

May 9, 1979

Mr. George Meany, President
American Federation of Labor and
Congress of Industrial Organizations
815 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Brother Meany:

Pursuant to a resolution adopted by the National Executive Board of the American Postal Workers Union on April 26, 1979, our organization hereby charges that the Laborers' International Union of North America is in violation of Article XX, Section 3 of the AFL-CIO Constitution.

Specifically, the American Postal Workers Union charges that the National Post Office Mail Handlers, Watchmen, Messengers and Group Leaders Division of the Laborers' International Union of North America has, by agreement and collusion with the United States Postal Service, sought to obtain work for its members as to which a long standing work relationship has existed with the American Postal Workers Union.

On July 26, 1978, the National Director of the Mail Handlers Division of Laborers' International Union of North America entered into an agreement with the USPS (a copy of which is annexed, together with a memorandum from the National Director to various union officials), in which it was agreed that certain work, which postal clerks, as members of APWU, had customarily performed at numerous postal installations throughout the United States, would henceforth be assigned to Mail Handlers. Acting on such agreement, the USPS, on February 16, 1979, issued Regional Instruction 1085-PO-204, "Mail Processing Work Assignment Guidelines", (a copy of which is enclosed).

This document implements the agreement with the Mail Handlers Division referred to above and was issued over the strenuous objections of APWU.

The money-grabbing attempt by the Mail Handlers to steal jobs performed by our higher paid craft and turn them over to lower earning employees, with the shameful connivance of the Postal Service, violates work traditions harking all of the way back though history to George Washington's time.

The Mail Handlers by their cynical efforts are committing labor fratricide. And they endanger the public interest by disrupting the mails while turning a blind eye and a deaf ear to procedures for handling and resolving jurisdictional dispute proceedings.

We call upon you to exercise your authority under Article XX to compel LIUNA to give up its illegal agreement with the Postal Service and to restore APWU work taken from us as the fruit of this dishonorable agreement.

Sincerely and fraternally,

/signed/

Emmet Andrews
General President

EA/ac
enclosures