



VOICE OF THE ILWU

HONOLULU HAWAII
LOCAL 501

Volume 42 • No. 5

The VOICE of the ILWU—Published monthly except April and a combined June/July issue by Hawaii Local 142, International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union

June / July 2002

West Coast longshore negotiations Working men and women of the ILWU take on multinational corporations of the PMA



for more on
West Coast
longshore
negotiations,
turn to pages
2, 4 & 5

ADDRESS LABEL

Nearly 2,000 fired-up longshore workers and their supporters crashed the grand opening party of Maersk Sealand's new terminal in the port of Los Angeles on August 15. The facility is the largest terminal in the world, and Maersk Sealand is the second largest shipping company worldwide.

The workers were there to demand that Maersk, one of the hard-line Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) members in the current mainland longshore negotiations, drop its push for concessions from union members.

Maersk reportedly spent more than a half-million dollars on the party.

Stealing OUR tax dollars

What kind of crime costs taxpayers even more each year than street crime like burglary and robbery? (see pg. 3)

PMA renegs on deals, calls Bush administration

Just as both sides were reaching agreement on the two biggest issues in negotiations, the employer group, the Pacific Maritime Association, drastically switched the terms, sabotaging the process. The employers' next move was to call the Bush administration, which has threatened to send military personnel to seize and operate West Coast ports.

"Every time we get close to agreement, the PMA renegs," ILWU International President James Spinosa said. "If the PMA wanted a deal, it was there on the table in front of them. But from day one of the negotiations the employers have shown that they clearly don't want to bargain seriously. They want to create a crisis and get the government to force conditions on the union."

On Saturday, Aug. 30 the PMA pulled its first bait and switch. After having said from the opening day of bargaining that the ILWU would get all the new jobs created by the introduction of new labor-saving computer technology, the PMA told

the union flat out that there would be no new union tech jobs.

The following day the employers did it again. After days of bargaining and give and take by both sides, the leaders of the union and the PMA agreed on a framework for the health benefits plan. But the next morning they changed the terms, demanding all the changes they want in the arbitration process or they would not

sign off on the benefits package.

"Until Bush butts out of our negotiations, the legal collective bargaining process will never get a chance to work," Spinosa said. "The government's interference is inappropriate. The Bush administration has informed us that it has assembled in

San Diego trained Navy dock workers from bases around the world and have them ready to move on us. In a time when we are supposed to be in a war against terrorism, why is Bush using the military against American workers involved in a legitimate labor dispute?"

To signal its displeasure with PMA chief negotiator Joe Miniace's bait and switch tactics, the union Negoti-

"In a time when we are supposed to be in a war against terrorism, why is Bush using the military against American workers involved in a legitimate labor dispute?"

ating Committee declined to renew the old contract as it had on a day-to-day basis since it expired July 1.

[The Hawaii longshore contract extension remains in place on a day-to-day basis.]

"Without a contract all economic and job actions against the employ-

ers are legal and open as options for the union," Spinosa said. "The ILWU Negotiating Committee will reassemble in San Francisco Tuesday afternoon and decide the union's next move."

ILWU officers left the negotiations Sunday at 11:00 a.m. to catch flights to Los Angeles to join the massive Labor Day march and rally attended by thousands of union members, Jesse Jackson and AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Richard Trumka, the second highest ranking officer in the American labor movement. The AFL-CIO has made the ILWU contract negotiations a top priority for the labor movement, since a military intervention here would set a precedent unheard of in decades of American history. Scores of elected officials, from U.S. Senators and Congressional representatives, to governors, state legislators and port city mayors, have joined the ILWU in calling for the Bush administration to get out of the negotiating process and to not send the military to the ports.

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Get George Bush out of our negotiations

By James Spinosa
ILWU International President

These are the toughest contract negotiations the ILWU's Longshore Division has faced in a long time. Not since 1948, when our strike broke the old Waterfront Employers Association and the Pacific Maritime Association was set up in its place to resolve the dispute, have we seen an employer so emboldened, so ready and eager to bust the union, so intently focused on making this contract the one that will eliminate the ILWU—if not immediately, then over the long term.

It was apparent right from the first day of bargaining that the employers were on a mission in this set of negotiations and it got clearer as we met from day to day. Their opening proposal was full of takeaways. They hit us in every direction. They didn't leave anything out, from maintenance of benefits, to the dispatch hall to the arbitration system and the workplace.

They've done this because they know they have the Bush administration on their side. A secret White House Task Force, including top officials from the Dept. of Labor, the Dept. of Defense and the president's Council of Economic Advisors, has been established to plot with the PMA and the retailer group, the West Coast Waterfront Coalition, to take out the ILWU. This Task Force has contacted me and the other officers of the Coast Committee and made threats. It has threatened to invoke a Taft-Hartley injunction against our union, to pass special legislation to restrict our legal collective bargaining rights and to break up our coastwise contract. Most ominously, it has threatened to bring National Guard troops onto our docks.

