

# ITPE news

DISTRICT 1, MEBA/NMU UNLICENSED DIVISION, AFL-CIO

Vol II, No. 1

Industrial, Technical and Professional Employees Division



March, 1989

## Military reductions due in '89

The 1989 federal budget proposals include a reduction for the military, affecting many installations, including 86 for closure, five for partial closure and 54 others for realignment.

And if the Department of Defense follows past practices, it will attempt to spread this reduction over the entire military complex, and will make general reductions in the contracting out operations.

Meanwhile, the Commission on Base Realignment and Closure has informed ITPE that recommended consolidations at many ITPE bases will actually result in significant increases in personnel.

ITPE members are once again advised to write their Senators and Congressmen voicing strong opposition to any closings or reductions in service which may affect them. Let Capitol Hill know

that when military personnel are used in place of civilians in contract operations under the guise of cost savings, it will only cost the federal government rather than save money.

All members are advised that if they face layoffs at their installations, to refer to pages 20-23 of their ITPE-NMU Health and Welfare Fund booklet which describes the continuation of medical coverage under the plan.

## Don't be stiffed out of your pension!

Some shoreside members in a couple of installations are now facing a new dilemma which has popped up—how the working employee can be stiffed out of a pension.

An ITPE contract company has come up with a new idea of how to steal money from you, the ITPE member, by telling you that you could have a pension if you stayed employed with that company for

seven (7) more years. However, if you do not stay as an employee of the company for seven more years, you will lose all pension credit and the plan is set up in

*(Continued on Page 2)*



Chairman Shannon J. Wall (seated), Vice Chairman Louis Parise (left), and Director Elwood Hampton (right) discuss the most important issues facing our ITPE shoreside members this coming year, especially the closing of military installations and new ways you can be stiffed out of a pension by anti-union employers.



# Get your Social Security update

The Social Security Administration has established a new system to provide workers, upon request, with a statement of their Social Security earnings history.

By completing the SSA form 7004 (6/88), "Request for Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement," the worker will receive free from Social Security a "Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement."

The new statement will provide:

- A summary of the worker's earnings from 1937-1950.

- An annual breakout of earnings from 1951 to present, with the corresponding estimated FICA taxes, and estimates from retirement benefits at a reduced age, full retirement age, and age 70, and for survivors and disability benefits.

- More realistic estimates using the worker's anticipated future earnings and recent unposted earnings, as well as including projected real wage growth.

- The number of credits the worker needs to be insured for each type of benefit and the credit currently on record.

People who complete the new request form are asked to provide information about their recent earnings

(which are not yet on record), their expected future earnings, and the age at which they plan to retire. This information is used in calculating the benefit estimates.

People can get a Form 7004 to request the new statement by calling toll-free 1-800-937-2000 or by writing to Consumer Information Center, Department 55, Pueblo, CO. 81009.

The new statement serves as a tool for workers to verify their posted earnings and to learn the amount of estimated FICA taxes paid on the earnings. It also explains what they may expect in the way of Social Security protection so as to aid in their planning for their future financial security.

## Don't be stiffed!

(Continued from Page 1)

such a way as to ensure that the only ones who stand to gain anything will quite possibly be the company officials who will remain as the only eligible participants.

Another gimmick is that you have to have at least 1,000 hours of service per year (approximately over nineteen (19) hours per week), to earn a year of pension credit. Any ITPE members who are part-timers will most likely never even come close to meeting this requirement.

Another hitch is that the company keeps your Pension and Welfare monies and only make contributions to the "plan" once a year, which is illegal and definitely not in your main interest. The company will be the one making money on your money.

Obviously, this plan falls far short of any plan which must meet up with the requirements of a "bona fide" fringe benefit plan under appropriate Service Contract Act regulations.

All ITPE members are advised that the ITPE will continue in its efforts to ensure the membership that its rights and privileges shall not be compromised, and that the Union will maintain its watch to thwart attempts aimed at undermining your intelligence.



ITPE members employed by Industrial Maintenance Services hold their monthly membership meeting at Millington NAS, Millington, Tennessee.

