

ITPE news



NATIONAL MARITIME UNION OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO

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Military cutbacks underway *Members urged to write their Congressmen!*

The U.S. Defense Department has started extensive layoffs of civilian employees throughout the U.S. in an effort to generate a political backlash against Congress, according to Pentagon officials.

Beyond an attempt to put indirect pressure on Congress, officials said, the military services are seeking to protect training and deploying forces around the world as much as possible from budget cuts. But some operations would be reduced, they said.

Whether the layoffs would

be spread evenly around the country or would be imposed selectively to maximize the political effect or to lessen the deterioration in military readiness could not be determined.

The three states with the largest number of Defense Department civilian employees are California, with 135,000, Virginia, with 106,000; and Texas, with 63,600. Northern Virginia is the site of the Pentagon, while southern Virginia, around Hampton Roads, has many bases.

Under the revised budget-

balancing law, \$23 billion in federal spending will automatically be cut in fiscal 1988, which began October 5. Of that sum, \$11.5 billion must be taken from military spending.

ITPE members are strongly urged to write their respective Congressmen to stop the laying-off of civilian personnel and the use of their jobs as mere players in a political football game. (See Page 11 for instructions on writing your Congressmen). On Page 10 is a listing of key Defense Dept. personnel to be contacted.



ITPE-NMU Trustees hold meeting concerning Annual Benefit Plan. From the left are Area II Coordinator John Conley, Plan Rep. Roy Boyd, Company Representative Dick Rowe, NMU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Parise, Legal Counsel Stan Gruber, and Plan Administrators Al Franco and Ed Montague.

'87 walkout total lowest on record

Major strikes and lockouts dropped to a record low in 1987, involving only 174,000 workers in 46 actions, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

It was the smallest number of strikes and lockouts since the BLS started keeping such records in 1947. A major strike or lockout involves at least 1,000 workers and must last at least one full day or shift.

AFL-CIO Research Director Rudy Oswald said the low number indicates bargaining on problems is continuing between negotiations on a regular basis and that economic forces have tempered workers' use of the traditional strike weapon.

"They are seeking other means and other pressure points instead," Oswald said.

The largest strike last year involved 30,000 members of the Teachers in Chicago who were out for 19 school days.

The longest stoppage involved the lockout and strike of 3,400 Paperworkers and Electrical Workers at four International Paper Co. plants that began last March. *AFL-CIO News.*

24 states report 6% unemployment rate

Unemployment rates were over 6.0 percent in 24 states in December 1987, the Labor Dept.'s Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Two states reported double-digit jobless rates. West Virginia's rate was 11.4 percent in December, and Louisiana's rate was 10.9 percent.

Four states reported jobless rates between 8.0 percent and 9.9 percent: Alaska and Mississippi, 9.7 percent; Michigan, 8.3 percent; and New Mexico, 8.1 percent.

Eighteen states reported jobless rates between 6.0 percent and 7.9 percent.

Out of the 43 states whose jobless rates declined over the year ending in December 1987, 19 states had rates which fell 1.0 percent or more.

Unemployment rates rose over the year in Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, and Pennsylvania. Maryland's jobless rate stayed the same at 4.2 percent. —PAI



ITPE members who serve on the janitorial staff at Womack Army Hospital, Fort Bragg, NC., take time out during lunch break. From left to right are Rosie May, Addie Meachern, ITPE Rep. Cindy Diehm, Irene Franklin and Betty Dorsey.

Eastern Airlines' unions launch drive for justice

Unions representing Eastern Airlines' mechanics, flight attendants and pilots have launched a broad campaign to force airline magnate Frank Lorenzo "to stop worker and passenger abuse."

The campaign will include protest actions in nine cities and public hearings by a citizen's commission which has been set up to investigate Lorenzo, who heads Texas Air, which bought Eastern in 1986. The campaign was organized by the Machinists, the Transport Workers and the Pilots with the assistance of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council, at its meeting in Bal Harbour, FL, declared that "Eastern employees, who invested more than a billion dollars to strengthen their company in the ten years before its capture by Lorenzo, have been subjected to a reign of terror aimed at forcing them to agree to further massive wage cuts of nearly

a half-billion dollars a year."

