

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 6

April 11, 2005

TO ALL LOCAL CHAIRPERSONS:

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

As an on-going process in the General Chairman's office, we send out Circular Letters as circumstances dictate in regard to issues that are of importance to all of our Membership. We are requesting that you read these documents at your Union Meetings for the Membership's benefit and also place them on bulletin boards for those Members who cannot attend the Union Meeting. Incorporated below are issues of importance for our Membership.

Enhanced Manpower Utilization:

Attached is an agreed upon interpretation of Article VII, Section 1 of the August 20, 2002 National Agreement which provided that the carrier may establish "a rule providing for the automatic mark up of employees for service after the expiration of any period of authorized or approved time off". Briefly, the rule will provide:

Employees will be automatically marked up for service upon expiration of any time off.

An absence will be for not less than twenty-four (24) hours, except where local rules provide a shorter time.

If an absence of seventy-two (72) hours or more expires between 10:31 p.m. and 7:59 a.m., an employee in unassigned freight service will not be called for an assignment that starts prior to 8:00 a.m.

The rest periods at the home and away-from-home terminals shall be ten (10) undisturbed hours for employees in unassigned freight service. Once yearly the Organization may select a rest period of eight (8) or ten (10) undisturbed hours at the away-from-home terminal of a pool. Local rules providing greater rest periods will still apply. The rest periods established under this rule will not offset protection payments or guarantees.

Also attached is the April 7, 2005 notice from the carrier of their intent to implement the "Automatic Markup Interpretation" on or after May 1, 2005.

 **Union Pacific Increases Board of Director's Pay:**

Traffic World Magazine reports that the members of the UP's Board of Directors have received a \$30,000.00 annual pay increase. Citing "heightened responsibilities" under the Sarbanes-Oxley corporate reform legislation, UP said the 25 - 33 % salary increase was deemed necessary to "attract and retain qualified directors" (individuals possessing sufficient integrity to perform the directors' functions). The UTU News reports: "The Sarbanes -Oxley Act ... requires that boards of directors make sure a company is honest and doesn't tell lies in its annual report".

Trusting this information will aid you in keeping our Membership informed of issues confronting us and with best personal wishes, I remain

Fraternal ly yours,



Michael J. Reedy
General Chairman, G. C. A.

MJR: j g

cc: Paul Thompson, President - UTU
Rick Marceau, Assistant President - UTU
Dan Johnson, III - General Secretary/Treasurer - UTU