

Longshoremen's Strike Enters Second Day

NEW YORK (AP) — A strike by longshoremen in ports from Maine to Texas entered its second day today as the dock workers rejected an offer from seven shipping companies.

Details of the offer were not released but a source close to the talks here called the proposal "completely unsatisfactory."

The workers, who belong to the 35,000-member International Longshoremen's Association, struck at 12:01 a.m. Thursday

because of a contractual dispute over wages and diminishing job security because of "containerization" of cargo.

One of their chief gripes concerns a "make work" provision in their contract with the shippers which the National Labor Relations Board struck down as illegal. The clause permitted longshoremen to open cargo containers, empty them and then reload the containers before they were transported.

Hardest hit by the strike has

been the New York-New Jersey area where some 5,000 dock workers left six ships owned by the seven struck lines stranded with an estimated 75,000 tons of cargo and an undetermined amount of mail.

"Nothing's being loaded on and nothing's coming off," said an official of Sea-Land Inc., one of the seven companies being struck.

The other six companies are Seatrain Shipping, Dart Containerline Co., Bolt-Atlantic

Container Line, Hapag-Lloyd Line, United States Lines, and the Russian-owned Baltic Lines.

Thomas W. "Teddy" Gleason agreed to continue unloading perishable cargo and passenger ships, so there has been only minor public impact so far.

In Savannah, Ga., about 800 longshoremen and nearly 100 clerks and checkers awaited word from New York headquarters on how they were supposed to behave since no ships from the affected lines came into the port Thursday.

In fact, union officials in many other ports reported no walkouts because vessels belonging to the struck companies were still at sea.

In Galveston, Tex., a federal judge denied a request Thursday for a temporary restraining order that would have forced Houston workers back to the docks. The West Gulf Maritime Association had filed for the order.

Meanwhile, three ships sat idle in port. One Houston ILA official denied there was a work stoppage; he said there simply were not enough workers available. Zack Guillory, vice president of ILA Local 872, said, "If there was no gang, it was because we didn't have an ample amount of men."

Ralph Massey, president of the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District ILA in Galveston, has said he would not authorize a strike by members here because the union has a valid contract with the maritime association until Sept. 30.

Besides the "make work" provision of their contract, the dock workers also want restoration of a clause giving them the right to handle all containerized cargo within 50 miles of the waterfront.

The union is also demanding an hourly wage hike from \$8 to \$10 and a shortened work week from 40 hours to 32.



AFL-CIO PRESIDENT George Meany and two other clothing workers union presidents hold news conference after meeting with President Carter to discuss import quotas on apparel and textiles. Carter refused to commit himself on the

proposed lower quotas. In center is Sol Chaikin, president of International Ladies Garment Workers. At right is Murray Finley, president of Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers. (UPI)

Nursing Homes Strike Averted

NEW YORK (AP) — The intervention of the state Health Department prevented a strike against 87 metropolitan area nursing homes early today, less than three hours before more than 15,000 workers were to walk out and leave 18,000 elderly patients without nursing care.

The threatened strike had been called for 6 a.m. today, but shortly before 4 a.m., a state health official announced the agreement.

According to Glenn Haughey, deputy health commissioner for health planning, the state stood firm on its refusal to review and raise Medicaid reimbursement fees to give the nursing homes more money.

However, he said the state agreed to undertake a "management assessment" of those nursing facilities identified by the Metropolitan Nursing Home Association as being most in need of help.

The management assessment, he said, means the state will study specific nursing homes to see how they can cut costs. If a particular facility still is found to be in financial need after every possible cost saving measure, then the state will consider raising Medicaid reimbursement rates to aid that specific facility.

Late Thursday night, union officials had accepted the contract recommendations of federal fact-finder Eric J. Schmeitz, a private mediator. Around midnight, nursing home owners announced through a spokesman that although they accepted the fact-finder's proposals, they would be unable to keep their part of the bargain without additional state funding.

Because of the cutbacks in Medicaid reimbursement rates, the homes owe the union some \$16 million. The homes have said they want to pay but can

not because the state reduced their income from Medicaid.

The position of the nursing homes was announced to delegates of the Service Employees Union Local 144, which represents the workers. The union delegates reacted by shouting for a strike, but their president, Peter Otley, pleaded for time to confer with state officials, on hand outside the meeting rooms in the New York Hilton.

Included in the recommendations were raises totaling \$15 per week spread over the term of the 15-month contract and a provision for devising a special severance pay plan if there are to be any permanent layoffs.

For the nursing homes, the Schmeitz formula called on the union to forgive 30 per cent of the employer contributions for welfare owed for 1976 in return for a nursing home pledge to make good on other monies due the union funds.

Carter Called Courageous

By MIKE DOAN
Associated Press Writer

Politicians called President Carter courageous for withdrawing his tax rebate plan, but some Americans say they would rather have the \$50.

"I need it. If he promised it, I deserve to have it," said Barbara Lanier of Springfield, Mass., who is unemployed.

"Promises, promises. I never expected to get it anyway," said Pete Ewing, a systems analyst from Atlanta.

"We're so far into inflation that another \$50 isn't going to matter," said George Carleton of Los Angeles, a painter. "And besides, I need the money."

Others who were questioned said they could do without the rebate if it would keep inflation in check.

"Personally, I'm upset about not getting the money," said Elizabeth Pritchett, of Woodbury, Vt., a teacher. "But I'll be satisfied if his decision helps prevent inflation. I am pleased he isn't worried about losing face and felt he could change his mind."

"I've only got \$4 in the bank," said Georgia State University student David Scherrer. "That \$50 would have helped, but I'm sure not going to grieve over it."

Carter said Thursday he was dropping his plan to return \$50 in taxes to 200 million Americans because the economy is improving "and we just don't need it."

The plan had already passed the House but a close vote was expected in the Senate, where all 38 Republicans and some Democrats opposed it.

Sen. Jacob K. Javits, R-N.Y., who had proposed a permanent tax cut instead of the rebate, said Carter made a "prudent

and courageous" decision.

Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd said, "I think this is a wise decision at this time. The economic indicators today have shown much improvement over last December."

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Arthur Burns called Carter's decision "an extraordinary act of honesty and courage on the part of the President."

Economists interviewed seemed to agree the rebate was not big enough to have much effect.

"I think the general feeling ... is that a one-shot rebate really doesn't do much good," said John Lapp of North Carolina State University.

"I think it shows a lot of guts to change a policy which has been fought for," said Alan Greenspan, who was a top economic adviser to former President Gerald R. Ford. "The last thing we need is more stimulus."

Moynihan Disappointed

ONEONTA, N.Y. (AP) — Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan, D-N.Y., says he is disappointed at President Carter's decision not to press for a \$50 income-tax rebate.

"I'm sure the people in these hills could have used the money," Moynihan said Thursday after the White House announced the economy is doing well enough without the rebates.

Moynihan is visiting his 800-acre farm in nearby Pindars Corners this week for the first time since going to Washington as the state's junior senator in January. He met Thursday with local reporters at his office here.

Moynihan denied that he has purposely tried to cultivate a low profile in Washington, saying, "I'll speak when I have something to say."

During his Senate campaign last fall, Moynihan told New York voters that Washington would know they had a senator if he were elected.

"I said I'd get on the Finance Committee and I did," he told the news conference.



ANDRE KALCHINSKI (right) and Henry Torochick surrendered to Israeli police yesterday, after holding part of West German embassy in Tel Aviv for almost six hours. They said they were protesting West German leniency in expediting Nazi war crimes trials. Yesterday marked annual observance of Israeli memorial day for six million Jews murdered during Nazi occupation of Europe. (UPI)

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