Contract negotiations between Eastern and its Machinists and Pilots are deadlocked and in mediation under the law that governs air and rail labor negotiations. A strike could occur after a 30-day "cooling off" period if either side declares an impasse. —PAI

Union HQ now in Jersey City

NMU National Headquarters has moved to Jersey City, N.J.

The new address is 30 Montgomery Street — 8th floor, Jersey City, N.J. 07302. Telephone: 201-332-7070.

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NATIONAL MARITIME UNION OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO



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Robert Amon
Editor



Bette Metzler
Staff Writer



Meet our new ITPE security guards from NWS Earle Colts Neck, NJ. From left to right are Julius Cheron, Kenny Kricvas, Shop Steward Peter Leckley, ITPE Rep. Ila Hampton, Shop Steward John McKimsey, Robert Louis and Rudy Shaw.

ITPE East Coast Round-up



ITPE members at Pope Air Force Base meet with NMU Vice President Elwood Hampton to discuss recent contract negotiations. From the left are Sharon Barbet, Gloria Brewer, Gloria Smith and Shop Steward Annie Iverson.



Taking the time for a quick snapshot at Pope Air Force Base are members Janice Sizemore, Felicidad McMichew, Steve Washington and Paula Gordon.



This group shot was taken during a recent visit by Area I Coordinator Elwood Hampton at Fort Meyer, Maryland.

ITPE spotlight on Andrews AFB



ITPE member Martha Norman takes inventory on refrigerated stores at Andrews AFB.



ITPE Rep. Ila Hampton confers with Cook I Martha Norman at Andrews Air Force Base.



Catching up on some clerical work is Shop Steward Denise Moore.



KP Cummins Thoom is seen wrapping up meat to be refrigerated.



ITPE AT DOVER AFB. ITPE members hold informal union meeting at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware. From the left are ITPE Representative Ila Hampton, John Dolby, Paula Holmes, Cynthia Brown, Denise Schroeder, Carol Schwanberger, William Raymound, Elsie Jackson, Valerie Green and George Jackson, ITPE members are employed by United Health Services.

NOTICE TO ALL EMPLOYERS FROM ITPE-NMU HEALTH & WELFARE FUND

COBRA (Amendment to Internal Revenue Code and ERISA)

COBRA, a new amendment to the Internal Revenue Code and ERISA affects your Company and all of your employees. This new law is in effect for all employees covered by the ITPE-NMU Health & Welfare Fund as of *October 1, 1987*. Although the law is in effect as of that date, final regulations have not been issued. However, there are interim regulations which are now in force. This notice represents our interpretation of those interim regulations. You may want to consult your legal counsel for legal advice regarding compliance with COBRA.

WHAT IS YOUR LIABILITY?

If your Company fails to comply with the requirements of COBRA, your Company may lose its Federal Income Tax Deductions for all contributions to the ITPE-NMU Health & Welfare Fund for *each year* in which you fail to comply. Again, we urge you to consult legal counsel for full details.

WHAT DOES COBRA DO?

COBRA extends to employees, their spouses and dependent children, an opportunity to continue health care coverage if certain "qualifying events" take place. The term "Health Care Coverage" refers to medical, vision and dental benefits provided by the Plan. Participants and their families may *not* continue death benefits, accident and sick benefits, survivor benefits, or scholarship benefits.

Notice to the Plan Administrator

COBRA requires an employer to notify the Plan Administrator within 30 days of the happening of certain "qualifying events". These "qualifying events" include the following:

- 1) The death of the employee;
- 2) The termination from employment of the employee for any reason, including leaves of absence;
- 3) A reduction in the weekly work schedule of an employee which results in a drop in benefit classification level.

