILCO rate increases will help meet these expenses. Any monies remaining after this battle is concluded will go into the creation of a Public Defense Fund for future battles on behalf of the public.

The battle continues, your help is still needed. We ask you to join with us in this effort to stand up against the threat that LILCO has imposed on us all. Together we can overcome the selfish interests and profit motives of LILCO, but the time for action is now. Become a part of this people's battle against LILCO and the power structure that has ignored our needs and our plight.

And why not?

Letters to the editor

Dear Mr. Willmott:

Within the last 10 days, the New York Times published the financial Second Quarter Report of the L.I. Lighting Company. It showed, as I remember it, a net profit for the period of 28 million!

I've not seen any mention of this in any of your excellent coverage of the Shoreham Nuclear Plant. Perhaps you should get a copy of the Report, for why should increased rates

be necessary so that LILCO can continue to make this kind of profit???

May I also suggest more emphasis on the fact that most of the executives of the plant do not live in the "10 mile" area, indeed, some don't live on Long Island at all. Please keep up your excellent work - all of L.I. residents thank you constantly.

Sincerely,
J.H. Apeler

SUFFOLK LIFE

NEWSPAPERS

VOL. 23 NO. 3

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Riverhead Medford Selden Port Jefferson
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Mad Hampton Sayville
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Symbolic of LILCO's Credibility

Last Wednesday, Lon Frecano, operation manager of Medi-Bus Company, providers of ambulance services, appeared before the Shoreham Commission and gave testimony. His comments are cause for grave concern.

Frecano told the commission that he had been approached by LILCO and asked to participate in the evacuation plan. He was given a letter of agreement to sign and told to fill in whatever rates he chose to charge for his services. All LILCO wanted was a letter of agreement signed, indicating the number of ambulances he had in his fleet and the amount of personnel he employed.

At the initial meeting, he said he explained to LILCO that he had other obligations and he did not know whether his drivers would go into a radioactive zone to evacuate hospitals. LILCO expressed little concern, as they thought an accident would never happen. Their main concern, apparently, was to have the operators of the ambulance companies signed up to meet the letter of the federal law.

Frecano came before the commission to bring to our attention the fact that LILCO was handing out blank checks which he knew would have to be paid for by the ratepayers. He also issued an impassioned plea to the commission to consider the fact that neither he nor the other commercial ambulance services within Suffolk had the necessary equipment in ambulances or the personnel available to effect the safe evacuation of several hundred people in hospitals and nursing homes, some who could be in critical condition, within the ten mile evacuation zone. He dramatically concluded that the only hope of aiding the sick, the hospitalized and the dying in evacuating in case of an emergency, would be if the 80 some odd ambulance companies throughout Suffolk, who have fully equipped vehicles and highly trained volunteers, could be brought into play. In his estimation, only if these volunteer ambulance companies could be counted on would evacuation have any hope of success.

This testimony should have opened the eyes of every commission member, but we fear, some fell on deaf ears. What Frecano described as LILCO's attempt to crudely meet regulation guidelines, but not their intent, with a blank check approach, was symbolic of the entire Shoreham

construction pre-operating situation. The management of LILCO is interested in only one thing - profits.

As Charlie Novarro, a Shoreham engineer since 1966, said recently: "No one should believe LILCO. We're a private company here to make money and we do only what is good for stockholders." This is from the mouth of an officer, as quoted in the respected diocesan newspaper, "The Long Island Catholic."

The management of LILCO has done whatever has been expedient to open Shoreham. Their regards for safety have been more motivated in meeting the minimum standards set by the NRC than by any concern for the safety of the people, whose lives we fear they are deliberately jeopardizing. In our opinion, the management of LILCO has been ruthlessly derelict throughout the entire project and they should, without question, be removed from the operation of the corporation.

All of their actions, their threats to safety, the cost overruns will inevitably lead to disaster and financial ruin to the county. The 56 per cent rate hike they initially asked for will easily devastate the entire region and economy. With the breakdown of the diesel generators, the time delays, the next rate increase they ask for will easily bring the rate increase to well over 100 per cent. Few residents, few businesses will survive.