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### Division Council Officers

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# Low-income families due refunds

## *Unions join campaign to spread the word on tax rule*

The AFL-CIO and its affiliates have enlisted in a national campaign to get the word to millions of low-income working families that they may be entitled to up to \$874 in cash payments just by filing an income tax form.

A little-known provision of federal tax law gives an earned income credit to working families who made less than \$18,576 in 1988 and had at least one child under 18 living at home. The law makes no distinction between one-parent or two-parent families and the number of children do not affect the amount of the credit.

Eligible persons who file a federal income tax return don't have to worry. The Internal Revenue Service will do the arithmetic and send them a check.

Those in danger of losing out are persons who don't earn enough to owe federal income taxes and who didn't have any tax deducted from their paychecks. They wouldn't normally file a tax return. But unless

they do, they risk losing hundreds of dollars.

A full-time minimum wage worker would be entitled to the maximum earned income credit. As an indication of how outdated the \$3.35 minimum wage has become, even a household with two full-time workers at the minimum wage, or with a family head making double the minimum wage, would qualify for a credit.

An earned tax credit has been in effect since 1975, but the program was expanded in the 1986 tax reform law. A chief purpose was to offset the impact of higher social security taxes on America's working poor.

Only families with earnings from wages and salaries will benefit from the tax rebate. Here's how it is computed:

Eligible families with earnings in 1988 of between \$6,240 and \$9,840 will receive the maximum—\$874.

Those who earned less than \$6,240 will receive a rebate equal to 14 percent of their wages.

For families with earnings over \$9,840, the rebate will be gradually reduced until it is phased out at the \$18,576 level. The income cutoff and benefit is adjusted for inflation.

Families who did not file income tax returns in any of the previous three years can still do so, if their earnings for those years were within the parameters then in effect.

For the 1987 tax year, the cutoff was \$15,432 and the maximum benefit was \$851. In the 1985 and 1986 tax years, the cutoff was \$11,000 and the benefit ceiling \$550.

Persons eligible for the earned income credit for the present tax year on the basis of anticipated family income can choose to have their employer add to their paycheck each week, instead of waiting until next year to collect it in a lump sum.

For further information, ITPE members are advised to write to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 236 Massachusetts Ave., NE, Washington, D.C. 20002.

## *ITPE the "right stuff" at Wright-Patterson*



**WHY ARE THESE ITPE MEMBERS SMILING?** These photos were taken at the first union meetings held for the employees from Dragon (Custodial) Services and DSG Ltd. (Food Service) following union meetings held after hearing of their good news - wage raises and pension and welfare increases in their new contracts. At press time, Dragon Services employees were still waiting to receive their newly negotiated increases while DSG Ltd. employees are already enjoying theirs. Both companies are located at Wright-Patterson AFB in Fairborn, OH. In photo at left are employees of DSG Ltd. Seated at center is Shop Steward Herman Edwards. Photo at right is of Dragon Custodial employees. Woman in dark glasses in right foreground is Shop Steward Marie Allen.





ITPE member Charles Thomas prepares his shirt pressing machine for the day's work load.



Members Rita Barrow and Jerry Davis work as pressers at the Post Laundry as members of the ITPE-MEBA/NMU. The contractor is Robertson and Penn, Inc.



Ms. Frances Demont is shown standing next to her pants pressing machine at the unit.

## ***Keeping the troops neat and spiffy at Fort Polk Army Post laundry unit***



This is a group photo of members employed at the Fort Polk Army Post, Leesville, Louisiana. The laundry provides service to the total military population stationed on the post, not only for military uniforms but also any and all civilian clothing. At bottom (left to right) are Debbie Anderson, Frances Demont and Roy Vega; in second row, Sondra Johnson, Vonda Hinson, Davio Degley, Rita Barrow, Eliose Cooper and Charles Thomas. In back row are Ricky Kern and Liza Ladner.





Member Della Graham Helps keep Langley Air Force base's Eagle Room spotless.



Manning the serving lines is Kimimko Woods.