For your convenience, the Plan Administrator will calculate changes in benefit classification levels based on your monthly reporting of hours for and contributions for each employee. Accordingly, it will not be necessary for an employer to send notification of a drop in benefit class to the Plan Administrator *so long as* the employer submits its regular monthly report of hours and contributions by the 15th day of the month following the month for which contributions are made. *Failure to submit the regular monthly reports on a timely basis may be considered a COBRA violation with the serious consequences described above.*

SO, THE SECOND THING YOU SHOULD DO IS NOTIFY THE PLAN ADMINISTRATOR WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE HAPPENING OF EITHER EVENTS (1) AND (2) DESCRIBED ABOVE.

WHERE ARE THE FULL DETAILS OF THE CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE PROGRAM SET OUT?

The Plan Administrator is in the process of publishing a new benefit booklet which will contain full details of the continuation of coverage program. You will receive a copy of the booklet as soon as it is published.

This does not mean that you may wait until publication of the booklet to comply with the COBRA requirements described above. The notice sent to you by the Plan Administrator should be distributed to your employees immediately. Effective October 1, 1987 the 30-day notice requirements will be in effect and you must comply with same.

Please contact the Plan Administrator or Plan Counsel if you have any questions whatsoever about the COBRA program.



ITPE members who work for 307 Command at Fort Bragg pose with Union Representatives. Standing (left to right) are ITPE Representative Dennis Arrington, member Ronnie Douglas, ITPE Representatives Cindy Diehm and Mary Williams and member Sadie West. Seated (left to right) are ITPE Welfare Plan Representative Roy Boyd and Mess Attendants Wataya Angstrom and Glenda Martin. Fort Bragg is the home of the Green Berets and the Golden Knights parachuting team.



ITPE members at Consolidated Dining Facility. Each meal includes Gracie T.