The governor, we fear, does not have it within his power to find a solution. The federal government will be forced to turn their back on Long Island as they are facing similar situations throughout the nation. The only hope that Long Island residents and Long Island businesses have, big or small, is a federal court ordered reorganization of the corporation. A reorganization that would allow the new management of LILCO to cut out the waste and the fat within the corporation and divest itself of its cancer, Shoreham.

This is the only hope that Long Island residents and businesses have. Under no circumstances from either an economical or safety position, can Shoreham ever be allowed to go on line. Even new management will not be able to repair or correct the deficits of the old, for no one truly knows where the bodies are buried and the weaknesses exist.

Shoreham must not open! It must be terminated. Now.

And why not?

Think Again Pat

The Democratic candidate selected to oppose Peter Cohalan, Patrick Halpin of Babylon, has gotten his campaign off to a very rocky start. Although almost every political figure

in the county from both sides of the aisle have come out strongly opposed to the opening of Shoreham either on safety, financial grounds, or both, Halpin has waffled and refused to

take a stand.

Shoreham is the number one issue in people's minds. In place of taking a stand on this issue, Halpin is left with his record of being the author of the bottle bill which, although he may be right, will not earn him gratitude from consumers as they pay at least a nickle more for a beverage container or are forced to go through the inconvenience of returning the containers for deposit.

Halpin's other claim to fame, which has worked well for him in the Southwest Sewer District as the "chairman" of the "Sewer Party" is that he strongly favors the cost of the Southwest Sewer District being paid for by all residents throughout the county through the application of an additional one cent sales tax.

To complicate rather than enhance his image with the voters outside of the sewer district, he is now creating a new party line called Taxpayers Against Crime. One of his solutions to crime is to bring the five East End towns' police departments into the county police force.

But the five East End towns are fiercely proud of their police departments, their quality and

productivity, and the economics of their operation. The great majority of the people in the five East End towns want no part of a county police force. In fact, many west end municipalities wish they had the luxury of hiring and controlling their own police force to control crime and disorder in their localities.

A number of times over the past several years, after being unable to obtain sufficient police protection from the county, villages have attempted to establish constables or other uniformed forces to provide the services they were not receiving from the county. These moves have been blocked by the county police unions who want no challenge to the unions' power and base.

Cohalan has been a disappointment in some areas as county executive. As a county executive he has been human and he has erred. Halpin should be attacking him on these weaknesses rather than going off half-cocked and attacking him on his strengths.

Come on Pat, let's make it a race this year and not a runaway.

And why not?

Power For The People

We did it for you! We have entered into a court challenge against LILCO and P.A.S.N.Y. in an attempt to obtain for you some of the inexpensive power produced by P.A.S.N.Y. that Long Island residents have been, thus far, denied.

We are doing this together, you our readers, you the ratepayers of Long Island and Suffolk Life, your newspaper. It's an uncomfortable role for a newspaper to be in. A newspaper should be a reporter of the news, not a maker of news. But when there has been a void created because of a lack of leadership for the people, we will fill it.

To accomplish this goal of a court challenge on your behalf, we are using the monies raised by the sale of subscriptions to Suffolk Life. Voluntary subscription funds normally go to support the news portion of your newspaper.

As we see it there is no more crucial a need than to help our readers survive the onslaught of the LILCO robber barons. They have put our health and safety in wanton jeopardy and, by their rate demands, are crippling our financial ability to

survive. Only by being united as a force can we survive.

We urge you to voluntarily join us in our action to bring justice to Long Island. Power To The People! By voluntarily paying for your subscription to Suffolk Life, your \$5 subscription, combined with that from your neighbors and your friends, we can make a potent force in opposing the robber barons who control LILCO.

Almost all the funds received through the subscription campaign will be used to fight LILCO. Currently, the attorneys who have entered the suit are providing their services on a pro bono basis. The subscription monies raised are paying for the expenses that can and will run into the tens of thousands.