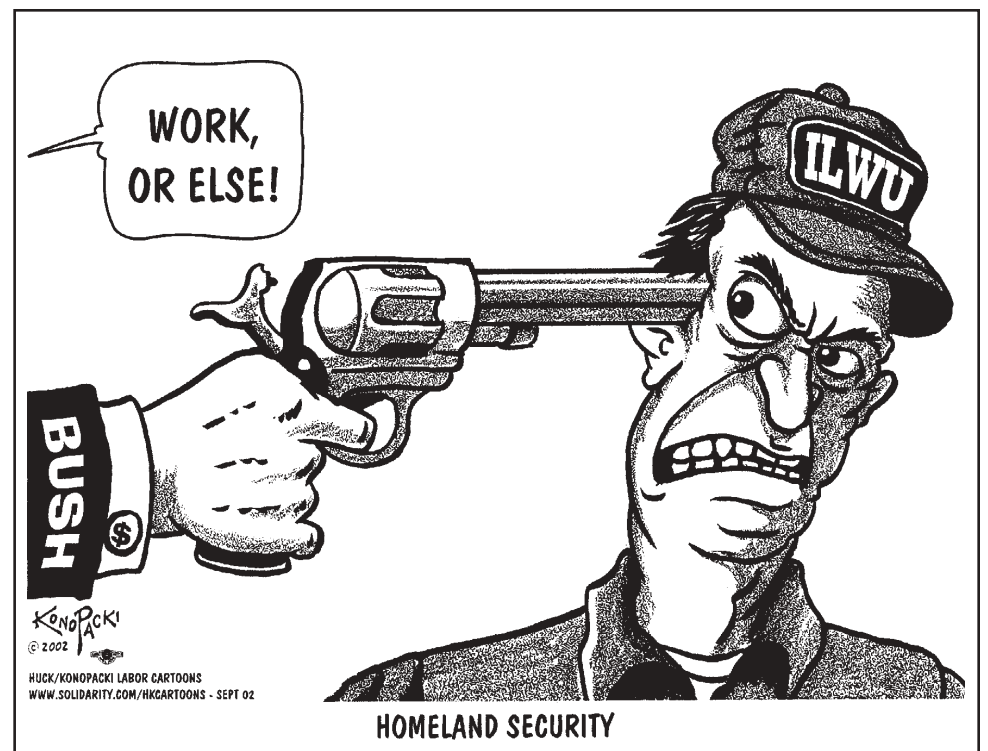
The PMA knows all about these threats and so the employers have no reason to be reasonable, no incentive to negotiate seriously. Every proposal they have brought to the table was carefully crafted to be unacceptable to the union. They have tried to provoke us into an action that would bring the Bush administration down on us.

A secret White House Task Force ... has threatened to invoke a Taft-Hartley injunction against our union, to pass special legislation to restrict our legal collective bargaining rights and to break up our coastwise contract. Most ominously, it has threatened to bring

The number one priority of the Longshore Caucus was maintenance of benefits and the PMA knew that. So the employers came in demanding deep cuts in our benefits package. They've backed down a little, but are still asking for cutbacks as well as a two-tier benefit system that will eliminate the option of new members to choose their own doctors and eventually do that to all members. But the Negotiating Committee has kept its marching orders and has refused to yield in this area.

The employers are also hell bent on changing our arbitration system that has stabilized our union and our industry since 1948. Sure, we have taken our hits in that system, we have had to take our losses along with our victories. But it protects our contract and we know that we are getting a fair shake from it.

The employer's attempts to seize our jurisdiction have been most distressing of all. For the last three years the employers have been saying their priority is new technology. We put a technology proposal on the table, a proposal that would eliminate a significant number of clerk's jobs. In the spirit of the Modernization and Mechanization Agreement of 1960 that brought containerization to our docks, we said we wanted the jobs that remain. We want the jobs connected to that new technology. We want to get back the clerks' planning jobs that have been outsourced, the work operating



the employers' offdock container yards and the work draying containers to and from those yards.

But the employers have said "no," there is no room for the ILWU in their expansion. They will outsource that work instead. It is unthinkable that we would buy into a proposal that says we are not their primary workforce, one that allows others to do our work. Your Negotiating Committee has stood firm on this because without jobs there are no wages, no benefits, no pensions and no union to protect them.

But we will never get to productive bargaining until the Bush administration gets out of our business. Bush is creating a new policy that says that union rights are a national security threat. We can see that in how he is trying to take away the union rights of government workers being transferred into the new Dept. of Homeland Security. And we can see it in the way he is trying to take our rights to economic and job action guaranteed by the National Labor Relations Act. The NLRA is the civil rights law for workers—it recognized and legalized workers' basic rights to organize into unions, to collectively bargain contracts and to strike. It has been a part of American law and society since 1935.

A union's strongest weapon is withholding its labor. And let's be frank about what we are facing. The ILWU's Longshore Division is 10,500 blue-collar workers up against the 79 multi-national, multi-billion dollar corporations that comprise the PMA. It's a classic David versus Goliath

scenario and now Bush wants to take away the biggest source of power we have.

The Bush administration's policy and actions are so abhorrent—especially its threat of military intervention into our negotiations—that the AFL-CIO is making our contract a top priority for the American labor movement. The AFL-CIO is giving us staff and resources and joining us in a national campaign to get the Bush administration out of our negotiations and let us bargain fairly with our employers without interference.

We also have our new solidarity agreement with the Teamsters and the East and Gulf Coast International Longshoremen's Association, as well as support from the worldwide dockers movement through the ITF (International Transport Workers Federation) and the IDC (International Dockworkers Council). We have received pledges of solidarity from unions across the globe.

But it is going to be us—the members of the ILWU—who have to get this done. This is our job. We have to stay focused and never lose sight of where we came from and where we have to go. We have to make sure that we turn over these jobs to those who are going to follow tomorrow.

I urge all members to get in touch with your local officers and volunteer to help in our campaign to get Bush out of our negotiations. Remember, this is a fight for the very existence of the ILWU. This is a fight for your job, your health benefits, your pension. Let's get on with it.

A union's strongest weapon is withholding its labor. And let's be frank about what we are facing. The ILWU's Longshore Division is 10,500 blue-collar workers up against the 79 multi-national, multi-billion dollar corporations that comprise the PMA. It's a classic David versus Goliath scenario and now Bush wants to take away

WASHINGTON D.C. REPORT

Congress lets corporate thieves run free

By Lindsay McLaughlin
ILWU Legislative Director

Enron, WorldCom, Tyco, Merck, Rite-Aid, Xerox, Global Crossing and many other "great" corporations have recently been caught in scandal, fraud and crime. Company executives once hailed by the mass media as the geniuses behind the "go-go" economy have devastated employees and investors, drained pension and retirement funds and in many cases fleeced the taxpayers.

The Bush Administration and Congress are lining up to feign shock over the recent corporate accounting fraud scandals and have pledged to place the few bad apples in jail. Meanwhile, they give us legislation that does nothing to protect workers and gives a free pass to large-scale looting.

A rotten tree, not bad apples

Corporate crime has been rising sharply for decades. While the corporate-controlled "mainstream" media is too corrupt, lazy or stupid to cover the true story of corporate crime, the progressive press has done a number of exposés in recent years.

