Year of Challenge
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Presenting the ILWU’s 3rd Annual
GOLDEN TURKEY AWARDS

Vincent Hallinan

A Look Back
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Picking up the pieces in Kauai

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THE LONGSHORE DIVISION

The Longshore Division Caucus, meeting in San Francisco May 18-22, 1992, amended and adopted the Caucus Committee Report and united around the continuation of the Intermodal Committee, the High Tech Committee, and the protection of Maintenance and in each of the four regions under the ILWU-PMA agreement. The officers and/or the rank and file must put aside differences, give the regional and local units a chance to work out problems, and to negotiate wage and rate agreements. We have the added clout of the voluntary Longshore Division assessment money. In the past, the revenues have been directed toward national organizing activities. In the future, the revenues will be allocated to the CLC and the ILA for the multi-union campaign. This fund represents the first significant contribution from the local and regional units. We expect to receive regular contributions from the local and regional units.

ALASKA: Anchorage, Channel 7, Dec. 10, 11 p.m.; Juneau, Channel 3, Dec. 21, 11 p.m.
WASHINGTON, Tacoma, Channel 38, Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m.; Yakima, Channel 47, Dec. 21, 11 p.m.
OREGON: Channel 10, December 13, 1:30 p.m.
CALIFORNIA: Fresno, Channel 11, every Sunday, 7:30; San Francisco, Channel 9, Dec. 27, 5:30 p.m.; San Mateo, Channel 69, Dec. 6, 7:30, p.m.; Santa Rosa, Channel 22, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m.
Check local listings for other stations.

World AIDS Day

The AFL-CIO and several health and public policy organizations are sponsoring World AIDS Day, December 1.
The event is observed annually and is the only international day of coordinated action against AIDS. It aims to strengthen the global response to the epidemic by stimulating discussion and action.

At press time, a schedule of events was not available. Details are expected to be announced in mainstream newspapers.

Watch for our holiday issue

• A special report on the officers’ recent trip to Japan.
• The third and final installment on our free trade series (sorry we had to postpone it this month).
• An overview of the International Executive Board meeting.
• A story on the march in Las Vegas by the Pacific unions from all over the country.
• Don’t miss it!

Partisan Defense Comm. issues annual appeal

SAN FRANCISCO—The Partisan Defense Committee has issued its seventh annual holiday appeal for class-war prisoners.

We hold a fund raiser, featuring Sam Jordan’s fabulous smoked turkey, on Sunday, December 13, 1-4 p.m. at The Firehouse, Fort Mason Center, Marin at Larkin, San Francisco.

A $10 ticket to the party will entitle the bearer to one year’s subscription to NSD, 85 tickets will be available for people with limited incomes.

For more information, call the Partisan Defense Committee at (415) 839-8652.

Year of Challenge

By DAVID ARIAN
ILWU International President

If “time flies when you’re having fun,” it must be at light speed when you’re taking on the day-to-day challenges of the ILWU. Such has been my experience for the last year or so. And with this, my twelfth column for The Dispatcher, a review of my first year in office seems in order.

First of, let me stress that I consider the President’s Report my single most consistent means of communication with the ILWU rank and file, as well as officers, staff, friends and even enemies, and the general public. I take this column seriously. I hope you do, too.

When this administration took office, we set four basic goals:

• Stabilize our finances.
• Spur growth through organizing.
• Strengthen the Longshore Division.
• Expand union democracy.

I’m proud to say that we have either accomplished or laid the groundwork for these objectives.

Just before this administration took office, the International had $100,000 in reserve. We now have $300,000, and we are signifying the head of schedule in replenishing our reserves. We accomplished this a number of ways.

When Education/Communications Director Danny Beagle resigned in February, the news editor Dr. Kathy Wilkes took his place. We did not hire another Associate Editor, saving about $40,000 a year in wages and benefits. Other labor costs were saved by a reduction in clerical and field staff and when one of our reorganized offices took an unpaid, six-months’ leave of absence. We also realized additional savings when Hawaii Local 142 officers agreed to limit their use of union-paid air travel. We also took an additional $10,000 from shaky to solid in record time. ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Leon Harris and the staff should be complimented for their efforts in this area.

GROWTH THROUGH ORGANIZING

The key to growth is organizing, and the key to organizing is commitment. Toward that end, we sought—and got—the commitment of the International Executive Board and the Locals to join us in developing and supporting an organization that works. Phase One—the formation of Regional Organizing Committees—is in the process of being completed, and we’re moving on to Phase Two: matching organizing funds are coming in from Southern California and Columbia River. (A special nod goes to foreman’s Local 94, Wilmington, for the biggest per capita contribution so far—$25 per member.) The ROCs and the International are also holding regular meetings to determine organizing targets and strategies.

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To help get our program underway, I have proposed that former Local 6 organizer Alitza Mattger serve as our National Field Director and Coordinator. We’ve passed the point of just talking about organizing; now’s the time to roll up our sleeves and do it.

We样 simply cannot afford to waste a single voice, a single idea. I believed that when I ran for office in 1991, I believe it today.

POLITICAL ACTION

From Day One, this administration understood that we could not protect our contracts without expanding our political activities. Fortunately, in this last election, we were able to make more contributions to candidates than ever before.

Not only did we draw from our regular Political Action Fund, but we had the added clout of the voluntary Longshore Division assessment money. As a result, we were very successful in helping our allies get elected.

We’re on a political high, but the real work begins now. For example, we’ll continue our joint campaign with the ILA to re-verse—or eliminate altogether—Bush administration rulings allowing foreign seamen to do longshore work in US waters. Our friends in Congress have already received our brochure explaining the dispute, and we’ll be expanding our outreach to newly-elected legislators and the Clinton administration. We’ll also be involved in a high-gear, high-profile offensive against Bush’s North American Free Trade Agreement.