We have already heard from several thousand subscribers who have mailed in their coupons and their checks and joined us as partners in the campaign for Power for the People. If you haven't, won't you join us? It may well turn out to be the best \$5 you ever spent. For in reality, the funds will be spent in your defense.

And why not?

SUFFOLK LIFE

VOL. 23 No. 4

and Suffolk County Life

Offices and Plant Located on Montauk Highway, Westhampton 265-3000 Classified Ads 265-5000
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Hempden East	Holbrook	Holtville	Coram
Mad Hatterton	Shayler	Mastic	Shirley
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Willmotts and Why-Nots

David J. Willmott, Editor

Are Our Memories That Short?

It was just four years ago the rank and file Republicans of Suffolk repudiated the old guard, throwing out the sitting County Executive and the county Republican leader and those who supported him in a primary race.

The old guard was repudiated simply because it had been negligent in its duty and had failed to keep the Republican house free and clean of corruption. The power brokers who controlled the party had enriched themselves and their special interests through the Southwest Sewer District, land deals and government contracts, and patronage on the town and county levels.

The new Republicans selected Tony Prudenti as the county GOP leader. Tony was not polished, overly-educated or even a smooth talking politician. He did have an enviable record as an honest, hard worker who got things done, and was dedicated to the concept of cleaning up and keeping honest the Republican Party in the county.

Prudenti has been, by most measures, an acceptable, good leader. He has a string of Republican victories behind him. He has kept Republican seats Republican and made inroads into those held by Democrats. His influence has been extended to be felt on both the state and federal levels. Al D'Amato would not be a United States Senator from New York today if it had not been for Prudenti's courage and early leadership.

Financially, he has been a miracle worker. When he took the helm of the Republican Party in Suffolk County, the organization was almost \$1.5 million in debt. Finances were in total disarray as were the organization, and the image of the party. Today, the party is solvent. Its debts are manageable. It's common knowledge you can't buy Suffolk through the Republican Party.

Prudenti's political weaknesses have been his temper and his unyielding commitment to honesty. His anger comes into full rage when he suspects impropriety, or is confronted outright with deals that smack of an individual's dishonesty or circumvention of the law, or use of political power or position to enrich

himself or his cohorts.

We overheard Prudenti one time say to three politicians of some note, "You are either going to be &?!&?? honest Republican politicians or rich thieves. But you are not going to be both as long as I am chairman."

Some of the old guard and some of the new people on the scene in politics don't like this kind of talk or, more to the point, this kind of honesty. They want Prudenti out. It is interesting to note that many of the names that have surfaced as part of the coalition to dump Prudenti are many of the same people that had their hands in the till in the old days. Some were caught, some were indicted, some were convicted, some were not.

We find it sad that many honest people have been snookered into calling for Prudenti's ouster without understanding truly who they are aligning themselves with.

Without a doubt, Prudenti does not present the image some would like to have for the leader of the Republicans in the County of Suffolk. You do not expect to find a former laborer, a construction company owner, a man from the streets, who became successful by not only using his head but his hands, as the head of the Republican Party. But then again, we have had too many people as the head of the Republican Party and the County of Suffolk who presented a polished image, but lacked a 100 per cent commitment to integrity and honesty.

Prudenti has been one of the best things that ever happened to the Suffolk County Republican Party. If his tirades and his unyielding demand for properness have caused an open split in the party, we say, Thank God. For in this day and age it is not easy to be honest.