Most people don't realize it, but corporate crime costs our nation more than all street crime combined, said Kevin Danaher, co-founder of Global Exchange and author of the 1997 book, "Corporations are Gonna Get Your Mama: Globalization and the Downsizing of the American Dream."

By contrast, white-collar fraud and crime costs 50 times as much, or \$200 billion a year, according to Professor W. Steve Albrecht of Brigham Young University. And this is just the dollar amount. Corporate crime carries higher costs seldom calculated, such as the toll of cancer caused by environmental pollution.

The taxpayers foot the bill for many of the corporate crimes that occur daily. According to Danaher, a study by the public interest group Project on Government Oversight found that major U.S. corporations that get billions of dollars in government contracts are guilty of cheating on these contracts and ripping off the taxpayer.

government 16 times, according to the study. Other companies that committed multiple frauds include Boeing, Grumman, Hughes Aircraft, Martin Marietta and McDonnell Douglas.

Corporate criminals repeatedly violate minimum wage laws. As many as three million workers get less than the minimum wage, estimates Princeton labor economist Alan Krueger. "Violating the minimum wage law has a certain logic to it because an employer, if caught, usually has to pay only the back wages that were due," Krueger said.

A survey of garment shops, among the worst criminal enterprises, found 43 percent paying illegally low wages. Trucking companies, eateries and construction firms are top criminals too.

Employer refusal to pay overtime is another particularly widespread criminal activity. Even an employer-supported think tank, the Employer Policy Foundation, estimates workers would get an additional \$19 billion a year if the overtime law were followed. The Labor Department has concluded that one out of every 50 workers has been illegally denied overtime pay.

Sometimes corporate malfeasance brings deadly consequences, as Robert Sherill documented in his article, "A Year in Corporate Crime." (The Nation, 1997) Methane gas

exploded in a Pyro Mining Company shaft in 1989, killing 10 workers.

For helping kill 10 men by ignoring hazards in the mine, Pyro executives drew sentences ranging from five months to 18 months. Five months in prison for contributing to the deaths of 10 workers appears to be an extraordinarily light sentence, but data from the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration suggest that these sentences were the longest ever handed down.

Today's corporate crime du jour is Enron-style accounting fraud, stealing money (lots of it), and

depriving investors and employees of their rights. Enron employees worked hard and expected a fair wage and job security in return. Instead, they got a few minutes to clean out their desks and get the hell out of the office. In some cases, management denied severance packages to workers who refused to sign documents giving up the right to sue Enron for defrauding them.

All the media hoopla about Bush and the conservative, right-wing Congress getting tough on corporations is almost laughable. Congress always leaves town during the month of August and President Bush is going on vacation at his ranch in Texas. But before they left, these two co-conspirators left American workers with nothing and multinational corporations with big bags of money.

Legislation is the pits

Congress did little to safeguard savings for American workers and their families. Corporate accountability legislation failed to give workers

—continued on page 7

Most people don't realize it, but corporate crime costs our nation more than all street crime

Important Notice on ILWU Political Action Fund

Delegates to the 30th 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 disadvantage 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 and 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 only on behalf of those 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 three 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 dues payment 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 whenever they wish."

[] No contribution - I do not wish to contribute to the ILWU Political Action Fund. I understand that the International will send me a check in the amount of \$1.50 prior to July 1, 2002.

[] Less than \$1.50 - I do not wish to contribute the entire \$1.50 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 \$1.50 prior to July 1, 2002.

[] More than \$1.50 - I wish to contribute more than the minimum voluntary contribution of \$1.50 to the ILWU Political Action Fund. Enclosed please find my check for \$_____.

Signature

Name

Address

Local #

Unit #

Return to: ILWU, 1188 Franklin Street • San Francisco, CA 94109

NOTE: CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE AS CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS



The VOICE of the ILWU (ISSN 0505-8791) is published monthly except April and a combined June/July issue for \$2 per year by Hawaii International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814. Periodicals postage paid at the post office of Honolulu, Hawaii.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to VOICE of the ILWU, c/o ILWU Local 142, 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, HI 96814. Editorial Board: Eusebio Lapenia Jr., Robert G. Girald and Guy K. Fujimura.

Editor: Mel Chang

International longshore unions support ILWU, tell Bush to butt out

More than 200 leaders of dockworker unions worldwide pledged support for the ILWU in its bargaining with the shipping and stevedoring companies of the Pacific Maritime Association and signed a letter to President Bush demanding he stop interfering in the negotiations.

At its annual Congress in Vancouver, British Columbia last weekend, the International Transport Workers Federation Dockers Section, representing 400,000 port workers in the sea transportation industry in 170 countries, passed a strongly worded resolution committing themselves to a successful conclusion to the ILWU's negotiations.

The international docker unions, that have contracts with most of the same companies that compose the PMA, have seen the same kind of employer/government collusion against longshore unions before. In a situation just four years ago that foreshadowed Bush's threats to send the National Guard to occupy and operate West Coast docks, the Australian government sent federal troops to seize port facilities in that country in 1998.

The Maritime Union of Australia united their national labor movement and galvanized international

support—including the ILWU's refusal to work the first and only scab-loaded ship to call on a U.S. West Coast port in May 1998—to stop that threat and protect the jobs of their members.

"This situation is not a surprise to any of these docker unions," said ILWU International Vice President Bob McEllrath, who represented the ILWU at the ITF Congress. "They know this is the strategy of the international shipping and stevedoring companies. And they know that if the ILWU falls, they're next."

The docker union leaders also sent a letter to Bush telling him in part that "Negotiations on the future of the longshore industry and issues such as job security and technological change should take place through free collective bargaining between employees and management, without heavy-handed intervention by government officials at the request of corporate executives."