STANDING UNION DEMOCRACY

I can’t imagine a better way for an International President to get a dose of reality than to talk one-on-one with the members he represents. For the past year, this has been my top priority. I’ve traveled to Alaska, to Canada, to Hawaii, and up and down the West Coast. I’ve kept my door and my phone open to any member who wanted to talk. I’ve spoken with officers, business agents, and especially the rank-and-file. And, whether it was a longshoreman in Port Angeles, a hospital worker in Oakland, or a hotel maid in Hawaii, everyone has given me invaluable insight.

We’ve got some exciting prospects in the year ahead, but many challenges, too—in longshore bargaining, organizing and political action; in our solidarity efforts with other unions, particularly internationally; and, most importantly, in increasing membership participation at every level of the union.

We simply cannot afford to waste a single voice, a single idea. I believed that when I ran for office in 1991, I believe it today. Inclusion of the membership is the cornerstone of this administration. And that’s more than a pledge, it’s the only way it’ll succeed.

The Caucus also established a Contract Advisory Committee and endorsed a plan to recapture work that has slipped away: container freight stations, barge, log, and drayage. Additionally, the Caucus approved a voluntary assessment of $100 per member for our battles in the political arena, specifically the US State Department’s interpretation of immigration laws, the North American Free Trade Agreement, and striker replacement—all of which we vehemently oppose. To date, our Longshore Division members have contributed $380,000 toward that effort.

In other actions, the Caucus authorized a series of contract administration classes and a new International Department. The first of the classes was held at our San Francisco headquarters; others will follow in the regions. The International Department is up and running, under the supervision of the Coast Committee. The new department is staffed by an intern whose name happens to be Sean Arias.

The International Department is scheduled and participated in our recent trip to Japan, where ILWU International Vice President Brian McWilliams, Coast Committee member Jim Spinoso and I met with ten Asian Pacific longshore unions. A written report of the trip and a video of our interviews with the unions’ leaders highlighted the regional and international changes taking place in that part of the world.

With contract negotiations set for 1993, we will be holding mass meetings to explain the situations set for 1993. We will be holding mass meetings to explain the situations set for 1993. We will be holding mass meetings to explain the situations set for 1993. We will be holding mass meetings to explain the situations set for 1993. We will be holding mass meetings to explain the situations set for 1993.
Further to the story of "The Pieces," the majority of the nearly 1,500 ILWU members have gone through, they sure as hell don't need this! "People are going through tremendous hardships," said Brian McWilliams, ILWU VP on the mainland. He just recently returned from surveying the storm. "There's this frenzy to patch things up, to get back to normal. There are accidents. Families are camping out in their own homes. It's really sad." Insurance companies have been more of a source of agitation than salvation, McWilliams said. "They sent these rookie adjusters from the mainland who don't know anything about construction practices in the islands. They're denying a high percentage of the claims. After everything the people here have gone through, they sure as hell don't need this!"

Many people have no insurance at all, McWilliams said. "They just couldn't afford it." And there's more—more to contend with, more to worry about. Like jobs. Thousands of workers are idle, their employers blown out of business by the storm. The clock is winding down for ILWU members employed at the Westin and Hyatt Poipu hotels. While some have been hired for clean-up and other efforts, the majority of the nearly 1,500 workers here have been unemployed since the hurricane left this tropical paradise a shambles.

"That's our biggest concern," Williams, ILWU VP on the mainland. "There have gone through, they sure as hell don't need this!"

"We don't know how many workers the hotels will retain," said Trask. "That's our biggest concern." Reconstruction is also underway at other hotels, resorts and golf courses on the island, but some won't reopen until April or even October, 1993. Only the Kauai Resort seems to be out of the woods: damage was slight, and it's operating at full capacity—housing Red Cross headquarters and emergency personnel.

"In traditional Hawaiian spirit, the people of Kauai have received an outpouring of support from all over the state. Local 142 has taken the lead in coordinating relief efforts with the Red Cross, the Army, the National Guard, the Salvation Army, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Local business agents go from door-to-door to survey the needs of the people, to make sure they're gotten food, clothing and supplies. And ILWU and IBU members in both Hawaii and the mainland have been generous in contributing to the ILWU Kauai Relief Fund. Still, there remains the unknown. "No one's really sure how long recovery will take," said Tommy Trask, "only that it will be a very, very long time."
Pardon me while I gloat. After the November election, it looks like the lifestyles of the rich and famous are headed for a major adjustment. A voter rebellion against 12 years of economic terror has sent a long-overdue message to the high and mighty to clean up their act. And judging from the whining and finger-pointing in the Republican Party, the message has been received.

But, don't you just love it?

A LITTLE JUSTICE

Maybe now we can look forward to a little justice. Just a little would go such a long way. Take the right to strike, for example. It's been effectively neutralized for more than a decade, thanks to "them" and "their" judges. With Bill Clinton and the new 103rd Congress, we've finally got a chance to make things right.

If you don't think the right to strike means much, check this: since Reagan fired striking air controllers in 1981, setting off a wave of copy-cat union busting across the country, average wages for average workers have declined an average of 10-13 percent.

Meanwhile, the rich got richer—and richer—and—you know the story.

THIN LICE ECONOMICS

It's funny. The Republicans are wailing over Clinton's proposal for a modest tax increase on the wealthiest Americans. They act as if it were some kind of subversive plot: "A redistribution of income? That's un-American!" Yet that's exactly what's gone on for the last 12 years. Trickle down! Whooosh up!

No wonder this election was so "laber" intensive—and it worked.

Thousands of union members across the country assisted voter registration drives that turned out twice as many new Democrats as Republicans and had a decisive impact on local, state and federal races.

ILWU members pitched in, too. They registered voters, distributed slates, cards, walked precincts, and encouraged working residents out of their homes and into the polls on election night.

The result: we got a lot—a lot—of the winners.

In Oregon, the ILWU backed a winner in the US Senate. And Washington Rep. Lindsay McLaughlin gives you the details in his column. We might be able to take a short breath—the new Congress convenes January 20—but we can't think for a moment that our job is done. George Bush is history, but the people who put him and Reagan in office are still very much alive and kicking. We've got to maintain the momentum that steam-rolled "them" out of power.

