

# NEW DAY AT AMAZON

**NEWS FOR AMAZON WORKERS, BY AMAZON WORKERS!**

## HOW DO WE TURN OUR DEMANDS INTO A REALITY? PART ONE

In our last article, we introduced our first draft of demands. So far we have received pretty positive attitudes towards them. Now the question is how to achieve those demands. Unity on a path forward, for us workers at Amazon, is the heartbeat of our success. It is one thing to have demands and want to fight for them. It is a totally different thing, to know how to fight for them and to know how to build up our fighting capacity.

There is a right way and a wrong way to fight. Working class principles must be our foundation to our strategy. As a member organization of the New Labor Organizing Committee, our principles are: 1) class struggle, 2) anti-opportunism, 3) independence, 4) democracy, 5) anti-imperialism, 6) working-class unity. We start from the fundamental fact that we are a class fighting against another class. We are the working class and we fight against the capitalist class. The capitalists, in our case are: Jeff Bezos, the board of directors, and their executive company management body in Andy Jassy and the corporate officers he leads. They do all they can to work us to our deaths and pay us as little as possible while pocketing as much profit from our labor as possible. We have to realize if we want this to end, we have to come together. We cannot plead them individually to end our suffering, they will laugh in our faces, like their goons in lower management do everyday at work. Therefore, we know it is class against class.

We have to end our division, get together, and as a united working class fight back against their increasing exploitation! In order to do this, we have to patiently but seriously build a strong organization that can last through the many tests of class struggle. We do this by never sacrificing our long-term goals for short-term gains for individuals or organizations.

In contrast, the Teamsters will try and trigger legal gains for quick victories. The results each time have been a weakening in their warehouse fight or even an all-out-defeat. We have to reject that, we cannot take the “easy” route. We do not fight losing battles.

Especially battles that have been time and time again loses for us. We must be patient and fight when it makes sense for us. We have to patiently build towards a strike that shuts down production to win our demands. That would be anti-opportunism in practice.

The next principles to look at are democracy and independence. Workers at Amazon must always be able to express their opinions and act on them in a united way. That is democracy. Independence means relying only on ourselves. We cannot rely on any other class, especially not the capitalist class. Capitalist-Imperialism is the international system we live under today. This is a system of plunder, exploitation, and oppression where literal billions of people are oppressed and exploited while a much much smaller group of people own and profit off of these billions. We realize that we live under this system and that our struggle is part in parcel of the larger world struggle against this system. None of this is possible without unity of our class. We should also strive to create unity across our industries, so that when we fight, we fight as a class not just as workers under one company. This means that logistics workers have to unite with other logistics workers. Our ultimate goal as workers should be to fully unite and end competition among each other. Only then can we necessities like an industry standard wage or be able to strike across an industry.

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Imagine if not just Amazon workers were united together but Amazon, DHL, USPS, UPS, Fedex, etc were all united together! Going against any of the above explained principles means going against our own interests as workers.

We also find it important to give examples of deviations from these principles. We can look directly at the Teamsters. The Teamsters, or the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, have been interested in "unionizing" Amazon for years now. They have not been close to successful yet. Their strategy can be defined as one of a "snatch and grab". They seek to organize as few Amazonians as possible until they can force Amazon or the US government (through the National Labor Relations Board) to accept the Teamsters as the sole union for Amazon workers.

We have detailed this in our past editions but to sum up: they organize a very small group of Amazon workers, have them organize a sort of action (which usually are just fake strikes), and then hope that this would be enough to force Amazon to recognize the union. The Teamsters also utilizes the judicial system to gain legal leverage. Both of which have been completely unsuccessful. They rely on either the company or the legal system time and time again to win a contract. All in the process, Amazon workers get fired, lose hope, and get caught up in the dead-end of Teamsters organizing. This happened during last peak's Teamster's strike. Hundreds of workers formed picket lines, never shut down production, and it only amounted to protests by Amazon workers. Protests are one thing, strikes are another. Our labor makes the whole system run, when we take it away we effectively take away the one thing we give the capitalists. The Teamsters obviously just want to collaborate with company leadership to ensure we stay working so they can keep pocketing our dues.

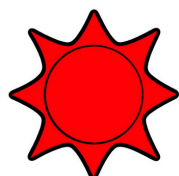
If the Teamsters were to win a contract it could give them the ability to force the contract on the over 15 million US Amazon workers. This for the Teamsters would be hundreds of millions if not billions of potential dues. That is all the want from us. They made this very clear when every time the UPS workers are up for a new contract and most of the time are ready to strike for better pay and conditions, they sell them out.

Last time, they were supposed to go on strike then right before it was to launch they cut a deal with UPS leadership which met none of the workers' demands at all! This effectively canceled the strike and forced the UPS workers to go back to work. This right here is against all of our principles. Their struggle is no real class struggle, only class collaboration. It is the complete definition of opportunism (short term gains against our long-term interests). There is obviously no democracy or independence in any of this. Finally, they work against the unity of our class by neutralizing our struggles and trying to incorporate us into the Capitalists' State machinery. They are quite literally doing the work of our bosses for them!

This is the type of practice we must avoid at all costs. We have to build a strong organization of Amazonians by gaining bigger and bigger wins. We cannot settle for shortsightedness. We have to be patient and willing to struggle with and for each other. We will not win overnight but we can make serious and strong improvements overnight. We do this by learning from our mistakes and more importantly winning increasingly bigger victories. We have to build up our ability to fight. We know that we will likely never reach our demands without a strike. It would be better to talk a little bit about the history of the strike weapon instead of just asserting this as a known fact which I don't think is really that clear to everyone. In the next edition, we will look at ways to build up 1) our organizational strength and 2) our ability to fight and ultimately strike.

## NLOC UPDATE – NEW DAY AT USPS UNITES WITH THE NEW LABOR ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

New Day at USPS has united with militant rank-and-file workers and shop organizations across the country and joined the New Labor Organizing Committee (NLOC). The NLOC represents an effort to unify emerging struggles by workers to break from the shackles of class peace and to unite into a combative mass-based working-class movement which can put power into the hands of our class. In joining with the NLOC, New Day at USPS is helping to build the Logistics Unity Committee, which aims to unite logistics workers to tackle the unique problems facing our industry, organize a cross-company logistics strike to address pay and working conditions on a national scale, and establish an industrial logistics union. Right now the LUC includes New Day at Amazon, New Day at USPS, and New Day at UPS; however, any independent labor organizer/organization in logistics who supports this mission may affiliate to the Logistics Unity Committee, with or without acceptance of the full NLOC program.



# NEW DAY AT AMAZON

New Day at Amazon is a newsletter produced by Amazon workers to rally our coworkers against Amazon corporate and the traitors who sell us out in the so called union movement. New Day Committees are for gathering information and disseminating the basic outlook of the revolutionary Amazon workers to the rank and file in the operation, as well as a base that our coworkers can use as a launchpad for campaigns around more immediate issues. Our long-term goal is the creation of a revolutionary industrial logistics union.

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