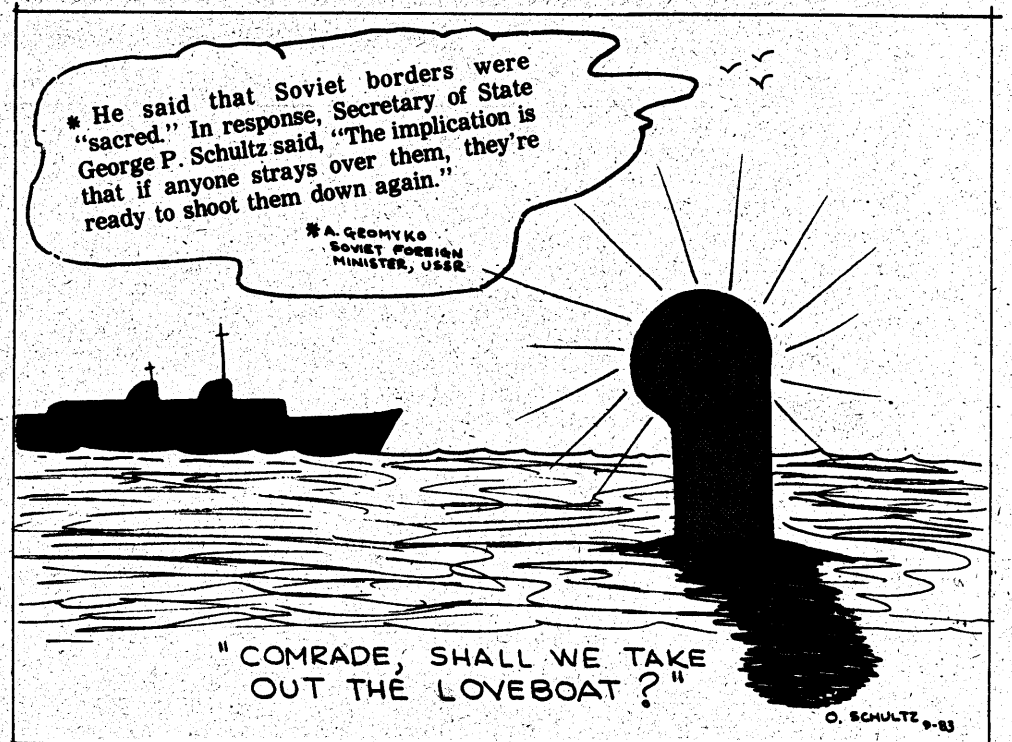
We encourage all enrolled Republicans to contact their committeemen and ask them not to give away their proxy, but go to the county convention themselves and reaffirm their belief in an honest Republican Party by supporting Prudenti. Not for his image as a political leader, but for the honesty with which he has operated and the integrity he has restored to the party.

And why not?

Render Unto Suffolk That Which Is Suffolk's

All residents of New York State collectively established the New York State Power Authority. Residents from Niagara to Montauk combined their resources and their credit to establish this authority for the purpose of developing low cost electrical generation and transmission.

Collectively we shared in the liabilities. Collectively we were supposed to share in the benefits. Today, P.A.S.N.Y. produces almost one-third of the electrical power in the State of New York. We read recently in the Empire Report that upstate residents who are receiving some of



this power are paying as low as one-half cent per kilowatt hour. Here on Long Island we are paying LILCO 10 to 13 cents per kilowatt hour under current rates. We are facing the probability of seeing these rates raised 20 to 30 cents when the full impact of Shoreham is factored in.

For a variety of reasons we have not received the full benefit of P.A.S.N.Y. power here on Long Island. We do not feel LILCO has aggressively sought Long Island's fair share. P.A.S.N.Y. has been comfortable with the political realities of an upstate, downstate interest. Long Islanders have been shortchanged and have paid higher than needed electrical rates.

This is the reason for the Suffolk Life Power for the People suit. We want to get what is Long Island's for Long Islanders, the power that we have a vested and financial interest in. Power that is being produced far less expensively than power being generated by LILCO here on Long Island.

If we are successful with our suit, this less expensive power can be mixed with the more expensive LILCO power, reducing the average cost of electricity for Long Island. Our suit is absolutely justified. It's a suit that is being fought by your newspaper in partnership with thousands of ratepayers. It is being

financed by this newspaper and through the subscription funds paid by those readers.

Hopefully, our attorneys will be a match for those from LILCO and the State of New York. Hopefully, there will be justice in the courts. We hope we will have a judge willing to listen to the cries of the people and not be blinded by the power of the utilities and the state.

We know it is wishful thinking, but we would hope that every ratepayer, particularly the 210,000 families who receive Suffolk Life every week, would join us in this cooperative effort to bring justice to Long Island. We urge those who have not already done so to take checkbook in hand, write a check for \$5 for your annual subscription to Suffolk Life. Attach it to the Power for the People form printed on page 6 and you will become a partner in the Power for the People campaign being waged by this newspaper.