If you need some incentive to keep on keepin', just imagine how "they" will react when labor-friendly legislators pass bills important to us for a change—fair trade not free trade, health care, family leave, worker and civil rights.

Just think of "them"—in their boardrooms, on their yachts, in their executive washrooms—when "they" find out that workers can no longer be intimidated out of organizing or striking in their own best interests.

Then envision "them" when the MCT for "them" makes it easier for the working class to register and vote. You can't just hear "them" moaning and groaning! "My God, the rabble is taking over. It's enough to make you cash in your Blue Chips and move to Switzerland."

NOTHING VENTURED...

Floating aside, I'm just enough of an optimist to hope that "they" finally get it: that justice, equality and fair play are nothing to be afraid of; that a rising tide lifts all boats.

We might even see the day when we won't even have to think in terms of "them," when hereafter it's only us. Just imagine what we could accomplish then.


By BRIAN McWILLIAMS

ILWU Political Action Vice President

During the last 12 years, millions of workers lost living wage jobs. Plants were shut down. Public services were slashed. Unions busted.

ILWU backed the President-elect and 3rd election.

In Oregon, the ILWU backed a winner in a close race for the 1st District: peace activist Elizabeth Purse.

And Washington state was a boonanza for ILWU-supported candidates. Progressives Maria Cantwell, Jay Inslee and Mike Kreidler, and incumbent Jolene Unsoeld were all successful in their hard-fought campaigns.

There were disappointments. Les Aspin, our longtime friend from Oregon, was not successful in his bid for the US Senate. And, in California, Patricia Malberg, Patti Garamendi, Evan Braude and Anaiza Perez Ferguson were defeated in their respective contests for the House.

In all, the ILWU Political Action Fund contributed over $100,000 to winners of federal races and under $30,000 to candidates who lost. That's not a bad record considering the number of marginal races this year.

With a changed Presidency and a changed Congress, what kind of change can we, as trade unionists, expect?

President-elect Clinton has promised to move fast on fixing the ailing economy and expects to significantly reform the health care system during his first term. Only time will tell whether he can work with the new Congress, however.

OPPORTUNITY, HOPE

In the meantime, progressives within the Democratic party must insist on playing a role in the Clinton Administration and the radically changed Congress. In a real sense, our work is just beginning. As trade unionists, we must use this opportunity to remind the new Congress and the President-elect that over 65 percent of American households believe them to office with the hopes that "change" will improve conditions in the country.

We will have an ambitious agenda in the next four years, including enactment of legislation to protect right to strike, jobs programs, OSHA reform, fair trade policies, health care reform, and perhaps meaningful labor law reform.

Your continued letters and phone calls will help the members of Congress know that your opinions on issues important to working people will be the key to our success.
Work place safety in the hands of Congress

Everyday, workers are dying on the job, receiving serious injuries or being exposed to toxic substances that can cause illness. Traditionally, unions have been the loudest, and often the only, voice in the fight to improve workplace safety and health. Current statistics show the toll on workers' lives hasn't eased.

246,000 workers have died from injuries and diseases.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Every day, workers are dying on the job. That annual event also serves as a reality.

During the past 20 years, more than 246,000 workers have died from injuries and diseases.

Those figures don't include the millions of workers who aren't covered by OSHA.

Grass-roots pressure from union members for safety in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Job health and safety hazards annually cause more injuries, illnesses and deaths of workers than the entire toll on US forces during the Vietnam War.

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During the 1980s, OSHA staffing was drastically cut, impairing lives as regular workplace inspections were reduced further. At one point, less than 1,900 inspectors were available for the 3.6 million businesses covered by federal OSHA.

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But much work remains to be done. Only a handful of OSHA standards have been adopted since 1970, and in many of them, workers play secondary roles—receiving training or medical monitoring.

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Metro Stevedore cited OSHA finds safety lacking in LA death

WILMINGTON—Metropolitan Stevedore Company was hit with a $70,000 OSHA fine resulting from a March 28, 1992 accident which took the life of Local 13 longshoreman Steve Marinkovich.

OSHA found that Metropolitan Stevedore committed a "willful" violation of OSHA's standards because it did not have full protective gear in use even though it was available on the dock.

Marinkovich was killed when he fell onto the dock from a four-high stack of containers aboard the Cielo Di Genova, an Italian freighter docked at Berth 229, Terminal Island. OSHA standards require longshoremen to be protected from falls of more than eight feet when working atop stowed cargo, including decked-down containers.

In a separate but related case, OSHA also issued a $35,000 fine against Metropolitan for allowing longshoremen to work atop containers stacked 67 feet high without protective equipment.

During the 1980s, OSHA staffing was drastically cut. At one point, less than 1,000 inspectors were available for 3.6 million businesses.

"We cannot be complacent. More effective safety programs and rules must be implemented." ILWU VOWS ACTION

The accidents that claimed the lives of Local 13 member Steve Marinkovich on March 28 and Local 34 member Ardell Williams on November 2, "make it crystal clear that we cannot be complacent about working on the waterfront," said ILWU President Dave Arian.

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"We will be taking a close look at the practices on the waterfront, the rules we now have, and the training that is provided for the work of gear. Where there are weaknesses, we will make every possible improvement," Arian said.

"We want our members to be able to enjoy the benefits that have been negotiated over the years and for them to be able to retire from the industry in good health," Arian added. "Nothing short of that is acceptable."
On an Autumn day in San Francisco's North Beach, people came from far and wide to say good-bye to Vincent Hallinan.

The ILWU longshore Local 10 hall swelled with accolades and love and memories of a remarkable man. A thousand people filled the room. When remembrances waned, the songs began.

"O Danny Boy, the pipes are calling," sang the balladeer, tilting his head toward the rafters, "Summer's gone..." The music drifted through the hall.