International Transport Workers Federation Resolution

ILWU DISPUTE

This 40th Congress of the ITF, meeting in Vancouver from 14–21 August 2002,

CONSIDERING the ILWU's traditional support for other ITF affiliates and its contributions to international solidarity and the ITF Flag of Convenience Campaign

NOTING WITH GREAT CONCERN the current attempts by the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) to break the power and strength of the ILWU, which already has been criticized by the ITF as a serious case of union busting

NOTING WITH GREAT CONCERN reports of the USA Government to consider the introduction of new legislation aimed at restricting and even eliminating ILWU's legal rights to collective bargaining and to strike

DEPLORING reports of plans by the US Administration to use troops to operate the ports in case of a strike, which would be a most serious violation of ILO standards

RECALLING the ITF's International Solidarity Contract by which affiliated port workers unions pledged support and solidarity for disputes arising from union busting

REAFFIRMING the Resolution in support of the ILWU adopted by the ITF Dockers' Section Meeting and the Fair Practices Committee in June 2002

RESOLVES to give maximum support and solidarity to the ILWU in its present struggle, and to other unions affected by union busting policies by employers and governments and to take whatever action they can within their national laws until the ILWU achieves a fair settlement.

Submitted by: National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT), Great Britain

Special Report West Coast Longshore

ILWU to PMA—port security Bargaining Statement August 27, 2002

James Spinosa, ILWU International President

For more than a year our union has sought to address critical issues confronting us in the current round of negotiations. In the tragedies of Sept. 11 we redoubled our efforts by asking the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) to work with us to develop new security measures for our ports. If that had happened then there has not been a day that passed without members of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) working to increase

Unfortunately it is not clear that the representatives of the PMA have the same commitment to increasing our national security. Dominated by foreign-based multi-national companies more concerned with the free flow of goods than with the security of what is shipped, the PMA has consistently thwarted our efforts to build on the experience and training of dock workers and create a comprehensive port security program that includes all personnel.

The dramatic changes in the ownership and operation of shipping companies over the last decade mean that we have to pay increased attention to issues of port security. Obviously the Congress is concerned about port security because two comprehensive bills are still being debated. The Department of Transportation has stepped up its discussion of the Maritime Security Program which pays shipping companies to be ready to help in a time of crisis. And every day we hear about the efforts of the U.S. Customs Service to increase the inspection in foreign ports of the goods that are shipped to our country.

We have consistently raised these security issues with West Coast terminal operators. Our first formal request to create new security standards was submitted to PMA on Sept. 12—they did not respond. Again in the spring we raised the issue of deteriorating port security standards before we went to the bargaining table. We will raise these issues again at the table until we can create an effective plan to secure our ports.

We want to work cooperatively with the shipping companies like Maersk Sealand to enhance port security and bring the appropriate tools to the ports to increase safety and security on the job. Despite the ongoing efforts of ILWU members, there are no systems in place to provide adequate security inspections, leaving us vulnerable.

Longshore workers systematically inspecting container seals are the last line of defense. It is only through the careful inspection of container seals and the verification that each container has appropriate documentation that we can hope to

August 12 rallies say it loud—

Bush administration honchos seemed to think they could bully the ILWU and get away with it. Their ham-handed meddling in the Longshore Division talks with the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) blew up in their faces August 12. Thousands of ILWU members and allies hit the streets in Long Beach, San Diego, Oakland, Portland, Tacoma, and Seattle that day, appalled at the assault on workers' civil rights and outraged at the prospect of National Guard troops working cargo.

Elected officials from Senate

Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD) to mayors and many council members in the port cities backed the union's demand that the government get its nose out of negotiations and let the collective bargaining process work.

"This crowd in the White House amuses me every day, talking about the free enterprise system and how we shouldn't see government involvement," Daschle told participants at the Portland rally. "But now they don't want collective bargaining and they want to come in and deny you that right. I say this is wrong, wrong,

Report on Shore Negotiations

Security first

cal port safety and security
Immediately after the
Pacific Maritime Association
for the West Coast docks. Since
s of the International
se our port security.

begin to address critical issues of port security. A decade from now when the new container terminal technologies are fully in place it might be possible to inspect the containers electronically. And we will work with the shipping companies to implement that technology. But we have to make sure that we have the trained union members needed to bridge that technological gap.

Experienced dock workers can see when there is something awry as cargo is unloaded. In an era when shippers like Maersk engage in a high volume of business with countries such as Iraq and Libya, which our government considers "state sponsors of international terrorism," it is impossible to rely on overseas inspections. The fact is that most of the ships that come to our ports are foreign owned and we cannot control where they have been or who has handled the cargo. To protect our members, our families and our communities we need to work toward real port security while we develop a clear container inspection program.

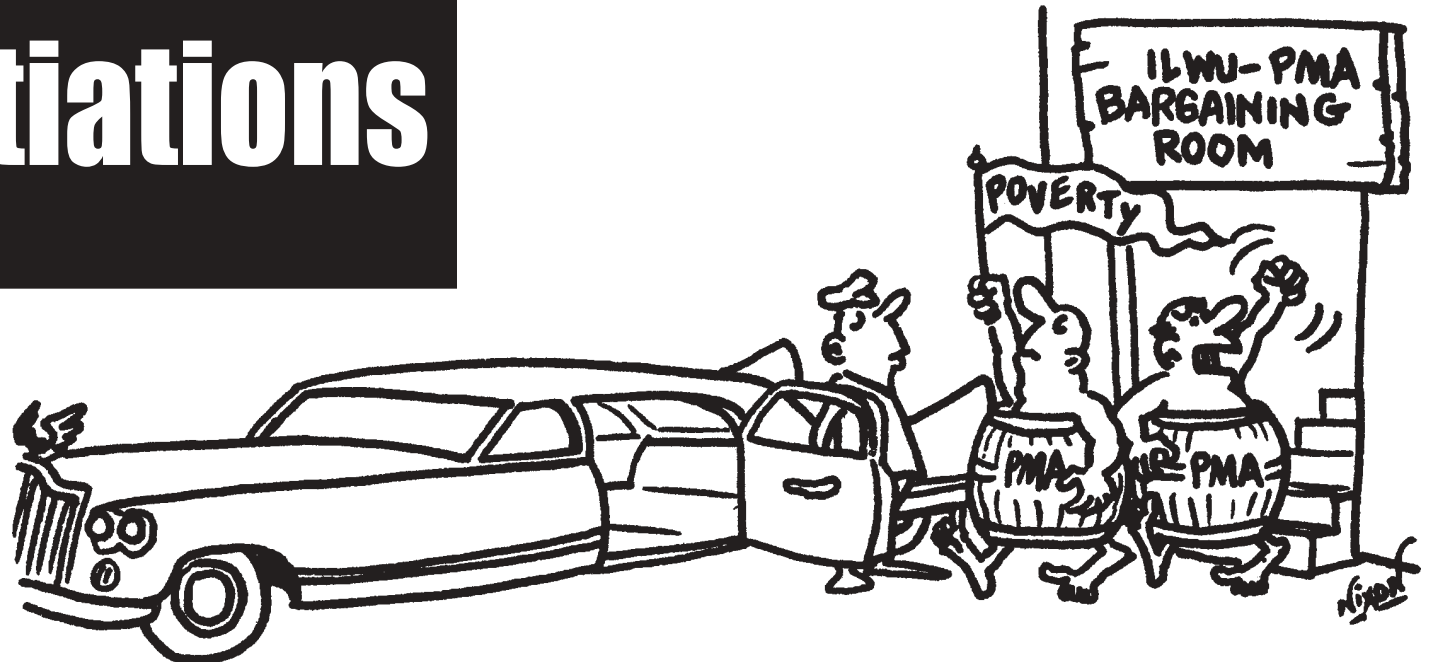
-Bush butt out!