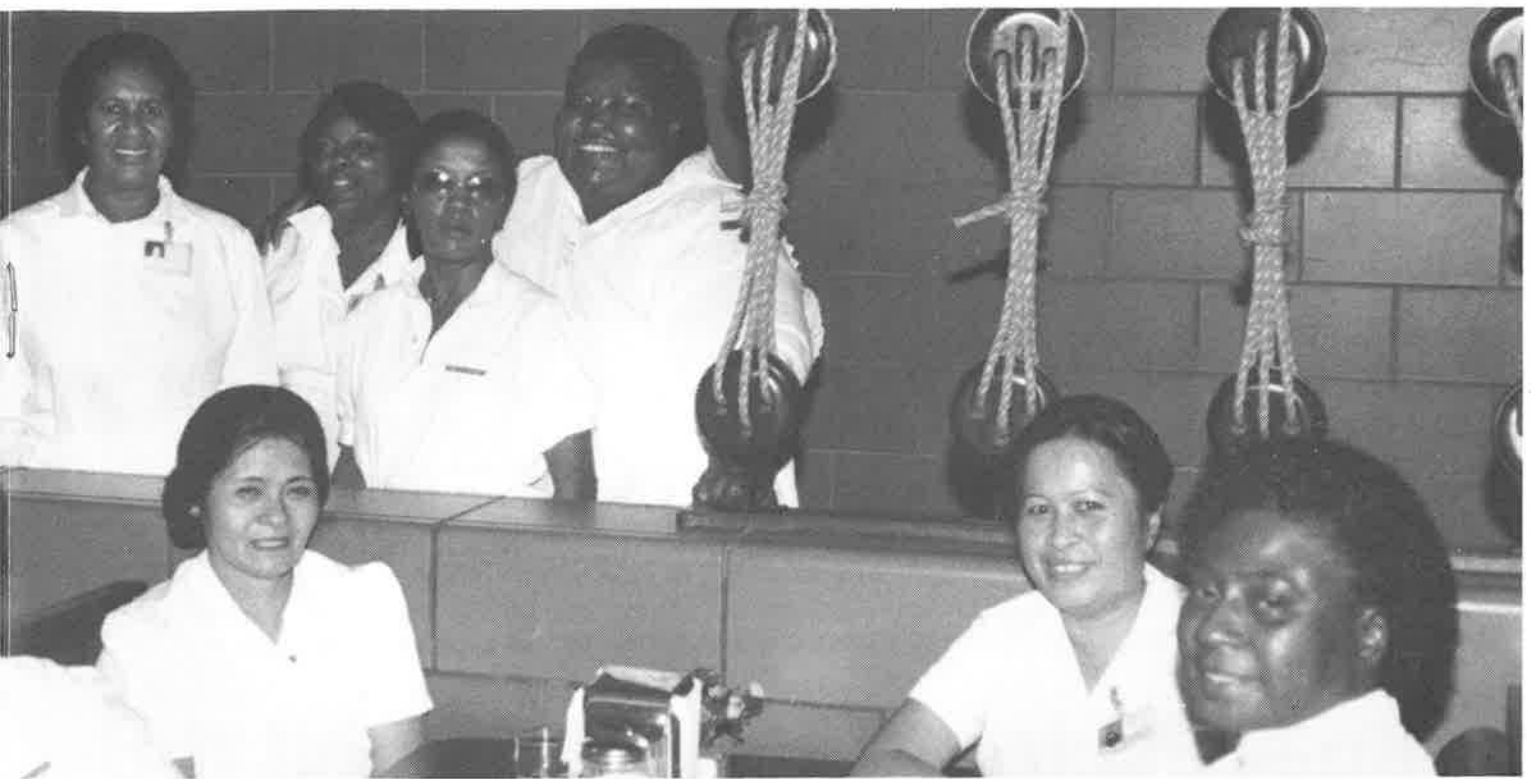
ITPE means higher pay at Fort Bragg



Pope AFB members pose for photo during breaktime. Shown are ITPE members Sharon Barbot, Gloria Brewer and Amelia Bryan.



Employees at the dining facility for Company E, 407th Supply and Service Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division chat with Union Representatives. From left are members Chun O'Donnell, Sun Vendetta, Yong Smith, Yo Chang, ITPE Rep. Cindy Diehm, Welfare Plan



Consolidate Mess serving between 250-300 servicemen
 icie Thomas, Charlene McMillan, Jane Manuel, Many McNatt, standing in back, and seated at booth, Pearl Hall, Jean Mitchell, Paiboon Otwell, Bette Davis.

Fort Bragg and Pope AFB



Rep. Roy Boyd and ITPE Reps. Dennis Arrington and Mary Williams. With over 142,000 acres, Fort Bragg is one of the largest military installations in the world, with a daily population in excess of 62,000. Fort Bragg employs close to 600 ITPE-NMU members.



Members at Pope Air Force Base are employed by Shaw Food Service. In background are members Pranorm Marble and Steve Washington; seated are Gloria Smith and Helen Hoffler. Located next to Fort Bragg, Pope AFB is a closed post for security reasons.



Demonstrators from NMU and other U.S. and European maritime unions as well as shoreside members call upon the United Nations to "do its job" by setting up protective naval force to guard all ships caught in Iran Iraq tanker war.

ITPE joins seamen's call for

Representatives of the International Transportworkers' Federation (ITF) and seamen's unions in the U.S. and abroad met Thursday (Feb. 4) with United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to push for a multinational UN naval force to protect commercial shipping in the Persian

Gulf.

The six-year Iran-Iraq tanker war has resulted so far in the deaths of more than 350 merchant seamen.

As the maritime union delegation and the UN chief met, more than 200 U.S. and foreign seamen joined by a contingent of ITPE

members, demonstrated outside the UN headquarters.

NMU President Shannon J. Wall, who serves as Vice Chairman of the ITF Seafarers Section, said there had been interest among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council including the Soviet Union, in



Stop the killing and maiming of seamen in Persian Gulf. NMU President Shannon J. Wall (light raincoat) and ITF Seafarers' Section Chairman and Danish Mates Union leader Mols Sørensen, Assistant General Secretary Ake Selander, and British NUMAST Deputy General Secretary John Newman, join demonstration at United Nations headquarters before meeting with the UN Secretary-General to demand establishment of a UN naval force to protect all commercial shipping. From left, NMU's Elwood Hampton and Louis Parise, Selander, Newman, Wall, Sorensen, Al Zeidel, Andy Rich, Spiro Varras, and Lucy Wall flanked by two unidentified seamen. More than 350 seamen met death since start of Iran-Iraq tanker war.