Big wheels in the audience and ordinary folks dropped their heads; some wiped away a tear, and others smiled.

This Irishman knew how to make an exit.

By Maria Brooks

When he died on October 2, Vincent Hallinan's life had bridged almost a hundred years. He'd become a successful trial lawyer at 22. The newspapers called him handsome, flamboyant; he was often embroiled in high-profile litigations. At 35, he married a bright and beautiful woman. She made him rich. He schoozed with the City's wealthy and powerful. And he knew their dirty secrets.

Hallinan rejected the world of corporate cronies and power brokers who pulled the strings in City Hall. "Those private interests who gave huge lots of cash to break strikes in those days," says Alioto.

Hallinan remained undaunted. "I could fight," he wrote. "Battle was exhilarating. There was nothing to fear. It never occurred to me that I might lose." Years before, a scrappy kid in the City's playgrounds, he built his indelible self-confidence.

"He could have remained a member of the Establishment," says former mayor Joe Alioto, looking out at the audience over vases of scarlet glad-solus. Hallinan could have used his talents to ensure a comfortable life for himself, he tells them. And he knew their dirty secrets.

Hallinan's life had bridged almost a hundred years. His parents were Irish immigrants. "My grandfather gave Vince the best of the Old World," his oldest son, Patrick, tells the audience. "He gave him the core of the Irish spirit." Hallinan's father was a hard worker, a conductor on the California Street cable cars, and a union man.

The family sent young Vincent to Jesuit schools. "I was considered a brain storm," he wrote. Hallinan disavowed the Catholic Church early in life. He learned his trade from apprenticeships with colorful lawyers who practiced in the City's courts in the 1920s. "Law is a rough, tough game," he wrote in his biography, A Lion in Court. "It is played by a lot of cool, cunning, calculating customers."

Whatever he felt about his trade personally, by 1948 he was one of the most sought after lawyers in the state.

Until he took Bridges' defense, Hallinan wasn't politically active. But a change was in the air. An anti-communist "Red Scare" was fostering. It was about to contaminate the land.

"I did not like to see the communists, or anyone else, pushed around," he wrote. "But I was personally well off. It was no skin off my nose."

Hallinan, now in his early fifties, projected success. He moved his wife and six sons to an eighteen-room tate in Ross. It was at this time, that Hallinan was approached to head Harry Bridges' defense team. Hallinan not much to gain from taking the case and whole lot to lose.

Conn Hallinan, stands in front of the podium. The auditorium is completely still. "My father taught me that human beings can make their own history, if they are given a chance."

Vincent Hallinan was given that chance in 1948.

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Vincent Hallinan was a fighter all his life—even at age 77 when he fended off an attack by three young muggers in San Francisco. Here, he proudly displayed his cuts and bruises for this January, 1974 photo in The Dispatch.
The year 1946 saw an explosion of strike activity across the United States, with thousands of workers hitting the bricks. Some conflicts developed into city-wide shutdowns, general strikes. The Oakland strike started on October 31, 1946, after long and fruitless negotiations. The Department and Specialty Store Union Local 1265 (1, 14th Street and City Hall Plaza) struck Kahns Department Store (2, 1501 Broadway, now empty) and Hastings Men's Clothing Store (3, 1530 Broadway, now 1235 Broadway) set up a soup kitchen for the strikers; two days later the Teamsters Union (7, 417 -14th Street, now a restaurant) set up a soup kitchen to feed the strikers. A December 4 meeting at City Hall (5, 14th Street and City Hall Plaza) was attended by Oakland's ruling elite, which declared itself a "Citizens' Committee" urging dictatorial powers on the mayor. A strike of emergency workers was declared as the ranks of protesters swelled, with 15,000 attending a Civic Auditorium rally at the Kaiser Auditorium Center (10th and Fallon) that night, filling the hall and surrounding streets.

Still the Retail Merchants Association (6, 417-14th Street, now a restaurant) refused to support union demands. The Cook's Union Local 228(7, 14th Street and City Hall Plaza) set up a soup kitchen for the community.

The history of working men and women in Oakland is one of struggle, and often these struggles do not show up in the history textbooks. In 1946, the City of Oakland was effectively shut down by a peaceful General Strike, involving tens of thousands of workers demands. The labor protest that ensued was a display of labor unity, solidarity and power brought about a negotiated agreement that police officers would never again be permitted to escort or guard professional strikebreakers in or out of the City of Oakland.

Strike Commemorated
As Mayor of the City of Oakland, I am pleased to join with the Laney College Labor Studies Program in commemorating the anniversary of the Oakland General Labor Strike, December 3-5, 1946. Oakland enjoys a diverse ethnic and religious population, celebrating a history of promoting cultural exchange, good will, and fellowship: striving to confer tolerance, respect and opportunity upon each individual and every segment of the community; and extending appreciation and recognition to those whose efforts uplift, enlighten and assist our community.

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WORK STOPPAGE
The labor protest that ensued was a rather spontaneous, but well-disciplined, work stoppage in the midst of a war.

Newspapers at the time heralded the rapid advance of the Red Army's drive against the troops of Nazi Germany; pushing them out of the Balkans and the Balkans. In Italy and France, it was reported, American troops and resistance fighters were rounding up Nazi collaborators and arresting or executing them. And as Germany's surrender and VE Day appeared just around the corner, the war propaganda machine geared up for victory celebrations.

No wonder in such an atmosphere, protests against the military that might be seen as impending the war effort did not receive a fair hearing in the media. The black sailors' action was portrayed as cowardly or, worse, unpatriotic. The surviving African American sailors, branded with "mutiny" convictions, were often too ashamed to tell family and friends. Yet, it was this bold action, more than any other, that led to the integration of the Armed Forces in 1948. In 1954, Marshall led the fight before the U.S. Supreme Court to integrate public schools and later integrated the Supreme Court itself by becoming its first black member.

