

Transportation Communications Union/IAM

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



Robert A. Scardelletti
National President



Re: Strike Support for IAM Members
Lockheed Martin and
Caterpillar, Inc.

June 21, 2012

TO: ALL TCU/IAM LOCAL LODGE OFFICERS

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Our IAM Brothers and Sisters in Local Lodges 776 and 851 are in need of our assistance. Members of Local Lodge 776 are waging a strike against Lockheed Martin in Ft. Worth, Texas, Edwards Air Force Base in Palmdale, California, and the Naval Air Station in Patuxent River, Maryland. Members of IAM Local Lodge 851 are on strike against Caterpillar, Inc. in Joliet, Illinois. These striking members and their families are making enormous sacrifices in order to preserve justice and dignity in the workplace for future generations.

I am attaching two letters herein from IAM Local Lodges 776 and 851 detailing their struggle. The 3,500 IAM members of Local Lodge 776 rejected Lockheed Martin's proposal that included provisions that terminate the pension plan; increase the employee contribution for health care; and severely weaken the entire collective bargaining agreement.

In the same manner, 739 members of Local Lodge 851 rejected Caterpillar, Inc.'s proposal that included the elimination of seniority rights; wage freezes for six years; the elimination of C.O.L.A.'s; the termination of retiree health care provisions; and hikes to employee health care costs that would double or triple rates over current contributions.

Both of these locals continue to need our support both on and off the picket lines and are now asking for donations.

I strongly encourage your Lodge to support these striking IAM members and their families by making a donation from your TCU/IAM lodge treasury. Of course, any personal donation you and your membership would be willing to make towards this cause will be greatly appreciated as well. The TCU/IAM Executive Council will be voting to make a significant financial donation from the National Union in support of these striking IAM members.



All contributions should be made by check or money order, payable to the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, 9000 Machinists Place, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772, who will acknowledge receipt of same and forward the amount to the striking lodges.

Members of my staff, Dennis O'Malley and Steve Wilhelm of the Constitution and Laws Department, are available to assist you and your membership with any questions on this strike. They may be reached at (301) 840-8752.

In the spirit of "**Friendship, Unity and True Brotherly Love**", I appreciate your support and participation in this crucial struggle of our IAM Brothers and Sisters.

In solidarity,



Robert A. Scardelletti
National President

Enc.

cc: R. Thomas Buffenbarger, IP
Robert Roach, Jr., GST
Mark Blondin, GVP
Philip J. Gruber, GVP
Robert Martinez, Jr., GVP
Richard Michalski, GVP
Steve Jones, DBR
Paul Black, DBR
David Hardison, ST #776
Barry T. O'Brien, ST #851
TCU Executive Council
Carmen Division Officers
TCU/IAM NRs and ANRs



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of MACHINISTS
and AEROSPACE WORKERS

LOCAL LODGE 851

23157 S. THOMAS DILLON DR., SUITE B • CHANNAHON, ILLINOIS 60410

PHONE (815) 467-4003

FAX (815) 467-9649

May 29, 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

On May 1, 2012, the members of Local Lodge 851, Joliet, Illinois, rejected a horrible contract offer and entered into a strike against Caterpillar, Inc. Seven hundred and thirty-nine IAM brothers and sisters united and voted 94% to strike in an effort to protect the futures and dignity of working families.

Caterpillar earned record profits for fiscal year 2011 and posted over 1.6 billion in profits for the first quarter of 2012. The contract offer from Caterpillar would eliminate seniority for job bidding, freeze wages for 6 years, eliminate C.O.L.A., remove retirees health care language from the contract, allow alternate work schedules without notice to the Union, freeze our Tier 1 workers for 6 years without chance of advancement past the entry level, and health care payments by employees would double or triple over current costs.

We are asking for donations to our lodge for strike assistance. We know we are in for a long struggle and any donations would be greatly appreciated.

This strike is sanctioned by the Executive Council and all contributions should be made by check or money order payable to the General Secretary-Treasurer, Machinists Building, 9000 Machinists Place, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-2687, who in conformity with the Grand Lodge Constitution will acknowledge receipt of same and forward the amount to our lodge.

With best wishes, I remain

Fraternally yours,

Barry T. O'Brien

Barry T. O'Brien
Secretary-Treasurer

cc: Phil Gruber, GVP

Approved by: *R. Thomas Ruffenbarger*



Aeronautical Industrial District Lodge 776
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of MACHINISTS
and AEROSPACE WORKERS
7711 CLIFFORD STREET FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76108

PAUL BLACK
President/Dir. Business Representative
817-248-2443

DAVID HARDISON
Secretary-Treasurer/Organizer
817-248-2444

May 29, 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As you are aware, District Lodge 776 is engaged in a firm and unyielding strike against Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company. The membership, approximately 3,500 strong, of District 776 voted overwhelmingly to reject the company's last, best and final offer on April 22, 2012. Our Brothers and Sisters at Ft. Worth, TX, Pax/NAS and Edwards Air Force Base manned their pickets at 12:01 AM April 23, 2012. The strike is in full swing; still going strong and our picketers remain determined and committed to their duty without fail.

The Company's final proposal was an outrageous attack on our Brothers and Sisters and was geared to take away our Defined Pension Plan which has been in place since 1956. Furthermore, there would be no pension plan at all for new hires. Our health care coverage came under attack as well. Under the Company's proposal our health care options would be severely limited and our members would have to contribute 13% of the cost of the medical plan with no cap. In addition, the Attendance Control Program was revamped in an unfair and unacceptable manner. The TAKE AWAYS go on.

Your IAM Brothers and Sisters are to be commended for their dedication, loyalty and determination to be victorious in their endeavors to overcome the Company's outlandish "take away" proposal. In order for District Lodge 776's IAM membership to remain strong in their fight to protect their benefits we are asking for donations. Our members would certainly be appreciative of any assistance our fellow Brothers and Sisters can give.

This strike sanction is sanctioned by the Executive Council and all contributions should be made by check or money order, payable to the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, 9000 Machinists Place, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772, who in conformity with the Grand Lodge Constitution, will acknowledge receipt of same and forward the amount to our Lodge.