Peace on Earth

SOLIDARITY FOREVER
RESOLUTION TO RENAME THE UNION

WHEREAS: The title of the ILWU was changed and put into a form that is not correct; and

WHEREAS: The present title of our union, International Longshore and Warehouse Union states that we are a union of ware-houses. This is not correct. We are not a union of warehouses. We are not buildings. We are people. We are a union of warehousemen or ware-house workers; and

WHEREAS: The word "Longshore" is also incorrect when we wish to be a union of people. We wish to be a union of people. We wish to be a union of people. We are people. We are not a union of warehouses or ware-house workers; and

WHEREAS: Our name should be proper and correct. It was changed to remove all reference to a particular gender. We should have done a better job, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Caucus will go on record in favor of and request that the International Executive Board correct the name of this great union and again make us a union of people instead of buildings - International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

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STATEMENT OF POLICY ON THE BUSH ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROPOSAL

Ever since the events of Sept. 11 the Bush administration and Congress have been using the tragedy as an excuse to further their anti-worker agenda.

They have assumed extra-constitutional powers and breached civil liberties with the so-called 'Patriot Act.' They have attacked workers' rights with the Port Security Act. And in the immediate aftermath of the terrorist attacks they gave $15 billion of tax-payer money to the air-line industry, but refused any assistance to the tens of thousands of workers who were laid off.

Even though it was union workers - the firefighters, emergency medical technicians, nurses, police, iron workers, laborers and many others who were the American heroes at Ground Zero, pulling survivors from the rubble, these same workers are now being labeled unpatriotic when they ask for decent wages and collective bargaining rights.

Now the Bush administration is proposing its so-called 'Economic Stimulus' plan, a proposal that will do little to pull the country out of the recession now. Instead, it extends Bush's already failed program of transferring the wealth of the nation from the workers to the corporations and the super rich.

In the next year 90 percent of the costs of the plan will be in tax cuts, but only 16 percent of those cuts will go to working people - the rest go to the corporations and the rich. Over the next 10 years the workers' share of those cuts will drop to eight percent.

The plan will not only eliminate the corporate minimum tax, but it will make that elimination retroactive back 15 years, giving large corpora-tions a $2.15 billion rebate this year. Already corporations shoulder only 10 percent of the federal income tax burden, half of what they paid in the 1980s. Other tax cuts - like a cut in the capital gains tax and the reduction of the upper-income tax rates - will large-ly go to the rich.

Comparatively, the plan will do lit-tle for workers hit by the recession and the post Sept. 11 economic slow-down. The plan's extension of unem-ployment benefits for laid-off workers will leave out millions. The extensions won't be available until mid-March and then will apply to only 20 states at most - those where unemployment runs 30 percent above the June/July/August 2001 average. Even in those states only about 30 percent of their unemployed workers will qual-ify. And the plan's provisions for cover-ing laid-off workers' health insurance by subsidizing COBRA premiums has an overly bureaucratic distribution process and its inadequate funding will do little toward helping the unem-ployed afford continued coverage.

The vast majority of the costs of the tax cuts in the Bush plan will come after 2002 and will have no effect on stimulating the economy to move out of recession immediately. A real economic stimulus plan would put money in the hands of workers who would spend it now. A 1999 study by the U.S. Dept. of Labor found that every dollar invested in unemployment benefits increases the GDP by $2.15 because workers spend that money on groceries, gas and other basic necessities.

The ILWU opposes the Bush eco-nomic stimulus plan and its blatant give away of the national treasury to the rich and corporations. We find the Democratic alternative plan, which increases and extends unemployment benefits and gives greater health care coverage to laid-off workers, much closer to what the country needs to economically recover.
Longshore retirees, deceased and survivors

RECENT RETIREES: Local 4 - Bob Keels; Local 10 - Walter Branner; Local 13 - Robert Slater, Constantino Castro; Local 14 - Joel Roberts.