wrong, and you're right to fight, fight, fight."

At the end of the day, the demonstrations made their point so clearly that even mainstream media got it. Headlines and newscasts up and down the coast carried the message: Bush, butt out.

"The rallies up and down the coast made it clear that port cities want the federal government out of our contract negotiations," ILWU International President James Spinosa said.

—Marcy Rein
excerpted from ILWU Dispatcher



Cartoon by longshore artist Bob Nixon who passed away June 11. Nixon worked for 31 years on the Portland waterfront and drew comics and cartoons for his fellow members, including pointed editorial cartoons during the 1971 longshore strike and award-winning safety posters. Nixon was born in 1932 and grew up in Southern Oregon, became a longshore worker in 1963, and retired to the Big Island in 1994.

APPEAL FOR JUSTICE FOR UNITED STATES WEST COAST PORT WORKERS

(Global Coalition for Justice and Security on America's Ports letter to President Bush)

Almost daily we read about renegade corporate executives who have invaded America's workplaces and stock markets and stolen the jobs and savings of tens of thousands of working families. We have welcomed your administration's stated commitment to rooting out corporate criminals more committed to their own personal gain than economic growth and recovery for all.

We are shocked now to hear of your administration's plans to intervene in the current U.S. West Coast longshore labor-management negotiations at the behest of multinational shipping, retail and agri-business corporations, against the thousands of hard-working men and women who operate these ports. We understand that your administration has threatened to strip workers of existing legal rights, bring injunctions against their union, the ILWU, and even send in military troops to take over the ports.

It is ominous to us that some in your administration would use post-September 11 security concerns as grounds for helping corporations like Walmart and Maersk Sealand intimidate port workers. The ILWU and its members always have stood on the side of democracy and human rights, from Nelson Mandela's struggle against apartheid in South Africa to Cesar Chavez' efforts to win justice for California farm workers.

We want you to know that in this time, when freedom and democracy are being tested across the globe, we will stand with the ILWU and the West Coast port workers in defense of the rights and freedoms of workers everywhere. We urge you to repudiate any attempt to exploit the war on terrorism to destroy the good jobs of workers who operate some of the most secure, safe and productive ports in the world.

Negotiations on the future of the longshore industry and issues such as job security and technological change should take place through free collective bargaining between employees and management, without heavy-handed intervention by government officials at the request of corporate executives.

The right of workers to negotiate collectively with their employers without interference or intimidation by governments or militaries is a fundamental democratic freedom, one recognized in the UN Charter of Human Rights. If such freedoms are outlawed, then the terrorists of 9/11 will have won, and the sacrifices and suffering of thousands of working people since that tragic day will have been in vain.

UNION EDUCATION PROGRAM

Oahu ILWU leaders want to make a difference

Why do people get active in the union? Because they want to help others; because they aren't afraid to challenge management and speak up for workers' rights; but mostly because they want to make a difference for working people.

"I got active in the union because I want to make a difference" was the most common reason given by unit leaders, who attended a one-day education class held on Oahu on July 10, 2002. The class was on leadership skills, and was intended to provide these unit leaders with the training and knowledge to be more effective as union leaders.

Some of the class focused on the importance of union political action, because it is how working people can use their voting power to protect and promote their goals as workers. Most of the training on leadership was provided by Adrienne Valdez from the Center for Labor Education and Research, which is part of the University of Hawaii West Oahu. Reflective listening, motivating people by appealing to basic human needs, and how to deal with conflict were some of the leadership tech-

niques covered by Adrienne.

Participants also learned from the years of experience and knowledge each of them brought to the class.

The 28 rank and file leaders came from a wide variety of ILWU companies, which demonstrates the incredible diversity of the union's membership. Reynaldo and Bart came from Pepsi Bottling which manufactures soft drinks. Dillon, Ruby, Dona, and Gordon came from retail stores Foodland and Sack 'n Save. Dexter, James, and Bunny work at wholesale distributor Flemings Foods.

Lorin and Michael are unit leaders from the Honolulu Advertiser. Stanley and Liane came from Weyerhaeuser which manufactures cardboard boxes. George, Thomas, and Edwin came from Island Movers. Donny works at Honolulu Ford, and Lawrence services Toyotas at Servco Pacific.



Oahu unit leaders attended a one-day leadership training class at the temporary ILWU Hall at 720 Kapiolani Boulevard on July 10. If you are interested in becoming a steward, or if you are a new steward and want more information and training, contact your Business Agent to find out about the ILWU education program.

The memorial parks were well represented with Abeleen from Diamond Head Memorial, Alan from Mililani Memorial, and Mataomaile from Hawaiian Memorial Parks. It's a little known fact, but the ILWU has most of the memorial parks in

Hawaii organized under union contracts. Hospital workers were represented by Janice from Kapiolani and Melita from Wahiawa Hospital. Gil was the only member from a tourism unit, the Honolulu Airport Hotel.

