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# Has Donald Trump Met His Match?

Trump Meets His Latest Adversary: A Quarry Worker From Scotland

By MAEVA BAMBUCK  
ABERDEEN, Scotland, Oct. 12, 2007

abc WORLD NEWS with Charles Gibson

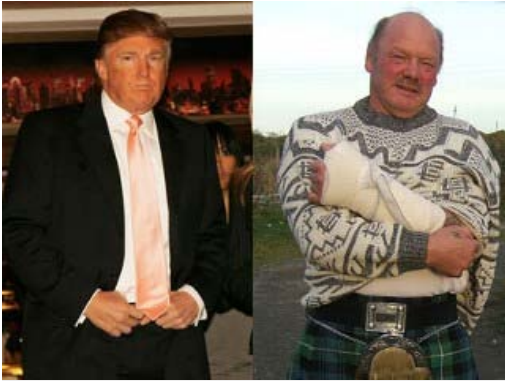
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Isolated on his patch of land in Menie, 13 miles from Aberdeen, Scotland, 55-year-old quarry worker Michael Forbes is taking on the American millionaire and New York real estate development tycoon Donald Trump.



(AP Photo/ ABC )  
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Trump wants to develop a \$1 billion luxury golf course and hotel resort in Menie Links, stretching along the North Sea from the Scottish Heritage sand dunes in the north, to the town of Barmenie to the south.

In the middle of it lies Forbes' 23 acres. And Forbes won't sell his land.

"All my history is here," Forbes told ABC News when we paid a visit to his farm. "My grandfather, my uncle came to fish here, I'm last in the line and I will see it through."

If it wins a favorable vote from the local planning commission Oct. 30, the Trump

International Golf Links complex would span over 800 acres.

The golf course, with its inestimable view over the beach, would be complemented by two residential areas where Trump plans to build 500 houses as well as time-share holiday homes and a five-star hotel. On the current blueprint, however, in addition to their view of the ocean, Trump's rich and famous clients would have a view of one of Forbes' hangars.

"We've tried to buy his house from him, and since he said no, we offered him money to fix up the driveway to his house," Trump International Golf Links project director Neil Hobday told ABC News. "We've even offered him a job for life doing whatever job he wants on the estate, and we offered to take care of his mother. We're trying to be really fair here."

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Forbes claims that his ancestors fished for salmon in the North Sea for generations. Although the stock is now very poor, he still fishes as a hobby whenever his job at the local quarry allows him

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to, in order "to keep the tradition going," he explained.

"It's a dying trade," he said. "But the Trump people now are denying me access."

It's Getting Personal

Indeed, isolated amid the land purchased by Trump, Forbes now has to take the highway to his last fish net, south of the estate. But Hobday insists it was a common agreement.

"He told me he had fished one salmon all season," Hobday said, "one salmon, and that he didn't care."

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Ahh...the Grand Potentate of Developers. Sir Donald has an insatiable appetite for the consumption of real estate, a land "junkie" if you will. He has to wear his hair that way to cover his enormous head.I think he wants it chiseled on Mount Rushmore. His ego is big enough to warrant a Zip Code. If he thought he could swing it, he'd take a shot at buying Yellowstone Park. Criminy, guy, let it (Scotland) go. Capt. Midnight  
jwmoorex1 10/21/07

This is a beautiful part of the world. I have lived and worked in Aberdeenshire for over 15 years and believe we have the best of everything here. About sixty miles to the south-west there is Royal Deeside and the Cairngorm mountains; to the north is the Buchan plain, and the south the Mearns - all good



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farming land. And of course, then there is the east coast with miles of shifting dunes which forms a part of the largest dune system in Europe. The area proposed to be developed is home to a whole ecosystem and wide range of wildlife - many types of breeding and migrant birds, insects (including dragonflies and grasshoppers) and mammals. It is sandwiched in between two areas which are also important and similar landscape, and by developing this area it could impact negatively on the two areas either side. Then we have the traditional fishing industry (such as is left of it) and the north sea oil. Tourists have loads to do here already, including fishing, the castle and whisky trails, and then all the existing golf courses - there are several within a few miles of Menie, one of which, at Cruden Bay, is already world-renowned, and lies a stone-throw away from the ruin of Slains Castle (Bram Stoker took holidays in this area as a child).Unemployment in the Formartine area (which includes Menie and Balmedie) is at just 0.8%, and there have been around 300 new dwellings built annually over the last five years (according to Council figures). There has been a lot of publicity from the Trump camp saying how we will end up with lots of jobs and money. But from the figures here, I don't think we're in need of jobs. And such natural beauty just can't be bought. It certainly cannot be bought back, or brought back, once it has been destroyed.I believe Trumps proposal is a housing scheme first and golf course second. We have had loads of support from people in the US, not to mention having heard the horror stories, so we will keep on fighting.

juliette\_ 10/21/07

WOW Mr. Trump just dosent know when to stop, I guess he thinks his money is the best, on tv last nite all he did was brag about HIS real estate, how much he made selling condo after condo, just in Manhattan, Just keep buying New York, maybe someday you will own the whole entire town and then what will you do for excitement. leave these outstanding Scottish folks alone, they truly respect their land, heritage and their love of Scotland, just like it is without hi-rises, concrete and Mr. Trumps arrogance.




fred and cathy 10/17/07

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