DECEASED: Local 4 - William Malloy (Elia); Local 8 - Carl Helgerson, Donald Mehner; Local 10 - John Bostron (Eleonora); Warden Malbure (Willa), Otto Carolino, Longino Castro; Local 12 - Eino Kivinen (Erema), George Peak (Ora), Kermit Peterson; Local 13 - Leonard Preszler (Mildred), Arthur Ponce (Elvira), John Kurtz Jr. (Barbara), Victor Mistranca (Alice), Fred Mendez (Nellie), Thomas Monta, Gilbert Rivera, Frank Martinez, Daniel Lare; Local 19 - Richard Aparis (Elvira); Gene Nichol; Local 20 - John Ahonen (Bertha), Edgar Be (Myrtle); Local 23 - Donald Melbye (Vernel), Local 27 - Richard Jones (Kelsey); Local 34 - John Williams (Edith), Fred Thompson; Local 40 - Max House; Local 50 - Eleanor Wilson Jr. (Sally); Local 63 - Walter Harrison (Virginia), Gene McGraw (Betty); Local 92 - Frank Mildenberger (Dane), Roy Kadow (Beulah). (Survivors in parenthesis.)

DECEASED SURVIVORS: Local 8 - Rachel Kennedy, Margo Vance, Frances Twillingher; Local 10 - Ruth Chotaw, Mary Uribe, Jennie McGowan; Local 13 - Nellie Del Rio, Gladys Sanchez, Marjorie Williams; Local 23 - Marion Southard; Local 27 - Montana; Local 30 - Mona Rooker; Local 34 - John Williams 8 - Rachel Kennedy, Margo Vance, Frances Twillingher; Local 34 - John Williams; Local 82 - Millie Cooper, Gladys McCollum; Local 94 - Jane Nall; Local 98 - Edna Miller; Local 200 - Marion Southard.

The ILWU Legacy Fund

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON ILWU LEGACY FUND

O

er the years the ILWU has received tens of thousands of dollars in donations from members, active and retired—sometimes in the form of bequests—who want to give something back to the Union. Because many of our members and friends also wish to contribute directly to internal education and organizing, the Titled Officers suggest that we formally establish the ILWU Legacy Fund, and that an ongoing request for donations appear in The Dispatcher. Donors will receive a special pin in recognition of their contribution, which will be acknowledged in our newspaper.

The Legacy Fund is a way to earmark general funds for education and organizing, and to receive voluntary donations to be used only for organizing and educational programs and publications (such as those mandated but not funded by the ILWU Convention). The Legacy Fund will require no additional legal or administrative costs as it is neither a charitable fund nor a corporate entity, and donations to it will not be tax deductible.

The Legacy Fund will stand as a tribute to the men and women who built this Union, and the Fund's income and disbursements will be entirely under the direction and authority of the elected representatives of the rank-and-file members of the ILWU—the Titled Officers—who will report to the International Executive Board on the status of the Fund.

(passed by the ILWU International Executive Board April 6-7, 1995)

CONTRIBUTIONS SOLICITED

Contributions to the Legacy Fund are needed to finance several important projects that are not currently funded by the International Union's budget. These include:

• Production of non-English language editions of "The ILWU Story" and our award-winning video, "We Are the ILWU."
• Holding advanced leadership training workshops for members who complete the highly successful Leadership Education and Development Institute (LEAD).
• Establishing an audio-visual center in the ILWU library for use and duplication of audio and visual materials, including the ILWU oral history project interviews.
• Increased involvement in community outreach programs, including ILWU participation in labor history conferences and development of exhibits and other activities at high schools, colleges, museums and libraries.
• Classes and materials for new union organizers; ILWU members and/or new units or locals in the ILWU family.
• Matching funds for a major grant to conserve, arrange, describe and exhibit the photographic collections in the ILWU library.