Unions demonstrate at United Nations to push for naval force to end deaths of seamen in Persian Gulf tanker war.

U.N. naval force in Persian Gulf

proposals to create a UN naval force.

But he said bureaucratic hurdles and "ill-considered" demands by the United States for a total cease-fire have stymied this common sense approach.

Agreement of all the Security Council members would be re-

quired to empower such a UN naval protective force.

"As practical men concerned for the lives and welfare of the seamen who crew the ships which must run the gauntlet of guns and bombs from hostile forces in this prolonged war, we say this is precisely the kind of international

situation the United Nations was created for," Wall said, adding:

"Let's take one step at a time. Let the UN act to save lives — something that is do-able — and insure the flow of valuable cargo while continuing to work at the more intractable task of achieving an Iran-Iraq ceasefire."



UN Secretary-General de Cuellar, ITF's Ake Selander and Mols Sorensen, British Merchant Officers John Newman and NMU President Shannon Wall.

Write to Defense Dept. personnel!

Attention! All ITPE-NMU members! Send a letter to as many of the following staff members of the U.S. Defense Department as possible informing them that the budget reductions can be achieved and done so in compliance with existing guidelines, rules and regulations, and that you oppose the extensive layoffs of civilian employees.

DEFENSE

SD-129 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

(202) 224-7255

Jurisdiction: (1) Department of Defense — Military: Departments of Army, Navy (including Marine Corps), Air Force, and Office of Secretary of Defense (except Military Construction); (2) The Central Intelligence Agency; (3) Intelligence Community Oversight.

Majority Members

John J. Stennis
Chairman
William Proxmire
Daniel K. Inouye
Ernest F. Hollings
Lawton Chiles
J. Bennett Johnston
Robert C. Byrd
Patrick J. Leahy
Jim Sasser
Dennis Deconcini

Minority Members

Ted Stevens,
Ranking
Lowell P. Weicker, Jr.
Jake Garn
James A. McClure
Robert W. Kasten, Jr.
Alfonso M. D'Amato
Warren B. Rudman
Thad Cochran

Key Staff Aids

Majority

Clerk Francis J. Sullivan SD-136 224-7254
Professional Staff Members:

Steven J. Cortese 224-2739
Scott B. Gudes 224-7296
Charles J. Houy 224-7293
Jay Kimmitt 224-7206
Peter D. Lennon 224-7207
Edward A. Swoboda 224-6818

Staff Assistants:

Jane McMullan 224-7286
Lynda K. Maddox 224-7255

Minority

Professional Staff Member Sean O'Keefe

SD-117 224-7203
Staff Assistant Penny German SD-157 224-7246

Defense

H-144 Capitol Bldg., Washington, DC 20515

(202) 225-2847

Jurisdiction: (1) Department of Defense — Military: Departments of Army, Navy (including Marine Corps), Air Force; (2) Office of Secretary of Defense (except military construction); (3) Central Intelligence Agency; (4) Intelligence Community staff.

Majority Members

Bill Chappell,
Chairman
John P. Murtha
Norman D. Dicks
Charles Wilson
W.G. (Bill) Hefner
Les AuCoin
Martin Olav Sabo

Minority Members

Joseph M. McDade,
Ranking
C.W. Bill Young
Clarence E. Miller
Bob Livingston

Key Staff Aides

Senior Staff Assistant Don Richbourg
Staff Assistants:

Intelligence Bob Davis
John Plashal

Military Personnel/Operation &

Maintenance (225-1086) David Kilian
(225-1086) Betsy Phillips

Guard & Reserve/O&M, Defense

Agencies (225-1086) Sandy Gilbert
Procurement—

Air Force Del Davis

Army Dave Wilson

Navy Paul Magliocchetti

Missiles Robert Seraphin

Other and Communications Bruce Meredith

RDT&E—Air Force/Army Robert Seraphin

RDT&E—Navy/Defense Agencies Richard Efford

Administrative Aides Alicia Jones
Marcia Matts
Dona Pate

Manpower and Personnel

Jurisdiction: Designated by title.

