



Photo by Bill Burke, Page One Photography

Civilian DoD workers protest the Bush Administration's unfair personnel rules that will eliminate most rights and change the pay system for 770,000 workers.

Federal Workers Mobilize Against Unfair Rules

Department of Defense (DoD) employees are banding together to protest the Bush Administration's sweeping changes in the federal personnel system that will strip worker rights from 770,000 civilian DoD workers.

Members of the United DoD Workers Coalition, a group of 36 unions who represent DoD civilian employees, marched to Capitol Hill to protest the new National Security Personnel System

(NSPS). The NSPS virtually eliminates collective bargaining rights and gives management unilateral authority over most aspects of a worker's job, from shift assignment to pay grade.

"These rules aren't about fighting terrorism. Federal workers will do everything necessary to win that fight," said IAM President Tom Buffenbarger. "These new rules are about eliminating the unions that give federal workers a voice."

Air Force One Fuelers Join Machinists Union

Whenever the President of the United States takes off in Air Force One from now on, he or she will be riding on a jet that is kept fueled up and ready to go by new IAM members of Local Lodge 193 in Washington, D.C.

The 86 highly-skilled fuelers and support personnel work at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington, D.C., for Trend Western, a private contractor providing a variety of services to the U.S. Air Force.

"The main reason we went with the IAM was to have a voice at the level where decisions are made," said Bill Moody, a Fuels Distribution Specialist. "After three years without a cost-of-living increase, we knew we needed representation."

The Trend Western workers voted overwhelmingly for IAM representation.



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Newly organized IAM members at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington, D.C., keep Air Force One fueled and ready.

Negotiations for a first contract will begin immediately under provisions of the Service Contract Act.



Frank Souza

The Machinists Union, along with the entire labor movement, mourns the loss of legendary trade unionist Frank Souza, who passed away at his home in Oakland, CA at the age of 79. A former

IAM Mourns Loss of Frank Souza

Directing Business Representative for IAM District 190, Souza was a leading light in the California labor movement.

“Frank Souza’s passion for this Union, our members, and workers everywhere earned him the respect of all who met him. We will miss his tireless devotion to the labor community,” said IAM President Tom Buffenbarger.

From the time of Souza’s initiation into the IAM in 1953, he fought for workers,

whether or not they were IAM members.

Souza was one of the first union leaders to lead delegations of U.S. workers to Shanghai, Beijing and other cities so the Chinese could learn about democracy and American workers would better understand the world around them.

“He loved the union and his work the same way he loved his wife, daughter and grandkids: absolutely,” said George Kourpias, retired IAM International President.

Future Auto Techs Compete in Chicago

High school and college students raced the clock and turned in record times at the fifth annual Chi-Town Tear Down Pit Crew Competition held at the World of Wheels Custom Car Show in Chicago, IL. Teams from sixteen schools and nine colleges took part in the competition sponsored by IAM Auto Mechanic Local 701 and Ford Motor Co.

Student teams compete to tear down and reassemble a Ford V-6 dual overhead cam engine in the shortest time and with the fewest mistakes. Ford provided 30 engines in addition to two Crown

Victoria sedans that were raffled off among the participating schools.

“The thrill of watching these kids work as a team is what really drives us to run this competition,” said Local 701 Vice President Steve Tyeptanar, who noted the growing number of female students in the competition.

Hoffman High School took first place in the high school division, beating second place Juarez High



High school and college students raced the clock to rebuild auto engines at the fifth annual Chi-Town Tear Down Pit Crew Competition in Chicago, IL.

School by just seven seconds. The first place trophy in the tougher college competition went to Lincoln Technical Institute.