## ***ITPE spotlight on Langley Air Force base***



On the job in the skullery is Linda Garth.



Member Hilda Holliday really knows how to dish it out.



Planika Whalen keeps those clean utensils coming.



Patricia Dove buses table in dining hall.





ITPE members Ana Bonilla, Carmen Lebron, Rose McIntyre and Shop Steward Linda Kolen man the lines at Homestead AFB in Florida.



Unlicensed Agent and ITPE Representative take time to meet with membership at Homestead AFB.

## ITPE mans new 3.5 million dollar dining facility



ITPE member Jose Nunez takes a breather.



Chin Holtzclaw mans the skullery.



Somporn Powell works giant mixer.



Posing for photo outside Homestead AFB dining facility are members Michael Bryant, Lucy Alvarado, Carmen Lebron, Ana Bonilla, Bessie Butler, Evelyn Martinez and Virginia Slusher.



man Smith and Bessie Butler make the new galley.





ve Guido Vecchio lends a hand while taking  
thead.



Meet members (left to right) Kum Yon Calcagno, Carmen Lebron, Patricia Dean, Virginia Slusher, Zoila Alvarado and Ana Bonilla.

## dining facility at Homestead AFB



Alberto Arvelo and SS Melvenia Moore.



ITPE's Charlotte Robinson, Somporn Powell and Bessie Butler.



ake food preparations in



From left to right are members Akuei Jurgensen, Sue Bowles, Diane Dye, Leonora Hetrick, Ava Richardson, Narciso Camacho and Airman White.





Members at McDill AFB in Tampa, FL show their union support by proudly displaying last issue of the ITPE News.

## ***ITPE members at two bases back ITPE with 100% support***



These members were formerly employed by Aleman Food Service at Avon Park, FL. When the new contractor Triple P., took over from Aleman Food Service January 1, 1989, new membership applications were needed and the members responded 100% in favor of ITPE representation for Avon Park and McDill AFB.



These members at McDill AFB show their overwhelming support for ITPE, the leading union in the food service contract field.



# SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT FOR ITPE-NMU HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND

This is a summary of the annual report of the ITPE-NMU Health and Welfare Fund, Employer Identification Number 58-1236802, which provides health and life insurance and disability protection for participants, for the year ending June 30, 1988. The annual report has been filed with the Internal Revenue Service, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

## Benefit Information

Prior to July 1, 1983, benefits were paid by Georgia International Life Insurance Company. Premiums were paid by the Fund to Georgia International from Fund assets in order to pay for the cost of providing these benefits.

Effective July 1, 1983, all benefits are paid directly from Fund assets. This applies to all claims for benefits which arise on or after July 1, 1983. Total benefits for the year ended June 30, 1988, amounted to \$9,097,876. At June 30, 1988, the Fund estimated its liability for claims reported but not paid and claims incurred but not reported to be \$1,682,610, an increase of \$282,610 from the estimated liability at June 30, 1987, of \$1,400,000. The ITPE-NMU Health and Welfare Fund has committed itself to pay all claims incurred under the terms of the plan.

## Basic Financial Statements

The value of fund assets, after subcontracting liabilities of the Fund was \$5,132,706 as of the end of the plan year, compared to \$5,999,805 as of the beginning of the plan year. During the year the Fund experienced a decrease in its net assets of \$867,099. This decrease included unrealized appreciation and depreciation in the value of the Fund's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. During the Fund year, the Fund had total additions of \$9,321,010, including employer contributions of \$8,856,920, earnings from investments of \$551,909, loss on the disposition of United States Treasury Notes of \$6,699, and a net decrease in the fair value of assets of \$81,120.

Fund expenses were \$10,188,109. These expenses included \$972,528 in administrative expenses, \$9,097,876 for participant benefits and \$117,705 for scholarships.

## Your Rights to Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. an accountant's report;
2. assets held for investment;
3. fiduciary information, including transactions between the Fund and parties in interest (that is, persons who have certain relationships with the Plan);
4. transactions in excess of 3 percent of plan assets; and
5. insurance information including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers.