Majority Members

John Glenn,
Chairman
J. James Exon
Edward M. Kennedy
Richard C. Shelby

Minority Members

Pete Wilson
Ranking
Steven D. Symms
John McCain

Readiness

2340 Rayburn House Office Bldg.

Washington, DC 20515

(202) 225-7991

Jurisdiction: (1) Annual authorization for operation and maintenance; (2) Current readiness and preparedness requirements of the Defense establishment, including the supporting defense industrial base; (3) Special operations oversight; (4) Commisaries and exchanges, clubs and related nonappropriated funds activities of the Armed Forces; and (5) Related legislative oversight.

Majority Members

Dan Daniel
Chairman
Earl Hutto
Marvin Leath
Richard Ray
George (Buddy) Darden
Tommy F. Robinson
George J. Hochbrueckner
Bill Nichols

Minority Members

Ranking
David O'B. Martin
Jack Davis
James V. Hansen
John G. Rowland

How to win friends and influence your people on Capitol Hill



1. Congress will listen

Your Senator and your Congressman want to know what you think about the laws they will vote on. But they are under a lot of pressure from many sides. Your letter will help them.

2. Address your letter correctly

Send it to the right party:
 Senator (full name)
 U.S. Senate
 Washington, D.C. 20510
 or
 Honorable (full name)
 U.S. House of Representatives
 Washington, D.C. 20515



3. Keep it short

Keep your letter down to one page or less. Use your own words. Don't send "junk" mail. Don't use or copy printed form letters. Make it personal. Tell the Congressman who you are, where you live, what you would like him to do and why.



4. Stick to one problem

Don't dilute your message by writing about more than one issue at a time. Don't write too often and make sure your letter arrives well before the legislation you are interested in comes up for a vote in committee or on the floor.



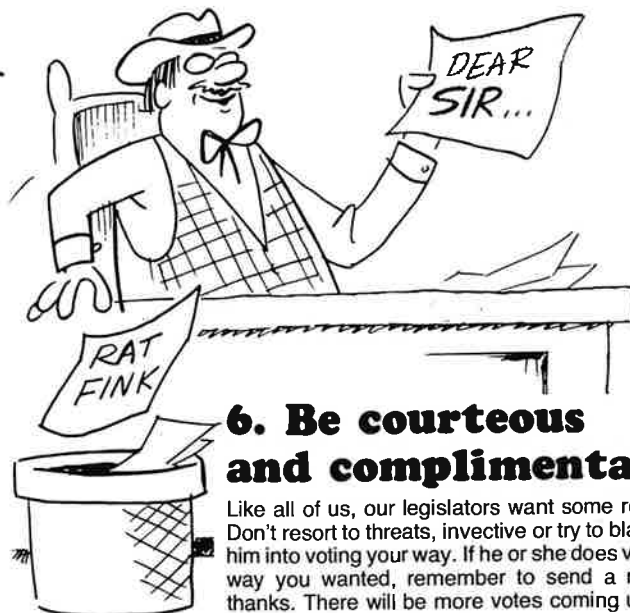
5. Tell your facts straight

Tell your representative in the Congress exactly what action you would like him or her to take: Vote for (or against a bill), or introduce legislation in your interest. Tell him the name and number of the bill.



6. Be courteous and complimentary

Like all of us, our legislators want some respect. Don't resort to threats, invective or try to blackmail him into voting your way. If he or she does vote the way you wanted, remember to send a note of thanks. There will be more votes coming up.



NMU BRANCH OFFICES

Listed below are branch offices of the NMU. These offices are spread throughout the United States and you should know the closest one to you. Get to know your Shop Steward and your Union Representative by name. Get to know the phone number of the Union office that is closest to you and above all make sure you go to your Union meetings when they are held in your area. In true NMU spirit, an informed member is the best member.