ILWU education and training take place statewide

(Right) Union members can do a lot to build solidarity and make the union stronger by talking to new hires about how the union works and making them feel welcome. John Torres (l) from Paradise Beverages plays the part of a new member, while Akin Jones (r) of HC&S tries to get him involved in the union.



This class of Maui unit leaders are paying close attention as John and Akin (pictured above left) act out the roles of a new member and union steward. ILWU leadership classes, like this one on Maui on May 8, use role playing to give participants real-life practice and an opportunity to learn from each other's experiences.

(Left) Hawaii Division Business Agent Greg Gauthier gives advice to a group of unit leaders with their grievance problem. (L-r) Gauthier, Dom Barrios from Unit 1414 - Punaluu Bake Shop, Nick Lopes from Unit 1503 - Mauna Kea Beach Hotel, Renee Salmon from Unit 1501 - Hawaii Nanihoa Hotel, and Pat Salomon from Unit 1503 - Mauna Kea Beach Hotel.



Watch future issues of the VOICE for a report on the 6th ILWU Labor Institute, a week-long union education institute sponsored by Local 142 and attended by 100 ILWU members statewide.

Corporate thieves include Bush and Cheney—continued from page 3

a voice in running their 401(k) plans. Congress failed to counterbalance Enron-style employer efforts to seduce workers into buying high levels of company stock and took no action to reverse the tide of corporations offering employees unregulated stock option plans rather than real retirement security that can be achieved through a defied pension-benefit plan. It defeated measures that would have given workers the rights to sue company officials and outside advisors when their misconduct causes losses to workers' 401(k) accounts and to get information critical to making the best decisions about their retirement investments.

But in the middle of the night Congress passed a personal bankruptcy bill that lines the pockets of credit card companies off the backs of the financially distressed American worker. Congress and Bush conspired to make it virtually impossible for a distressed worker to declare bankruptcy and get a fresh start. The bill will let credit card companies collect from poor people for years after they have sold off their assets in bankruptcy court, and does nothing to stop credit card companies from pushing cards on people already in debt. This bill does nothing to protect workers' severance in corporate bankruptcies or put workers ahead of inside creditors in bankruptcy proceedings.

At 4:00 a.m. July 27 the U.S. House of Representatives passed Fast Track legislation after a big push from the President. Fast Track will let multinational corporation exploit even more workers and move more jobs

to low-wage countries through trade agreements that give unlimited power to multinational corporations.

"This bill actually weakens protections of worker rights and the environment, slights health care protection for workers who lose their jobs and guts provisions designed to protect U.S. domestic trade legislation," said Robert Borsage, Co-Director of the advocacy group Campaign for America's Future.

The bill, which came out of a Senate/House conference, does nothing to correct the absurd provisions of NAFTA that allow multinational corporations to challenge health and safety legislation in secret trade tribunals. The burgeoning U.S. trade deficit is unsustainable, but instead of fixing the problems in current trade agreements, Congress gave Bush unlimited authority to let multinational corporations run amok over the global economy.

It should be no surprise to anyone that the American people continue to be looted by large corporations. Both the President and the Vice President of the United States come straight out of corporate culture.

... in the middle of the night Congress passed a personal bankruptcy bill that lines the pockets of credit card companies off the backs of the financially distressed

According to CorpWatch, an organization formed to hold corporations accountable, then-businessman George W. Bush held a seat on the board of Harken Energy Company from 1987 through 1989. Despite the fact that Harken reported multi-million dollar losses, Bush was granted \$180,375 in unsecured loans. These so-called loans were later "forgiven." Of course, due deference would be given to the son of then-President George Herbert Walker Bush.

No accountability for Insider trading

In January 1990 Harken won a contract to drill for oil in the nation of Bahrain. The contract came at a critical time for the company, since it was flat broke. In fact, Harken owed over \$150 million to banks. Harken's stock then rose dramatically as a result of the contract with Bahrain. In June 1990 Bush unloaded more than 200,000 shares of Harken stock. Bush failed to file the required Securities and Exchange Commission form that provides the SEC with information to determine whether there was any insider trading based on knowledge not yet available to the public. In fact, less than a month before Bush got a memo from Harken CEO Mikel Faulkner that expressed doubts about the company's liquidity.

It should be no surprise to anyone that the American people continue to be looted by large corporations. Both the President and the Vice President of the United States come straight out of

Several weeks after Bush made out like a bandit on his stock sales, Harken reported that the company lost \$23 million. The SEC closed its investigation of Bush without ever interviewing him or any other Harken director.

Political ties prevent investigation?

Vice President Dick Cheney was appointed CEO of Halliburton (primarily an oil services company) in 1995 and served until he was sworn in as Vice President. Cheney and his accounting firm, the now-disgraced Arthur Andersen, decided to cook the books by counting contested revenues (bills customers has refused to pay) starting in 1998.

According to the lawsuit filed by Judicial Watch, Cheney and Andersen counted as income disputed costs of up to \$113 million for the year ending December 2000.

As we learned from the Enron and WorldCom scandals, cooking the books inflates the price of stock. Cheney had stock options as part of his salary at Halliburton and received nearly \$39 million by the time he left. This May the SEC announced it was investigating Halliburton's aggressive book-

keeping. The company's stock once soared to \$60 a share, but now it sells for less than \$14 a share. Current SEC Chairman Harvey Pitt served as Arthur Andersen's lobbyist before being appointed to the SEC. Pitt will not be likely to roil the waters by sending Cheney to jail for

ISEC Chair Pitt will not be likely to roil the waters by sending Cheney to jail for inflating earnings and fleecing investors—many of whom are working-class people who thought they were buying into the American dream and