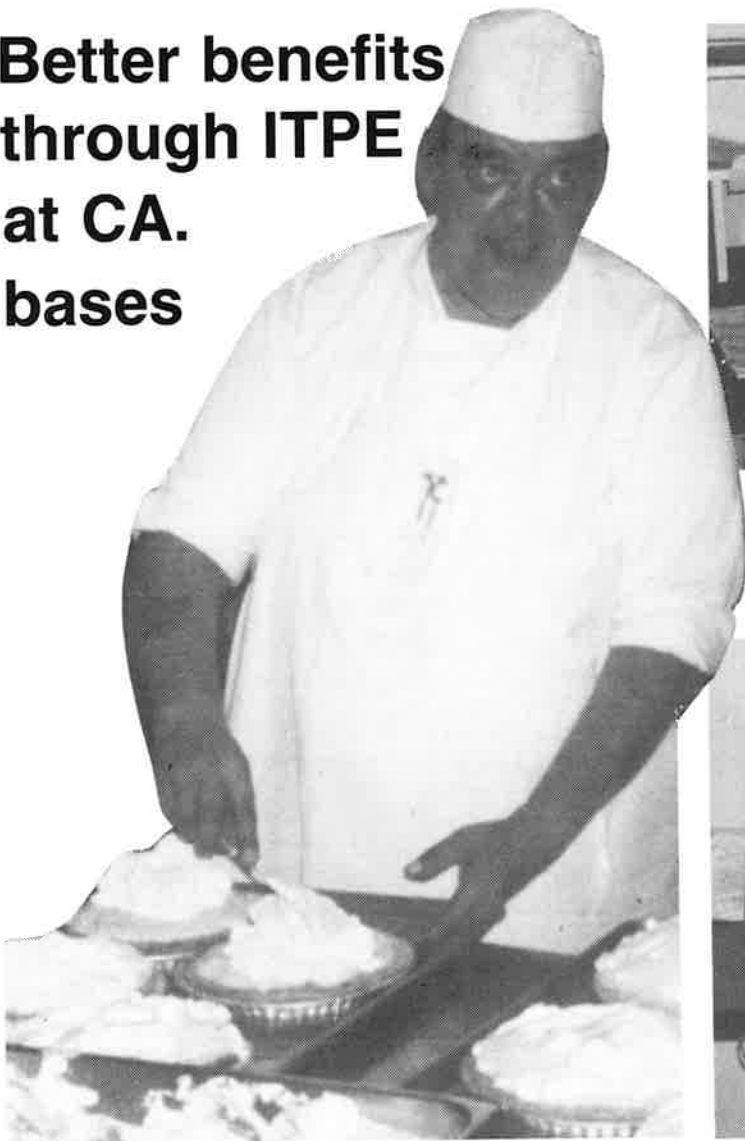
To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call: Board of Trustees, ITPE-NMU Health and Welfare Fund, c/o Joan Wolfe, the Plan's Contract Administratrix, 835 East Sixty-Fifth Street, Suite 200, Savannah, Georgia 31405. The telephone number is (912) 352-7169. The charge to cover copying costs will be \$.25 for the full annual report, or \$.025 per page for any part thereof.

You also have the right to receive from the fund administratrix, on request and at no charge, a statement of the net assets of the Fund and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the fund administratrix, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include a charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the office of the Fund, located at 835 East Sixty-Fifth Street, Suite 200, Savannah, Georgia 31405, and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., or to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to Public Disclosure Room, N4677, Pension and Welfare Benefit Programs, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20216.



# Better benefits through ITPE at CA. bases



Cook Fred Query decorates pies for the dinner meal at Sierra Army Depot in California.



Chrystal Oliver is the newly elected Shop Steward for employees of Kass management at Sierra Army Depot, in Herlong CA. Chrystal is also the Secretary. She has been a member of the union since 1984. Good luck in your new job.



Connie Church seen here with unidentified ITPE member, serves as Shop Steward at La Mariposa Hospital in Fairfield, CA.