BOSTON, MA 02111
135 Lincoln Street
Tel.: 617-542-0546
Robert F. Healy, Agent

BROWNSVILLE, TX 78520
P.O. Box 4534
Tel.: 512-546-3837
Humberto Garcia
ITPE-Organizer

CHARLESTON, SC 29402
16 Market Street
Tel.: 803-723-4547
Duke Duarte, Agent

DEARBORN, MI 48126
4241 Maple Ave.
Tel.: 313-584-0970-74
Ken Gerasimos, Patrolman

GALVESTON, TX 77550
1906 Mechanic Street
Tel.: 409-762-9669
Steve Czpala, Patrolman
ITPE REPRESENTATIVE
Ralph Smith
Tel.: 409-762-9874
Ft. Hood 817-532-3417
Sallie Blankes

GRANITE CITY, IL 62040
1836 A. Delmar
Tel.: 618-876-0086 or 87
George Matz, Agent
ITPE REPRESENTATIVE
Craig Foster

HONOLULU, HI 96813
Honolulu Seamen's Home
Room 307
707 Alakea St.
Tel.: 808-531-0860

HOUSTON, TX 77012
8329 Lawndale
Tel.: 713-928-3381
Wade Hughes, Agent

LAS VEGAS, NV 89104
720 E. Charleston Blvd.
Suite 103
T. (Ruthie) Jones, Organizer
Tel.: 702-384-7171

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130
2731 Tchoupitoulas Street
Tel.: 504-899-0841
Charles Mills, Agent

NEW YORK, NY 10011
346 West 17th Street
Tel.: 212-620-5742
Andrew Rich, Agent
ITPE REPRESENTATIVE
Alvoro Leit

NORFOLK, VA 23510
523 East Bute Street
Tel.: 804-627-7708
Floyd Jones, Agent
ITPE REPRESENTATIVE
Carrie Gresham
Ft. Bragg, N.C.
Tel.: 919-497-1661
Margaret Jackson
Fort Lee, Virginia
Tel.: 804-734-3838

PANAMA
Building No. 0604
Gaillard Highway
Ancon, Rep. of Panama
Tel.: 011-507-52-2937

**PHILADELPHIA—MARYLAND
WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA**
P.O. Box 183
Paulsboro, N.J. 08066
609-423-7268
ITPE-Representative
Ila Hampton

PORT ARTHUR, TX 77640
246 7th Street
Tel.: 409-982-9449
Charles Walker, Agent

PUERTO RICO
PO Box 14546 B. Obrero Sta.
Santurce, PR 00916
Tel.: 809-727-1473
Nestor Gonzales
Organizer

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107
1040 Mariposa Street
Tel.: 415-558-8450(58)(59)
Rusty de Rousset, Agent
ITPE REPRESENTATIVES
Bob George
Tana Casimiro
Tel.: 415-558-8945(46)(47)

SAN PEDRO, CA 90731
385 West 18th Street
Tel.: 213-832-4246
Ike Williams, Agent

SAVANNAH, GA 31412
19 East Perry St.
Tel.: 912-232-6181
John F. Conley, Agent
ITPE REPRESENTATIVE
Ft. Gordon, GA
Mary Williams
Tel.: 404-738-4731

SEATTLE, WA 98111
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Nero Threet, Agent
ITPE REPRESENTATIVE
Pat Hasard

MIAMI, FL 33132
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530 Biscayne Boulevard
Guido Vecchio, Agent
Tel.: 305-374-0491

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Wash, D.C. 20001
Tel.: 202-347-5980

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Washington, DC 20001 Tel.: 202-347-5980
Talmage Simpkins, Executive Director

ITPE-NMU Welfare Plan P.O. Box 23679
Savannah, GA 31403-3679 Tel.: 912-352-7169
Joan Gross Tanner, Administrator

NMU Counsel, Phillips & Cappiello (Ned R. Phillips,
George J. Cappiello, Jr.; Sidney Kalban)
360 West 31st. Street,
New York, NY 10001
Tel.: 212-465-8840

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ITPE-NMU Annual Benefit Plan ERISA Systems
100 Crossways Park West, Suite 200
Woodbury, New York 11797
Tel.: 516-921-3202
Albert Franco, Edward Montague