ILWU DEMANDS EXONERATION
Last June, at the ILWU's 28th International Convention in Seattle, the union went on record recognizing that this historic action was a courageous labor strike and "demanded the government grant complete exoneration." Contra Costa Congressman George Miller's bill, calling on the Secretary of the Navy to re-open the case, recently passed. The Navy must stop blaming the victims for the explosion.

It's time we fill in the blank pages of American history accurately and fully. The verdict: the Navy's racist system and unsafe working conditions combined to produce the horrendous Port Chicago disaster.

Jack Heyman is an ILWU longshore Local 10 steward and an organizer of the 1984 longshore anti-apartheid strike in San Francisco. His article was first published in the Oakland Tribune.

By JACK HEYMAN

In what remains one of the blank pages in American history: 50 US Navy sailors who were black were court-martialed during World War II in the so-called "Port Chicago Mutiny." Although mutiny convictions can carry the death penalty, the Navy court martial that found them guilty of mutiny, with only some individual scuffles. The NAACP (705 Peralta Street) and the National Negro Congress added support from the community.

The morning of December 1, Oakland Police set up barricades at 17th and Broadway, 17th and Telegraph, and 16th and San Pablo, clearing unionists from the area and towing away the illegally-parked automobiles. A so-called "GI. Trucking Company," professional strikebreakers from Los Angeles, were escorted to the struck stores loaded with merchandise for the Christmas season.

Strikers went to the Labor Temple (801 Broadway, now 500) and some 500 black leaders met and called for a general strike in response to official government strikebreakers. The City (16th, 14th Street and City Hall Plaza) announced support and set up a mass meeting later in the week.

The "work holiday" began December 3 as 10,000 union members crowded in on the streets around Latham Square, closing down the strike stores and virtually everything except essential services and schools. Bars were asked to turn their julep boxes to the street and strikers dancd despite the rain. The strike was generally peaceful, with only some individual scuffles when would-be customers tried to push through the picket line.

A December 4 meeting at City Hall (5, 14th Street and City Hall Plaza) was attended by Oakland's ruling elite, which declared itself a "Citizens' Committee" directing dictatorial powers on the mayor. A strike of emergency workers was declared as the ranks of protesters swelled, with 15,000 attending a Civic Auditorium rally at the Kaiser Auditorium Center (10th and Fallon) that night, filling the hall and surrounding streets.

Still the Retail Merchants Association (6, 417-14th Street, now a restaurant) refused to support union demands. The Cook's Union Local 228(7, 14th Street and City Hall Plaza) set up a soup kitchen for the community.

The history of working men and women in Oakland is one of struggle, and often these struggles do not show up in the history textbooks. In 1946, the City of Oakland was effectively shut down by a peaceful General Strike, involving tens of thousands of workers demands. The labor protest that ensued was a rather spontaneous, but well-disciplined, work stoppage in the midst of a war.

Newspapers at the time heralded the rapid advance of the Red Army's drive against the troops of Nazi Germany; pushing them out of the Balkans and the Balkans. In Italy and France, it was reported, American troops and resistance fighters were rounding up Nazi collaborators and arresting or executing them. And as Germany's surrender and VE Day appeared just around the corner, the war propaganda machine geared up for victory celebrations.

No wonder in such an atmosphere, protests against the military that might be seen as impending the war effort did not receive a fair hearing in the media. The black sailors' action was portrayed as cowardly or, worse, unpatriotic. The surviving African American sailors, branded with "mutiny" convictions, were often too ashamed to tell family and friends. Yet, it was this bold action, more than any other, that led to the integration of the Armed Forces in 1948. In 1954, Marshall led the fight before the U.S. Supreme Court to integrate public schools and later integrated the Supreme Court itself by becoming its first black member.

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The next month, after having cleaned up the debris, including body parts of their dead comrades, the sailors were ordered to load ammunition on another ship at nearby Mare Island. Some 258 refused, citing fear of another explosion from the unsafe working conditions, and were arrested.

ILWU REBUFFED
As Robert Allen's book the Port Chicago Mutiny relates, the ILWU only weeks before had warned the Navy of a disaster if untrained seamen continued to load munitions. The union even offered training, but was rebuffed.

Many of these young sailors had gone through a 69-day boot camp, but had received only training in safe handling of explosives. All were told by their officers upon arrival in Port Chicago that the bomb couldn't detonate because they'd been defused. Their official load ammunition was understandable given the distrust of their officers who assured them it was safe. Their training effort did not receive a fair hearing in the media.

Fifty years ago, Jim Crow segregation was the order of the day, not just in the south but in the military as well. Black servicemen were relegated to menial, onerous and dangerous work. It was no accident the men doing the longshore work were black, their officers white. The officers jokingly bet with each other to see whose units loaded munitions fastest.

WORK STOPPAGE
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Teamsters Get Lucky, Boycott Gets Boost

SAN FRANCISCO—Northern California Teamsters are hailing a federal court decision that quashed a second attempt by Lucky Stores to have its logo removed from union materials urging a boycott against the chain.

"Maybe now we can get down to the serious business of settling this dispute rather than wasting our energy on frivolous pursuits," said Teamster leader Chuck Mack.

JUDGE RULES
US District Judge Stanley A. Weigel in San Francisco held that the supermarket chain's contentions that consumers, confused by the presence of Lucky's well-known logo on picket signs and leaflets, thought the chain was boycotting itself.

The union initiated a boycott against the supermarket chain August 15 after negotiations failed to produce an acceptable contract for 3,100 Teamster members who work at three Northern California Lucky distribution centers.

Despite record profits, Lucky is seeking to slash benefits and reduce the wages of workers who have had only one raise in eight years. Their last contract expired April 30.

Don't go nuts this holiday season

As union members and their families prepare food, gifts, and decorations for the holiday season, they are being asked to "Boycott Diamond Walnuts.

The international boycott of Diamond Walnut is part of a major public information campaign to force the California company to rehire over 500 permanent replacement strikers represented by Teamsters Local 601.