Most all of the subscription money being raised through this effort will be used for this campaign. We promise our readers none of the funds being raised will be used by any individual for personal enrichment. They will be used for this campaign. Please join today, be a partner, not an onlooker. It is you and lower utility rates we are fighting for.

And why not?

SUFFOLK LIFE NEWSPAPERS

VOL. 23 NO. 5

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Referendum On Shoreham

Last November, the county legislature attempted to put on the ballot a non-binding referendum that would have allowed the residents of Suffolk County to indicate whether they wanted Shoreham or not. The public was denied that opportunity, however.

A group of scientists from Brookhaven National Laboratory did not feel the residents of Suffolk County should be allowed to express their opinion. Through a series of lawsuits and court maneuvers, they had the question removed from the ballot. This year they will not be as successful for the county executive's race is, in itself, a referendum on Shoreham.

County Executive Peter Cohalan has stated unequivocally he is opposed to the opening of Shoreham based on safety reasons. His opponent, Pat Halpin, after nearly three months of refusing to take a stand, announced this past week that he favors the opening of the power plant on his contention that the plant will open and it is not worth fighting against. The two politicians, being diametrically opposed in their views on this issue makes the race itself a referendum on Shoreham.

A vote for Cohalan is a vote to oppose the opening of Shoreham. A vote for Halpin is a vote for opening the plant. Unfortunately, all other issues are swept aside by the significance and importance of their opposing positions.

It is unfortunate that Halpin chose

this course, particularly considering that prior to becoming a county executive candidate he had postured with Cohalan in demanding that full inspection of Shoreham be a requisite before it could be allowed to open. Sometimes in politics it is not only good, but necessary, to take an opposite position from that of your opponent. But, sometimes in politics it is more important to be non-partisan on issues that deal with the health, safety and welfare of the people.

Considering Halpin's prior position on Shoreham, it would have been consistent for him to join now with the incumbent county executive, and the non-partisan support Cohalan has had from the county legislature on this issue, leaving himself free to target on the many other issues on which Cohalan is vulnerable. Had he remained on the side of the people in this issue, rather than the lure of the big bucks from the business interests that want to see Shoreham open at all costs, he could have avoided the dissension he has caused in his own party by walking arm in arm with LILCO toward the disaster Shoreham will surely bring.

Unfortunately, Halpin's now stated position on Shoreham has caused the race to become a single issue contest. Shoreham, should it be opened or closed. The importance of all other issues now takes a back seat, when the issues should have been open to much discussion and debate.

And why not?

Don't Trust The Federal Government

Government is nothing more than society collected together for its mutual protection and well-being. Last week, the NRC, a branch of the federal government, issued a report on Shoreham, a 1,400 plus page document that is a major step toward the eventual low power licensing of this facility.

The report has been described by a marvelous document by some, a

disgraceful whitewash by others. One thing it conclusively did was to prove that the people of Suffolk County have no friends in Washington. According to the NRC licensing board, there are no problems at Shoreham. The report did nothing to quiet the residents' well-founded fears. In fact, because the report was such a thorough whitewash and hatchet job on Suffolk County officials, it created further

doubts about the NRC's impartiality and credibility.

The NRC has an unusual dual role in government. It is supposed to be both the salesman for the nuclear industry and its regulator. The NRC, and its predecessor, the AEC, which licenses nuclear powered installations, in their entire history have never turned down an application for an operating license, no matter how much an installation's construction might have been in question.

Case in point is the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant. The utility that was building this plant used the exact same line that LILCO has been uttering. Prior to Three Mile Island they said, "Why fear nuclear, there never has been a major accident?" After Three Mile Island they said, "Our plant is the most highly inspected plant in the world. We have built it with every safety feature imaginable, nothing will go wrong."

The NRC went along with these utterances. Although pro-people forces questioned the design and the construction of the plant, their arguments were pushed aside, as Suffolk County's have been, as political in nature and the beliefs of radical elements.

