



NEW DAY AT UPS

NEWS FOR UPS WORKERS, BY UPS WORKERS!

THE FINAL VICTORY OF THE UNION LIQUIDATORS by Frank Loder (WORMA)

Since our first edition in August 2022, New Day at UPS has opposed the line of Teamsters for a Democratic Union. In our view, they are not the builders of the militant labor movement, but actually, its destroyers. The militant wildcat movement of the 60s and 70s in the logistics industry was defeated by the combined efforts of Teamsters for a Democratic Union, the state, and the Teamster gangsters. A key step in the struggle to eliminate militant labor organizing was convincing the rank-and-file that all their problems could be solved by simply caucusing within the state unions. Fifty years later, it is clear that the only purpose of the dogma of reforming the unions from within was to distract the rank and file. The 31st International Convention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters represented the final step in TDU's wrecking activities: the liquidation of the one concession they actually won for the rank and file, "one member one vote."

This was accomplished at the Teamsters' Convention by simply not authorizing any opposition candidates to Sean O'Brien. 97% of representatives at the convention (meaning the principal officers of the locals) approved of Sean O'Brien as a candidate, meaning no other candidate was able to reach the minimum required to be put on the ballot. And therefore, no election! The Teamsters for a Democratic Union's candidate wins without an election because of the IBT convention not approving any opposition candidate. That's "democracy"! [See the dishonestly titled "O'Brien, Zuckerman Reelected to Second Five-Year Term Leading Teamsters", from teamster.org.] A union officer notorious for intimidating the members, who was originally elected to General President with less than 10% of potential votes, is unilaterally approved by the convention to be dictator of the logistics workers for five more years.

This is why the TDU/Labor Notes (who also just had their convention) camp are such scumbags. They promoted O'Brien as the face of the "new" militant, democratic wing of the labor movement. And all he has done is sign

historically trash contracts, suck up to Trump and the Republican Party, and now they've done away with the whole election process altogether! This is a total embarrassment for everyone involved, including the clown judge responsible for overseeing free and fair elections in the IBT. They're letting this happen because O'Brien sucks up to Trump—if O'Brien was ACTUALLY militant or democratic or whatever, they would be fighting tooth and nail against this.

This also goes to show that no, there are no "good locals" in the IBT. Every steward tries to pretend like "their" local is the special snowflake untouched by the corruption of the International. The reality is that 97% of officers at the convention voted for O'Brien knowing full well how badly he has screwed over the UPSers during the last 3 contracts. Nobody in the IBT cares about the \$3m in dues money spent settling a racial discrimination lawsuit with their own employees, the constant embezzlement charges, the threats against the membership including from O'Brien himself, none of it. As if to punctuate the political bankruptcy of the IBT, after this was announced at the convention, Josh Hawley was given the stage. And after Josh Hawley spoke, Cory Booker. You know, just in case Democrats win the next election! The Teamsters truly are the slimiest worms in the entire labor movement.

On top of this, the government's monitoring of the IBT is coming to a close. On June 17, "The International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York (the Southern District) jointly filed a motion to amend the Final Order and the Consent Decree, ending federal government monitorship of the union." ["Teamsters, DOJ File Joint Motion To End Final Order And Consent Decree", from teamster.org.] Why? Because they accomplished what they wanted to. Not the "democratization" of the union. The government wanted a strong Teamsters union that would be able to prevent strike action by the logistics workers, force sellout contracts onto their bargaining unit members, and maintain "labor peace", meaning a non-militant labor movement. They got exactly what they wanted. Not only

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that, but O'Brien was the first Teamster president to speak at the Republican National Convention, where he blubbered out a vague endorsement of Trump--essentially an open admission of the subservience of the Teamsters to the Trump administration. The Teamsters got what they wanted--they have the same undemocratic union structure in place, now without federal oversight, and can continue their anti-worker activities now with better funding than ever before. The revisionists also got exactly what they wanted. Labor Notes got Sean O'Brien to speak at their convention and Teamsters for a Democratic Union activists got cushy jobs in the IBT.

They have liquidated an entire bargaining unit, tens of thousands of UPSer jobs, and now, they have liquidated the fake "democracy" they built up over the last thirty years with the assistance of the state through the Consent Decree. The only thing left for them to do is liquidate their own caucus like the Unite All Workers for Democracy caucus did last year, after a similar performance in the United Auto Workers union.

The "only" losers in this situation are the hundreds of thousands of UPSers, who have to deal with the mess created by the Network of the Future. It is an unfortunate fact that New Day at UPS has not been able to mobilize UPSers against the problems created by the 2023 collective bargaining agreement. This is because of numerous factors that make it difficult to consolidate new labor organizers at UPS. What we can focus on in the immediate future is management discipline, which is as bad as ever, and in particular their mistreatment of women and LGBT UPSers. The next edition will go into more detail on the issue of management discipline.

The only basis for continued Teamsters support within the UPS rank and file is the fact that the state has placed concessions connected to our bargaining unit in their custody. Hours and pay and other mandatory bargaining subjects, pensions, bids, and the like are controlled by the IBT. Some UPSers mistakenly perceive this as the IBT "giving us" these things. This is why they continue to have some measure of influence among the rank and file, particularly top rate high-seniority full-timers (those folks who have "drank the kool-aid" as it were) and inexperienced and naive new hires.

In contrast to the Teamsters convention, the New Labor Organizing Committee is preparing for its inaugural convention in November. This convention will include New Day at UPS as well as all the other NLOC shop org affiliates and New Labor Committees. Unlike the IBT Convention, which was a complete joke and a mere platform for frauds, the NLOC Convention will be a gathering where militant and class conscious organizers will plan out their work for the next couple of years. We will have more information as the NLOC Convention Committee works out the details.

NLOC Opposes Political Persecution of Students

On June 10, several students across multiple townships in Michigan were raided by the FBI. These raids happened because the students had participated in protests against the fascist state of Israel's ethnic cleansing campaign in Gaza. There is no justification other than the state felt threatened by mass opposition to their policy of robbing the American masses in order to fund Zionist expansion in the Middle East, and so decided to send their political police to intimidate students and by extension the millions of people who protested. The FBI may be cracking down on anti-Zionist and anti-fascist students now, but it must be remembered that they have an extensive record of persecuting labor organizers, going back to the founder J. Edgar Hoover who organized the Palmer raids.

Why does this concern NLOC affiliates? One of the arrested belonged to the Revolutionary Student Union. This organization has supported the NLOC, particularly in our mission to organize educators. On top of this, both the NLOC and the RSU have opposed the genocide in Gaza and in particular the support for this genocide among the state teachers' unions and the AFL-CIO. Therefore we request NLOC supporters to contribute to the campaign to free the Michigan 8, whether by attending any local protests or by contributing to their legal defense fund at <https://chuffed.org/project/um-palestine-legalfund>. For more information on Zionism and the labor movement, see "Why the State Unions Cover for Zionism" at newlaborpress.org.



The RSU demonstrates against the political crackdown on pro-Palestine students, from "The Partisan", the-partisan.org.



New Day is a newsletter produced by UPS workers to rally our coworkers against UPS corporate and their agents in the Teamsters. New Day Committees are for gathering information and disseminating the basic outlook of the revolutionary UPS 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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