

**STAT**

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for

Release 2013/01/28 :

CIA-RDP89-00244R001804460003-1

**Large Denial**

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for

Release 2013/01/28 :

CIA-RDP89-00244R001804460003-1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for  
Release 2013/01/28 : SLIP  
CIA-RDP89-00244R001804460003-1

DATE

2/08/88

New Bldg Proj. Office

ROOM NO.

1J45

BUILDING

Hqs.

REMARKS:

FROM:

OCA

ROOM NO.

1202

BUILDING

Hqs.

EXTENSION

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for

Release 2013/01/28 : LACES FORM 36-8  
WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

CIA-RDP89-00244R001804460003-1



Washington, D. C. 20505

OCA 88-0445

24 FEB 1988

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Wolf:

STAT I am writing in response to your letter of 25 January 1988 to [redacted] Chief of the Agency's New Building Project, requesting that we seek to reach an accommodation with your constituent, Mr. Robert Shortley. You will recall that Mr. Shortley had written you to express his concern about the removal of mature trees, ranging in height from 20 to 30 feet, from the back of his home during construction of a concrete barrier along Route 193.

Let me review for you the events as they have transpired, and summarize the efforts the Agency has made to resolve Mr. Shortley's complaint.

As you are aware, the Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) was formed to develop a design for modifications to Route 193 and Route 123 which would be acceptable to all concerned parties. The TAC membership included representatives from the Agency, other federal departments, state and local governments, local citizens' groups, and elected officials. During the lengthy discussion and review process, the Committee considered several options for design along Routes 193 and 123. The option selected called for a precast concrete wall (at the insistence of the Evermay community) and retention of existing vegetation to the maximum extent possible along Route 193 bordering a section of the Evermay community.

In July 1987, Mr. Shortley contacted the Agency to complain that the area behind his house had been stripped of all vegetation. On 17 July 1987, an Agency representative met with Mr. Shortley at his house to discuss his complaint. Also present were Mr. Hasty, President, Evermay Citizens Association, and Mr. Silies, Virginia Department of Transportation Project Manager for the Route 123/193 modifications.

Mr. Silies explained to Mr. Shortley that the contractor removed the existing vegetation, including several mature 20 to 30 feet trees. Mr. Silies informed Mr. Shortley that the removal was essential in order for the contractor to perform the required work. We also noted that the contractor had not removed all vegetation. In those areas where the distance between the shoulder of the road and the wall was wider, the existing vegetation was left untouched.

Nonetheless, Mr. Silies and the Agency representative advised Mr. Shortley that they were sympathetic and could understand his disappointment when he discovered that the trees had been removed. In order to accommodate Mr. Shortley, Mr. Silies agreed to increase the number and size of new vegetation to be planted in the area behind Mr. Shortley's house. Mr. Silies explained that the Virginia Department of Transportation could not plant trees taller than eight feet in that area with any reasonable expectation of long-term survival. (Mr. Shortley wants fully mature 20 to 30 feet trees.) Mr. Silies also agreed to provide Mr. Shortley with the opportunity to review the final layout of the area behind his house prior to planting the new vegetation. And finally, Mr. Silies modified the Route 193 design to provide additional trees in the island dividing the westbound lane of Route 193 from the lane merging from westbound Route 123. The objective to this modification is to keep the headlights of traffic merging from westbound Route 123 from shining into the Evermay community. This merge area is directly across from the rear of Mr. Shortley's house.

On 10 February 1988, we again inspected the area behind Mr. Shortley's house. We noted that while new vegetation has been planted along the wall west of Mr. Shortley's house, none has been planted in the area behind his house and further eastward. Mr. Silies has advised that planting has been temporarily halted due to weather and ground conditions. He emphasized that planting will resume as soon as it is practical and will be in accordance with the commitments made to Mr. Shortley on 17 July 1987. He also indicated that the Virginia Department of Transportation's on-site project superintendent had made Mr. Shortley aware of this in mid-January 1988.

In summary, while we appreciate Mr. Shortley's concern regarding the removal of the trees, this action was necessary. And, I believe that the Virginia Department of Transportation, through Mr. Silies, is making every reasonable effort to accommodate Mr. Shortley and other Evermay residents in the affected area. Unfortunately, it is not feasible to plant

trees in the 20-30 feet range in that area. Such trees would be unlikely to survive.

We very much appreciate your support and the help that you have provided the Agency in working with the community. I want to assure you that we have done all we can reasonably do to satisfy Mr. Shortley. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature Box]

John L. Helgerson  
Director of Congressional Affairs

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