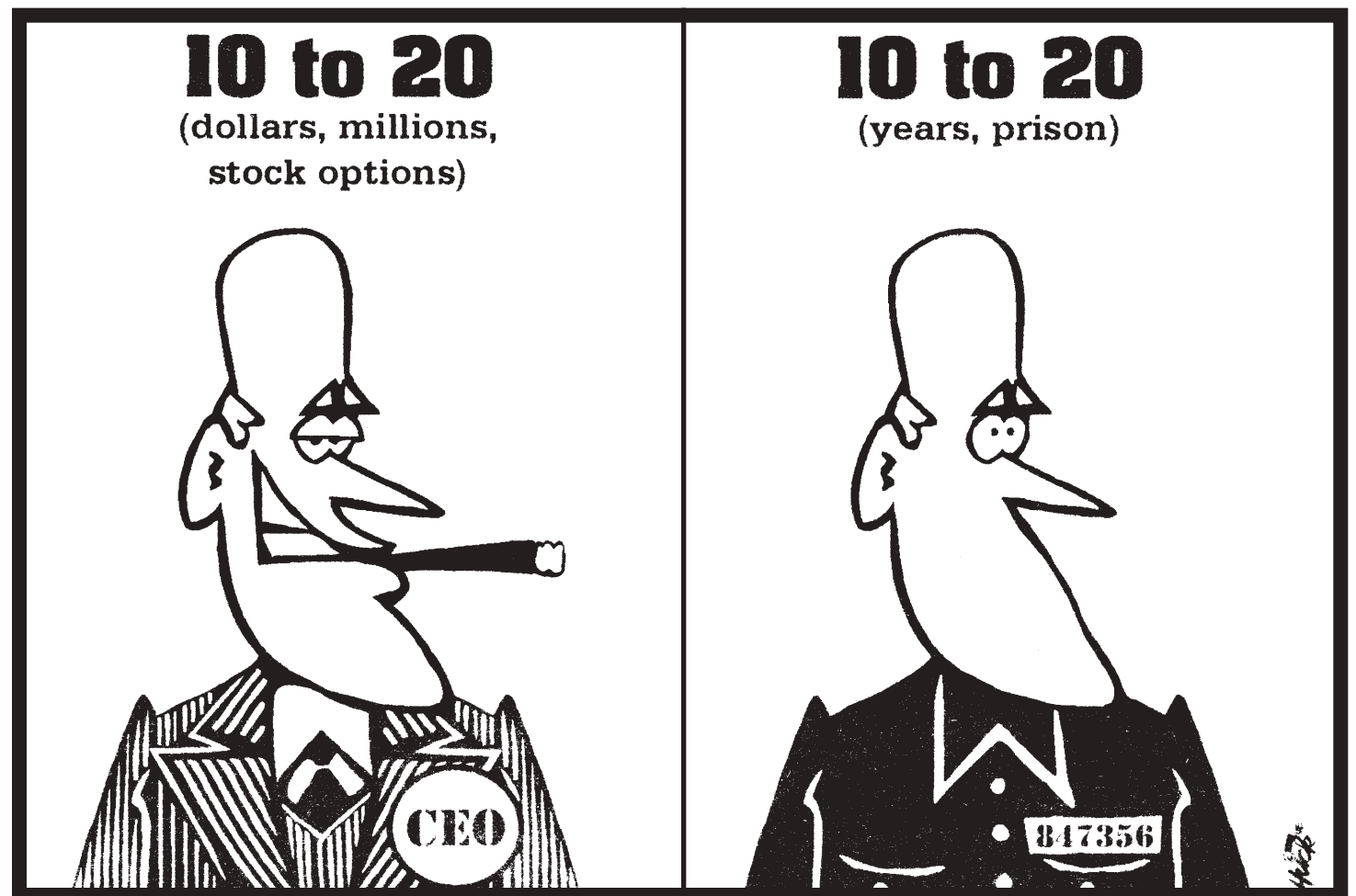
inflating earnings and fleecing investors—many of whom are working-class people who thought they were buying into the American dream and assumed corporations were honest.

Things are bad in Washington, D.C. Working people have to contend with a President who owes the large corporations for putting him in power. The U.S. House of Representatives is controlled

by Republican ideologues who always put the interest of working families last. The "Democratic-controlled" Senate, where Democrats have a whopping one-seat majority, is tepid and ineffectual. A sizeable minority of Democrats act more like corporate CEOs than protectors of the American people.

The only way to get this government back to the people is for the people to demand accountability from elected leaders and tell them to put an end to corporate dominance once and for all. You can reach your Member of Congress at (202) 225-3121.

[Hawaii's congressional delegation has one of the best records when it comes to fighting for working families and against corporate corruption.]



ILWU 142 endorses candidates who work for working families

Government and laws affect our lives every day. And working families can have a say in government, but we need to elect the right representatives into office. The power is in your hands—vote on Sept. 21!



Maui County official Roy Hiraga (r) trains Maui ILWU unit officers on the proper way to fill out the voter registration form. To register to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, a legal resident of Hawaii, and age 18 by election day. Do your part to make Hawaii a better place—register and vote.

★ The ILWU recommends taking a Democratic ballot in the Primary Election ★

Hawaii Division • ILWU Endorsements Primary Election • Saturday, Sept. 21, 2002

U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 2
Rural Oahu-Neighbor Islands Patsy T. Mink

STATE SENATE
1 Hamakua Coast Lorraine Inouye
2 Hilo-South Point Russell Kokubun

STATE HOUSE
1 Hamakua Coast Dwight Takamine
2 North Hilo Jerry Chang
3 S. Hilo Eric Hamakawa
4 Puna Helene Hale
5 S. Kona-Kau Robert Herkes
7 N. Kona Cindy Evans

HAWAII COUNCIL
1 N. Kohala-Hamakua Takashi Domingo
2 N. Hilo Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd
3 S. Hilo James Arakaki
5 Paho-Puna Gary Safarik

OPEN ENDORSEMENT:
Governor; Lt. Governor; Senate District 3; House District 6; County Council Districts 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9. An "OPEN" endorsement means that the union had no recommendation for any candidate and members may vote as they choose.

NO ENDORSEMENT:
Paul Whalen (Sen. Dist. 3). A "NO" endorsement means that the union urges members not to support or vote for any candidate in a particular race; or, the union may urge members not to support a particular candidate.