Several months ago, the workers were forced to accept pay cuts of up to 40 percent under the threat of moving the walnut processing plant to Mexico.

Despite generating over $126 million in profits last year, Diamond is demanding additional concessions from its workers.

The list of organizations supporting the boycott, including the AFL-CIO and the National Consumers League, is growing.

CONGRESS QUESTIONS
Recently, Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA) held congressional hearings on the replacement of the striking Diamond workers. At the hearing, Rep. Lantos charged that Diamond workers had been "discarded like peanut shells at a baseball game."

Rep. Lantos is preparing legislation that would deny US Department of Agriculture subsidies to any corporation involved in a labor dispute. Diamond is currently benefiting from subsidies that help promote its walnuts in Europe.

The boycott is universal in Europe—where US walnut companies make about a third of their profits—have agreed to promote the boycott there.

For more information on the Diamond Walnut Boycott, contact Justice for Diamond Walnut Workers Committee, PO Box 32423, Stockton, CA 95212-0423 or phone 209-546-7475.

Teamster win round two of "leggo my logo"

By RICHARD J. PERRY

Merry Christmas! Here's your gift-wrapped layoff notice.

It's no joke. Every year around Christmas a lot of people lose their jobs. As soon as the buying frenzy stops, huge numbers of businesses look for ways to reduce overhead. More often than not, that means cutting payroll.

For a lot of manufacturing workers the bad news actually comes well before the big shopping season: once workers have made as much of a product as the sales experts believe will be sold, the assembly lines stop. For retail workers, once the last shoppers leave the store, that's it for a lot of sales help.

Some of the job terminations aren't holiday-related, but rather budget-related. Many employers use a calendar year to set budgets for their operations and tend to decide toward the end of each year what kind of staffing they're going to go with in the 12 months ahead.

It all adds up to a less-than-joyful holiday season for hundreds of thousands of Americans. It's something that, individually, these folks can't do much about. But it's something that we, collectively, can do a lot about.

How to Give the Best Gift of All

Below is a list of union-made toys and sporting goods. If you want to make sure other gifts you're thinking of buying are made by union labor, call the toll-free number of the AFL-CIO Union Label Department, 1-800-LABEL-91.

Teamsters

Tyco: toy trains
Ace Novelty Co.: trolls, stuffed animals
Hasbro: games, toys, dolls, puzzles, blocks, educational toys, etc.

United Auto Workers

Lionel: model trains
Radio Flyer: wagons
Fisher Price: sandbox and playhouse
Hanson: by tractors, trunks, record players, matchbook cars

Murray: bicycles
Testor: hobby kits and supplies
Retail, Wholesale and Dept. Store Union

Milton Bradley: games

UFW grape boycott: A question of health

SAN FRANCISCO—Hundreds of farm workers and Bay Area community leaders joined United Farm Workers (UFW) President Cesar Chavez November 12 for a spirited march and rally to remind holiday shoppers not to buy pesticide-contaminated grapes.

The UFW maintains that deadly pesticides used in grapes are the cause of alarming rates of cancer and birth defects among farm worker children in the San Joaquin Valley.

BIRTH DEFECTS
During a recent two-year period in the grape-growing region, 72 Hispanic children were born with pieces of spine missing (spina bifida); another 47 were missing major portions of the brain or the entire brain (anencephaly).

In July US General Accounting Office reported that, 20 years after Congress ordered EPA to re-examine 19,000 pesticides for long-term toxicity, only two have been re-registered.

The report notes that long-term harm to consumers from these products is still unknown—and the pesticides are still on the market and consumers continue to ingest their residues in produce.

SALES DOWN
Grape growers admit this is the worst year in sales since 1949.

As more Americans refuse the grapes, the growers are increasingly dumping the product on unsuspecting Asian consumers. Hong Kong, for example, was 15th in grape consumption when the UFW started the current boycott. Today, more California grapes are consumed in Hong Kong than in the entire Bay Area.

Hong Kong now ranks third in California grape consumption, only behind New York and Los Angeles.

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ILWU combats ploy to weaken workers' comp

SACRAMENTO—Over twenty ILWU members travelled to Sacramento last month to defeat a raid on workers' compensation by California Governor Pete Wilson.

In September, Wilson vetoed four bills that would have provided benefit increases for injured workers and repealed the "minimum rate" law which benefits insurance companies. The bills were the result of hours of hear- ings and efforts, led by a choice of doctor and vocational rehabilitation.

Wilson then called a special session of the legislature on October 8. He told legislators they had to pass his plan—take it or leave it.

Responding to the ploy, ILWU members from Locals 2, 6, 13, 17, 34 and 46, along with the East Bay Warehouse Pensioners, lobbied to protect workers' comp and joined a rally of 1,000 union members and supporters on the capitol steps. Northern California District Council President LeRoy King and NCDC President Ray Panter, "is more costly to the passenger world. The union, she said, is attempting to anticipated when it acquired the agents, "All in all, we feel we fared well enough."

The arbitrator did not, however, order the IBEW to stop picketing. The 500 -clock bargaining. The 500-member Local ratified the pact by a 97 percent margin.

Canadian foremen strike

VANCOUVER, B.C.—A two-day strike by ILWU Local 34 foremen effectively shut down cross border operations at all ports in British Columbia recently.

The men walked after reaching a bargaining impasse with the waterfront foremen Employers As sociation, representing the waterfront foremen and other issues. The dispute brewed for 10 months before the workers walked, complicated by internal conflicts within the Association.

A federal conciliator ordered the parties back to the table, where an agreement was struck after round-the-clock bargaining. The 500-member Local ratified the pact by a 97 percent margin.

Local 34's sign was visible—even though its members weren't—behind Speaker of the Assembly Willie Brown as he addressed 1,000 demonstrators demanding protection of workers' compensation benefits.