Your contribution to the Legacy Fund, however large or small, will help to increase proposals a reality. All contributions of $25.00 or more will receive a commemorative ILWU lapel pin.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ON ILWU POLITICAL ACTION FUND

Delegates to the 38th Triennial Convention of the ILWU meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, April 7-11, 1997, amended Article X of the International Constitution to read:

"SECTION 2. The International shall establish a Political Action Fund which shall consist exclusively of voluntary contributions. The union will not favor or disfavor any member because of the amount of his/her contribution or the decision not to contribute. In no case will a member be required to pay more than his/her pro rata share of the union's collective bargaining expenses. Reports on the status of the fund and the uses to which the voluntary contributions of the members are put will be made to the International Executive Board.

"The voluntary contributions to the Political Action Fund shall be collected as follows:

"Up to One Dollar Fifty Cents ($1.50) of each March and July's per capita payment to the International Union shall be diverted to the Political Action Fund where it will be used in connection with federal, state and local elections. These deductions are suggestions only, and individual members are free to contribute more or less than that guideline suggests. The diverted funds will be contributed on behalf of the members who voluntarily permit that portion of their per capita payment to be used for that purpose. The Titled Officers may suspend either or both diversions if, in their judgement, the financial condition of the International warrants suspension.

"For those consecutive months prior to each diversion each dues paying member of the union shall be advised of his/her right to withhold the contribution or any portion thereof otherwise made in March and July. Those members expressing such a desire, on a form provided by the International Union, shall be sent a check in the amount of the contribution or less if they so desire, in advance of the member making his/her decision to the local union for the month in which the diversion occurs.

"Those members who do not wish to have any portion of their per capita payment diverted to the Political Action Fund, but wish to make political contributions directly to either the Political Action Fund or their local union, may do so in any amounts whatever they wish."

No contribution—Do not wish to contribute to the ILWU Political Action Fund. I understand that the International will send me a check for the entire amount of the Political Action Fund contribution (up to $1.50) prior to March 1, 2002.

Less than $1.50—Do not wish to contribute the entire amount to the ILWU Political Action Fund. I will contribute ... I understand that the International will send me a check for the difference between my contribution and the entire amount of the ILWU Political Action Fund (up to $1.50) prior to March 1, 2002.

More than $1.50—Wish to contribute more than the minimum voluntary contribution (up to $1.50) to the ILWU Political Action Fund. Enclosed please find my check for $
Season’s Greetings from the International

Titled Officers

Jim Spinosa
Bob McEllrath
Wesley Furtado
Joe Ibarra

President
Vice President, Mainland
Vice President, Hawaii
Secretary-Treasurer

Administration

Linda Kuhn
Karen Coffey
Valerie Smith
Jorge Freiberg
Nancy Legardy
Frank Wilder

Office Manager/ Executive Secretary
Manager/ Bookkeeping Department
Administrative Secretary
Bookkeeper
Receptionist
Clerk/ Mailroom

Research and Education

Russ Bargmann
Eugene Dennis Vrana

Director
Librarian/Associate Director of Education

Communications

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Assistant Editor

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Legislative Assistant

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Joe Wenzl
Ray Ortiz, Jr.
George Romero
Robert Maynez
Diana Contreras
Janice Smith-Yamagata

Committeeman, Northwest
Committeeman, California
Benefits Specialist
Administrative Director
Administrative Secretary
Coast Imaging Project Secretary

International Representatives

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Cassie Cockett
Jerry Martin

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Hawaii
Northern California

Organizing

Augustin Ramirez
Michael Cannarella
Paul Bigman
Marcy Rein
Sandy Babich

Northern California Organizer
Columbia River Organizer
Puget Sound Organizer
Media Relations
Secretary, Southern California

International Transport Workers’ Federation

Ray Familathe
Myles Parsons
Lila Smith
Don Liddle
Barry Binsky
Rudy Vanderhider
Carolyn Jones

ITF West Coast Coordinator
Inspector, Vancouver, B.C.
Inspector, Puget Sound
Inspector, Columbia River
Inspector, Northern California
Inspector, Southern California
Secretary

Harry Bridges Building

Victor Duran
Claude Caputi

Maintenance
Maintenance

Have a Happy and Safe New Year!