Issued by ILWU Hawaii Political Action Committee, 451 Atkinson Dr., without the consent of any candidate.

HD PAC 7/31/02 eo

★ The ILWU recommends taking a Democratic ballot in the Primary Election ★

MAUI DIVISION • ILWU ENDORSEMENTS Primary Election • Saturday, Sept. 21, 2002

U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 2
Rural Oahu-Neighbor Islands Patsy Mink

STATE SENATE
4 Kahului Shan Tsutui
5 S. Maui Roz Baker
6 E. Maui-Lanai-Molokai .. J. Kalani English

STATE HOUSE
8 Wailuku Joe Souki
9 E. Kahului Bob Nakasone
10 W. Maui Jim Rouse
13 E. Maui Frances Segundo

MAUI MAYOR James "Kimo" Apana

MAUI COUNCIL
East Maui Robert Carroll
West Maui James "Kimo" Falconer
Wailuku-Waihee-Waikapu Dain Kane
Kahului Joseph Pontanilla
South Maui G. Lehua Clubb
Makawao-Haiku-Paia Mike Molina
Lanai Riki Hokama

OPEN ENDORSEMENTS:
Governor; Lt. Governor; House Districts 11 & 12; Molokai Maui Council District. An "OPEN" endorsement means that the union had no recommendation for any candidate and members may vote as they choose.

NO ENDORSEMENTS:
Upcountry Maui Council District. A "NO" endorsement means that the union urges members not to support or vote for any candidate in a particular race; or, the union may urge members not to support a particular candidate.

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MD PAC 8/14/02 eo

★ The ILWU recommends taking a Democratic ballot in the Primary Election ★

KAUAI DIVISION • ILWU Endorsements Primary Election • Saturday, Sept. 21, 2002

U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT 2
Rural Oahu-Neighbor Islands Patsy T. Mink

STATE SENATE
7 Kauai-Niihau Gary Hooser

STATE HOUSE
14 Hanalei Hermina Morita
15 East Kauai Ezra Kanoho
16 West Kauai Bertha Kawakami

KAUAI MAYOR Ronald Kouchi

KAUAI COUNCIL
Daryl Kaneshiro Ernest Moniz Jr.
Maurice "Joe" Munechika Mel Rapozo
Raymond (Ray) Paler Joann Yukimura

OPEN ENDORSEMENT:
Governor; Lt. Governor. An "OPEN" endorsement means that the union had no recommendation for any candidate and members may vote as they choose.

NO ENDORSEMENT:
A "NO" endorsement means that the union urges members not to support or vote for any candidate in a particular race; or, the union may urge members not to support a particular candidate.

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KD PAC 8/22/02 eo

Political Reality Check:

The Republican Party has adopted a political program and goals that are almost the direct opposite of what the ILWU seeks in the best interest of its members

★ The ILWU recommends taking a Democratic ballot in the Primary Election ★

OAHU DIVISION • ILWU ENDORSEMENTS Primary Election • Saturday, Sept. 21, 2002

U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT
1 Urban Honolulu Neil Abercrombie
2 Rural Oahu-Neighbor Islands Patsy Mink

STATE SENATE
10 Makiki-Punchbowl Brian Taniguchi
11 Ala Moana Carol Fukunaga
12 Waikiki-Downtown Jon Yoshimura
13 Nuuanu-Kalihi Kai Suzanne Chun Oakland
14 Aiea-Alewa Hights Donna Mercado Kim
17 Wheeler Ron Menor
18 Waipahu-West Loch Cal Kawamoto
19 Kapolei Brian Kanno
20 Ewa Beach Tesha H. Malama
21 Waianae Colleen Hanabusa
22 Wahiawa-North Shore Robert Bunda
23 Kaneohe-Laie Bob Nakata
25 Waimanalo-Portlock Jackie Young

OPEN ENDORSEMENTS:
Governor; Lt. Governor; Senate Districts 8 (Dem. race only), 9, 16, 24 (Dem. race only); House Districts 19, 23, 47, 49 & 50; Council Dists. 1, 3, 4, 6, & 9 An "OPEN" endorsement means that the union had no recommendation for any candidate and members may vote as they choose.

NO ENDORSEMENTS:
Sam Slom (Senate Dist. 8), Norman Sakamoto (Senate 15), Bob Hogue (Senate 24); William Stonebreaker (House Dist 17), Bertha Leong (House 18). A "NO" endorsement means that the union urges members not to support or vote for any candidate in a particular race; or, the union may urge members not to support a particular candidate.

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STATE HOUSE
20 Palolo Calvin Say
21 Diamond Head-Kapahulu ... Scott Y. Nishimoto
22 Moiliili Scott Saiki
24 Manoa Valley-Makiki Kirk Caldwell
25 Maikiki-Tantalus Brian Schatz
26 Pauoa Sylvia Luke
27 Liliha-Nuuanu Jennifer Waihee
28 Kapalama-Moiliili Ken Hiraki
29 Kalihi-Kapalama Jun Abinsay
30 Kalihi Valley Dennis Arakaki
31 Aliamanu-Salt Lake Glenn Wakai
32 Foster Village-Aliamanu Ben Cabreros
33 Red Hill-Aiea Blake Oshiro
34 Waimalu-Newtown K. Mark Takai
35 Waipahu Julie Duldulao
36 Pearl City Roy Takumi
37 Wheeler-Mililani Kekua Beamer
38 Miilani Marilyn Lee

STATE HOUSE
39 Wahiawa Marcus Oshiro
40 Kapolei Maeda Timson
41 Waikele-Village Park Annette Yamaguchi
42 Ewa-West Loch Rodolfo Ramos
43 Ewa Beach Angelo "Ray" Galas
44 Nanakuli Michael Kahikina
45 Makaha Maile Shimabukuro
46 North Shore Michael Magoay
48 Kaneohe Ken Ito
51 Waimanalo-Enchanted Lake Tommy Waters

HONOLULU COUNCIL
2 Gerald Hagino
5 Ann Kobayashi
7 Romy Cachola
8 Gary Okino

OD PAC 8/15/02 eo