Secretary and legislative representa tive Don Watson led ILWU lobbying efforts. Local 2 President Annie Coleman was instrumental in recruiting ILWU participation. Following lobbying by ILWU and other labor groups, the legislature re acted Wilson's demands. His plan would have allowed insurance companies and doctors to charge high rates. It also would have made it harder for workers to qualify for benefits and eliminated pro-worker legal rights put in place 75 years ago.

Many believe Wilson called the special session to embarrass the Demo crats and win votes in the November election. His plan was to座谈 Demo cratic legislators and pass a version which would have given them vast power over the budget. He failed—re soundingly—to do either.

Local 18, West Sacramento

Local 18, West Sacramento, opened negotiations for the year 1993 opened November 11 and will close No vember 29, 1992. Negotiations were held in the dispatch hall at the Port of Sacramento on December 11, 1992, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Offices to be filled are: president, vice president, secretary-treasurer/chief dispatcher, dispatcher, labor relations commit tee, (2), executive board (7), and safety committee (1).

Local 19, Seattle

The following offices are open for nomination: president, vice-president, recording secretary, alternate record ing secretary, day business agent, alternate day business agent, night business agent, alternate night business agent, two labor relations com mittee members, an area labor relations committee member, five delegates, three trustees, fifteen ex officio board rank and file members, five safety committee members, two janitors, a Puget Sound District council delegate and a shop steward chairman.

Primary elections will be held on De cember 9, 10 and 11, 1992. The final election will be held December 16, 17 and 18, 1992. Officers and committee committee members elected for the 1993 term shall be sworn in at the beginning of the January stop-work meeting membership meeting.

Local 24, Aberdeen
First nominations for 1993 were held November 12, 1992, to fill the offices of president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, #2 dispatcher, #3 dispatcher, #4 dispatcher, #5 dispatcher, #6 dispatcher, 2 trustees, 3 promotion committee members, two labor relation committee members, 2 har, guide, Puget Sound District council delegate and an 8-member executive board.

Nomination nominations will be held at the regular stopwork meeting December 10, 1992. Balloting will be between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. on dates determined at the December meeting in the Longshore Hall at 301 East Wishkah Street, Aberdeen, Washington.

Local 27, Port Angeles

The general election by mail ballot will conclude on December 9, 1992.

Officers to be filled are president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer/business agent, recording secretary, sergeant-at-arms, 3 trustees, 6 executive board members, 2 dispatchers, 1 relief dispatcher, 4 labor relations committee members, 5 grievance committee members, as well as convention and/or caucus delegate(s).

Local 63, Wilmington

Nominations for Local office were open October 15 to November 15, 1992 for the following offices: president/business agent, vice-president/business agent, 3 dispatchers, relief dispatchers (2—4 months term), board of trustees (3), sergeant-at-arms, labor relations committee and/or convention delegates (5), promotions committee (3), executive board (11), membership committee (7), grievance committee (12).

Election will be by mail ballot, mailed no later than November 25, returned by midnight December 9, and counted December 12.

Local 502, New Westminster

The following officers were elected on October 7, 1992: Don Matheson, president; Chris Macdonald, vice president; Wilfred H. Belanger, secretary-treasurer; Rob Sellers and Keith Grewil, business agents; and Dave Powell, dispatcher.

Executive officers are Kevin Babiuk, Mike Turnell, Ron Zona, Ron Burry, Tim Farrell, Gary Grewil, and Jack Labinsky, Jr.
Mixed reviews for new Bridges film

In our last issue, ILWU archivist and librarian Gene Vrana reviewed the new film by producer Berry Minott, Harry Bridges: A Man and His Union. Following the review, we asked our readers to send us their comments. They've obliged.

I found the film to be very truthful and a positive portrait of Bridges. As far as leaving out the expulsion of the ILWU from the CIO in the fifties, Gene is correct; it was an omission. But the fact of the matter is that the film was only fifty-five minutes long, so you can't put in all the highlights of Bridges' life.

As far as the producer failing to mention Harry's children, either so, why should the producer? This certainly is not to demean the sacrifices his children made.

Gene's comment that the producer portrayed Bridges as selling the rank and file out on the M&M agreement is absolutely incorrect. But the fact is that the film was an honest portrayal of the turmoil productive labor has always been the rank and file. Gene also states that the producer's intention was to portray Bridges as an "autocrat." This doesn't sit too tenor up at all. What I basically got from the film was an honest look at Bridges.

And if Gene believes that Sid Roger was "sleazily" edited in the film, he should call him up and ask him if he feels he was used. I think all the people who were interviewed have a lot of respect and admiration of their faculties and said what they believed to be true. The overall feeling I get from this film is that it is what they admired Bridges.

As far as Gene comments that the film doesn't compare the ILWU to other unions, you can't compare it to a union in fifty-five minutes.

Gene concludes his review by saying that the producer ends the film showing Bridges as a "cynical and paranoid autocrat." I believe that Bridges at the end of his career was a bit of a cynic. I have all my records of strikes and lockouts. I was a picket Captain in 1934, Pier 40, and I was active in union meetings, committees and volunteered. I retired in 1965. My wife was also active and involved with Gene Vrana's review of the movie.

This union started in the early '30s. I was a member of this union. It's given me us everything we have. I know how it was built as a rank-and-file film. It didn't have anything about what Harry Bridges and the rank and file did. The story behind the union has always been the rank and file.

The opposition to the ILA or ILWU in the different locals was always there from the beginning—Pedro Pete, Patty Morris, Beaker Lewis and on. I remember them well.

I am the widow of Nick Testa, who started with Local 10 in 1934, retiring in 1970 as a Local 91 member—serving 36 years in a fraternal brotherhood that he so strongly believed in. Nick Testa was researching the acceptance problems of the M&M agreement, but it is 100 percent right ON THE MONEY.

I have not seen the film by Berry Minott, Harry Bridges: A Man and His Union. It is only the first film I need to remember this remarkable man.

Ecime C. Testa Mountain View, Ca.