Union members at Sierra Army Depot, Herlong CA. Left to right: Aity Saburo, Phyllis Glenn, Jostine Oliver and Patricia Janes.

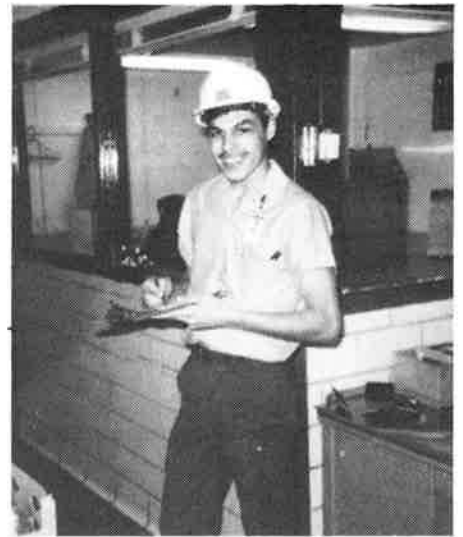




David Lima, Utility



Emma Plata, Shop Steward



Rene Guerrero, Storeroom

# ITPE proud at Lackland AFB



Cooks Siera Williams  
and Juanity Moore



Cooks Ratchanee Jones  
and John Williams



Busgirls Gracie Sheidrick  
and Linda Grammatica



Alvina Castro, Saladmaker



Carolyn Thompson, Cashier



Margie Leung, Cashier



# DISTRICT 1, MEBA/NMU BRANCH OFFICES

Listed below are branch offices of the Unlicensed Division, District 1, MEBA/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 Union 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

## **DEARBORN, MI 48126**

4241 Maple Ave.  
Tel.: 313-584-0970-74  
Ken Gerasimos, Agent

## **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  
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Tel.: 808-531-0860

## **HOUSTON, TX 77012**

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Tel.: 713-928-3381  
Wade Hughes, Agent

### **ITPE REPRESENTATIVE**

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Ft. Hood 817-532-3417  
Sallie Blankes

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Pat Foley

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Charles Mills, Agent

## **NEW YORK, NY 10003**

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**ITPE REPRESENTATIVE**  
Alvaro Leit

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Floyd Jones, Agent  
**ITPE REPRESENTATIVE**  
Cindy Diehm  
Ft. Bragg, N.C.  
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Tel.: 804-861-6855

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Ancon, Rep. of Panama  
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609-423-7268  
**ITPE REPRESENTATIVE**  
Ila Hampton

## **PUERTO RICO**

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Tana Casimiro  
Tel.: 415-558-8945(46)(47)

## **WILMINGTON, CA 90742**

421 North Marine Ave.  
Tel.: 213-832-4246  
Ike Williams, Agent

## **SAVANNAH, GA 31412**

19 East Perry St.  
Tel.: 912-232-6181  
John F. Conley,  
National Area Representative  
**ITPE REPRESENTATIVE**  
Mary Williams  
Tel.: 404-738-4731

## **SEATTLE, WA 98111**

2015 Third Avenue  
Tel.: 206-728-1270  
Nero Threet, Agent  
**ITPE REPRESENTATIVE**  
Pat Hasard

## **MIAMI, FL 33132**

NMU Organizing Office  
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530 Biscayne Boulevard  
Guido Vecchio, Agent  
Tel.: 305-374-0491

## **WASHINGTON, DC**

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Jersey City, NJ 07302 (201) 332-7070

## **AFL-CIO MARITIME COMMITTEE 444 N. Capitol St., NW**

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Talmage Simpkins, Executive Director

## **Unlicensed Division Counsel, Law Offices of**

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Tel.: 212-465-8840

## **ITPE-NMU Welfare Plan 835 E. 65th Street**

Suite 200, Savannah, GA 31405 Tel.: 912-352-7169  
Joan Wolfe, Administrator

## **ITPE-NMU Pension Plan**

## **ITPE-NMU Annual Benefit Plan ERISA Systems**

100 Crossways Park West, Suite 200  
Woodbury, New York 11797  
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Albert Franco, Edward Montague  
Co-Administrators