

A FINE CROP OF GOLF

[NB: Check the byline, thanks! /~Rayne]

I'm fried. I'm mentally and emotionally burnt right out, which is probably the aim of Agent Orange Chaos – to grind us all down until we roll over and allow this country to be a haven of corruption.

Imagine everything you need becoming even more transactional than it is now – systematically corrupt. Need a new cable TV line installed? Pay a bribe for access. Need to move to a different apartment? Pay a bribe to access a better list of buildings. Need a specialty item for your health, something that can't be obtained through Amazon? Pay a bribe.

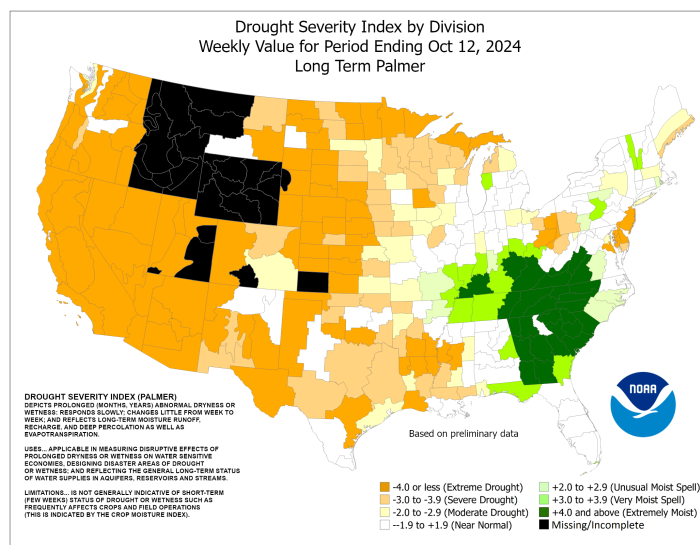
Sure, we're used to paying fees for access in many different ways. But Americans are not used to the kind of petty and persistent corruption which is endemic in other parts of the world. Instead we pay taxes to support a legal system which is supposed to ensure fair dealing. Imagine paying these taxes and not having any expectation of justice AND paying bribes or extortion all along the way.

We're so unused to and under-educated about the idea of corruption touching everything we do that I think we suffer from cognitive dissonance. It's right there in front of us and yet we fail to recognize for what it is and for the slide in our ethical standards it represents.

One example niggling at me is Trump and his goddamned golf. You've probably read some of my posts about golf before in which I spell out the possibilities for corruption if one owned a golf course and how normative the golf life is to a class of people.

Our country is drowning right now, staring at multiple crop failures across a huge expanse of farm land, and our fearless leader is surely off golfing on our dime instead of looking into how

to help farmers weather both the affects of the deepening climate emergency and the fallout from fearless leader's hacktastic tariffs.



Corruption. Skimming money off us while farms and farm land drowns.

And too many farmers who will receive federal aid are not universally single family owned farms but mega corporate oligarchs – like the crooked Brazilian meat packing billionaires who will receive \$62 million in aid for distribution to the farms supplying them meat.

But you know in your gut this won't happen. And it's corruption.

Journalists have covered the Brazilians raking in cash from our tax dollars, fortunately. They saw the problem and reported on it. But the public hasn't mustered adequate outrage because this hasn't yet hurt them in the wallet.

Wait until winter when holiday baking begins.

I don't need to wait that long to feel it. I'm plenty pissed off because it's another Saturday, another day at the golf course, and we've completely lost count of that orange mooch's sponging. Which of his courses is he at, with our Secret Service personnel renting more golf carts to follow him around while he plays another round cheating both at the game and at life?

Ah, and there it is, he's leeching us dry yet again with each crappy swing of his club:

According to the pool report, Trump has arrived at Trump National Golf Club in Sterling, Virginia.

This is Trump's 195th day at a Trump golf club and 261st day at a Trump property as president.

– Kyle Griffin (@kylegriffin1) June 15, 2019

As of the end of the day he's been in office 876 days – which means he has spent 29.7% of his total time at one of his properties, 22.2% of his time in office play golf at one of his clubs.

Corruption. Just makes me want to puke.

We're just supposed roll over and let them grab our taxpaying pussy while they tee off on our dime. They'll argue our legitimately-elected representatives don't have the right to oversight when he's manipulating our tax system for his own personal gain to our collective detriment.

Like the New York park land he donated after he was refused permits to develop a couple million dollars of property into golf courses – Trump org declared them worth \$26 million to write off the capital loss and reduce the taxes paid.

What really pisses me off is the story no reporter has yet covered as far as I can tell: if Trump's Bedminster NJ golf course is classified as farm land for tax purposes so he can avoid paying tens of thousands of dollars in property taxes, is Trump org going to claim federal relief for this farm, too?

It's right there under our noses. So corrupt and he and his oligarchic sponsors want this to become the norm.

Fuck that. If this guy was your direct employee

you'd have fired his ass already.

This is an open thread.