I now regret my participation in the film's negative attack on Harry Bridges. I was a boy in San Pedro and then later join with officers of ILWU Local 13 in Wilmington. Thereafter, I knew Harry while I served as a division officer of our great union for 20 years, 14 of them with Brother Bridges being chairman of the Coast Committee, of which I was a member.

During these latter years, while working with Harry on a daily basis, I learned early on the truth and wisdom he had thought for many, many years: here was a man totally dedicated to the well-being of his members; particularly to the working class, and particularly to the membership of the ILWU. He simply was an excellent boss. He hired personnel as temporary shoremen and knew intimately their multitude of problems.

I now understand Mr. Minott's failure to present Harry, the ILWU and its longtime officers and staff in an accurate historical context when she had such a wonderful opportunity to do so. To the contrary, she made the choice to use a statement from a former editor of The Dispatch alleging that then-Secretary-Treasurer Lou Goldblatt had called Harry a "sell-out" artist over M&M.

Ms. Minott departed from the fact. Let me tell you, it never happened! Harry fired this editor and then gave him the opportunity to quit, and numerous other elected officers of the International Union objected enough to make an issue of it! Harry and Lou had their differences, which were profound on many occasions. Lou had concluded political plays of such issues, preferring to keep it in the family.

It baffles me to see the evidence that Harry "jumped ship," as implied by the narrator? Harry had the papers to back him up. He didn't have Harry "head-tax," the green card equivalent of the day. It's all in the records—all of it had to do with the laws that made SH missed the boat! She was not "On the Beam.

William T. Ward Local 34, retired San Francisco

Wake up, kids!

Wake up American youth! The "Big Fat Cat" with the big cigars pictured in the film doesn't compare the ILWU to any union in fifty-five minutes. The overall feeling I had was "sleazily" edited in the film, he should call him up and ask him if he feels he was used. I think all the people who were interviewed have a lot of respect and admiration for their faculties and said what they believed to be true. The overall feeling I get from this film is that it is what they admired Bridges.

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Albert Alvarez
Long Beach, Ca.

World focus needed

As a retired pensioner and vet, and a supporter of the Democratic Party, I was appalled by your editorial in your last issue which characterized unions in this country as one of the causes of the country's current financial and depression woes and political bashing of our unions throughout the country. The opposition to our party is now greater than ever before.

The financial crisis of our country is being created by our government, not our unions. We are too often telling our citizens about the billions of tax dollars spread throughout the world by our Republican's one world policy, as reported by US News last June 3, 1991. The US government rewarded Egypt's participation in the Gulf War by forgiving its debt of $6 billion, also Poland's $2.66 billion debt.

People do not recognize the truth, but will listen to the honeyed words of who is writing the history of our country. What was once in black and fun has become our tax dollars to foreign governments, and at the same time, turn their backs on us in this oppression. What does that tell you about our politicians? At least our voting is honest.

Bob Has no respect for working Americans, unions or our democracy. He is President Folk all over again—"Free Enterprise or Free Real Estate."
THE 1992 GOLDEN TURKEY AWARDS

"Heart of Cold" Tribute

LIFELINE TRANSPORTS

...a shuttle service for the elderly and the disabled. Always mindful of keeping schedule, LifeLine boss Albert Hall fired driver Dawne Hamblin when she stopped her van for 20 minutes to help a bleeding nine-year-old girl who'd been hit by a car. Hamblin, a police aide volunteer, also directed traffic until the police arrived to take her statement. But Hall couldn't wait. He canned Hamblin on the spot. Let's hope this guy never works for an ambulance service.

Excellence in Work-Ethic Cleansing

DELTA AIRLINES

...whose offices are becoming the Bosnia-Hercegovina of the airline industry. Delta has always had a rep for purging "undesirables," but these days it's outdoing itself. The airline routinely terminates injured or ill workers, including reservations agents complaining of electrical shocks from their headsets and workers with life-threatening illnesses, such as cancer. The company's also facing lawsuits for interrogating job applicants about their sexual orientation, drug or alcohol use, mental health, and even speeding tickets—all in violation of the law. Delta's new slogan: "We love to pry and it shows."

Magna Cam Fraud Trophy

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

...whose director of Corporate Strategy, Jack Eby, recently decried efforts by Japanese auto makers to gain access to Mexico's market. "Our view is that you should produce where you sell," he declared—conveniently omitting that Ford assembled 157,000 cars in Mexico last year and exported nearly 112,000 of them, most to the US. Wonder how "do as I say, not as I do" translates into Japanese?

Uncle Sucker Citation for Corporate Coddling

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

...and, OK, so what else is new? Plenty. America's major defense contractors have not only been pollutiong at will, but are passing off the clean-up bill as a normal cost of doing business. According to Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.), DOD has shelled out over $1 billion to clean-up after such model corporate citizens as GM, General Dynamics, GE and United Technologies. And you thought thousand dollar poddy seats were expensive.

Scam OSHA Impersonator of the Year

DAVID A. PHILLIP

...owner-operator of "Think Safety." Posing as a Cal/OSHA inspector, Phillip would go to dairy farms where he would issue safety violation warning notices to unsuspecting employers. Then he'd threaten them with hefty fines unless they hired "Think Safety" to provide safety training to workers. Phillips was finally nabbed by Tulare County sheriffs. "Think Safety" takes on a whole new meaning in the showers at the county jail, eh, Dave?

Best Performance by a Heel

NIKE

...a shoo-in for the biggest turkey of all. Nike pays its workers in Indonesia 14 cents an hour to make shoes that sell for $75 here. The company employs 24,000 Indonesians, mostly women, at wages below the Indonesian government's standard for "minimum physical need." A recent study by the UN's International Labor Organization found that 88 percent of women working at those wages are malnourished. Now we know how Nike can afford to pay Michael Jordan and Spike Lee to star in those "it's gotta be the shoes" commercials. It's gotta be the slaves!

—Mike Konopacki