The NRC issued a low power license to the utility building Diablo Canyon. It was only then, after the NRC had declared the plant safe to operate, that a major flaw was discovered. Guess what folks, the most inspected plant in the world had been built backwards. Believe it or not, in this "most highly inspected plant ever built," seismic supports designed to help the reactors withstand an earthquake had been reversed and placed under the wrong reactors.

Of course, this proved to be an embarrassment to the NRC, which had inspectors at the plant as they have had at Shoreham. Obviously a plant built in reverse won't run safely. The NRC had to rescind its low power license. Currently there are between 3,000 and 8,000 workers trying to undo the damage at Diablo Canyon, the "most highly inspected plant in the world."

The NRC has not changed since Diablo Canyon. They continue to go on their way, licensing plants despite legitimate objections. After all, what else are they going to do? They are the salesmen of the nuclear industry.

How badly has Shoreham been constructed? We have all heard the stories. Some of us have listened to months of testimony and have grave concerns and questions.

The NRC insists their inspectors have inspected construction as it proceeded throughout the plant's progress toward completion. And yet,

when Torrey Pines, hired by LILCO to inspect the facility, checked but one per cent of the safety-related systems, a number of problems were found, problems that were estimated to cost over \$1 million to fix. If the NRC inspectors really inspected the plant, why didn't they find these problems? And how many more problems are there, unfound and unrepaired, in the 99 per cent portion of the plant which has not undergone careful scrutiny?

From where we sit the philosophy of the NRC goes like this: "We won't guarantee the plant has been constructed safely nor will we assume the corporation (LILCO) will run the plant properly. But we will issue a license anyway because that is what we are supposed to do, and what we have always done."

The NRC readily admits they have neither the capacity of staff nor the ability to insure Shoreham, or any other nuclear plant, has been built according to proper specifications and design. This regulatory body admits they must rely on the integrity of the utility to insure much of the plant's safe construction. Based on everything that has happened at Shoreham, how can the NRC possibly trust the integrity of company officials who have refused to turn over requested documents, as has LILCO in a PSC investigation, and who have erred so many times and in so many ways in the Shoreham project?

The NRC is a dangerous federal bureaucracy, one that is life threatening to the people endangered by nuclear plants, for it gives the illusion of protecting their safety and welfare when, in reality, it does little more than perpetuate the unchecked growth of the nuclear industry and the spread of unsafe reactors.

There is little course of action left for residents of Suffolk County, short of open rebellion against the federal government, than to go, through their elected officials, into federal court and litigate for the safety of the public. If Long Island's residents cherish their well-being, that of their loved ones, and the nature of our neighborhoods as we know them today, we must not allow the prime salesman of the nuclear industry, the NRC, to shove this plant down our throats without fighting to the highest court in the land, if we must, to preserve our futures.

We must not cave in and go arm in arm with LILCO toward disaster, as one major candidate recently suggested. We must fight every inch of the way to insure we, the public, are not used as pawns in the quest for profits by the proponents of the Shoreham nuclear plant.

And why not?

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General Information

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - We encourage our readers to express their views regardless of opinion through the Letters to the Editor Column. All letters must be signed with author's signature and address. We will withhold names on request and assign a nom de plume.

NEWS AND PHOTOGRAPHS - Readers are welcome to submit ideas of interest and photographs for consideration of publication. All news and photographs become the property of Suffolk Life upon submittal and cannot be returned for any reason.

ERRORS - Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space occupied by the error.

Readers' Opinion

Dear Mr. Willmott:

I have another point to be made on the restrictions recently placed on the 16- and 17-year-old junior drivers. I believe the new law discriminates against the 17-year-old who cannot obtain a senior license because the school system he attends does not offer driver education. Namely, Sachem!

A 17-year-old youth in this situation should be exempt from the added restrictions. I also

believe that no junior license be issued until a youth is 17, and no senior license under any circumstances be issued until the age of 18.

I also support your stand on LILCO. I think the point of view made by Lou Grasso is worth following through. I have sent a check for my subscription under separate cover.

Sincerely yours,
Robert C. Carciello
Medford