Postal workers threaten strike over new contract

By Ed Rogers

WASHINGTON — Thousands of off - duty postal employees, chanting "No Contract, No Work," marched on the national headquarters of the postal service to protest management "stalling" in negotiations for a new contract.

Bargaining for new contract covering 600,000 unionized postal workers was under way in a motel across town as the peaceful demonstrators rallied outside the modernistic, 11-story postal service headquarters.

A leader of New York city postal workers earlier warned of a nationwide postal strike if negotiations do not yield a contract by July 20. But a national union official said the statement was not a union position, merely the sentiment of postal employees.

The contract expiring July 20 has a no-strike clause.

"We're here to let them know they're participating in a dangerous game that could lead to a nationwide postal strike," Vincent Sombrotto, union leader for letter carriers in New York city, told a rally before the march.

"What we're saying is, if there is no contract by midnight July 20 there will be no work," Sombrotto said.

But president Emmet Andrews of the American Postal Workers Union told UPI the "No Work" slogan merely represents worker sentiment — not the union position. Leaders of the four unions bargaining with the postal service would make any decision on a walkout, he said.

Federal mediators now involved in the talks could invoke a 40-day cooling off period when the present contract expires.

Sombrotto and other leaders accused postal service negotiators of "stalling" by delaying counter offers to a joint union proposal for a 14 percent wage increase with a cost of living clause in negotiations that began April 20.

The contract would cover employees represented by the American Postal Workers Union, the National Postal Office mail Handlers, the National Rural Letter Carriers Association and the National Association of Letter Carriers.

The off-duty union members carried placards saying they were from California, Texas, Boston, and St. Louis but most were believed to have come from nearby states.

One placard said, "Jimmy, We Do Not Like Your Peanuts," a reference to President Carter's public statement urging the workers to limit their wage increase demand to 5.5 percent.

Biller, northeastern APWU chairman, said "Jimmy Carter has bungled the most critical labor contract of 78 with the same inept leadership, characteristic of his vacillation with foreign governments . . ."

UPI photo

POSTAL WORKERS PROTEST — Anne Jones of the New York Metro Postal Service is very vocal as she and thousands of off - duty employees chant and march in front of the Postal Service headquarters in Washington protesting management's stalling in new contract talks.

UPI Photo

OUTFOXXED??—Redd Foxx is suing in Los Angeles for $350,000 and a return of master tapes and album art work from Impulse Distributing Corp. He says the firm broke a contract to pay him royalties on the work done between 1968 and 1977, piling up "sufficient extra material for about 18 albums" from three albums he did for them. He wants that master tape and any duplicates, plus royalties on the rest.

Joan Little given more time in jail

By Fred McNeese

RALEIGH, N.C. (UPI) — Joan Little, acquitted three years ago of the murder of her white jailer, pleaded guilty to prison escape charges Wednesday after reaching agreement on a reduced prison term of six months to two years.

If convicted by the jury, she would have faced a straight two-year sentence for her escape from the state women's prison last year.

Superior Court Judge James H. Pou Bailey, in handing down the prearranged sentence, said he disagreed with her contention she had been treated unfairly by prison officials. He said she has been used by others.

"There are people in this country who seized upon this woman for the purpose of seeing how much trouble they could cause and how much money they could raise," he said.

Bailey said prison officials gave Miss Little the opportunity to get her high school diploma and to participate in a work release program. He also noted she was given additional leave when her mother died and has received adequate medical treatment.

"This scarcely amounts to horrible treatment by the state of North Carolina," he said.

Miss Little took the stand in her own behalf in an attempt to convince Bailey to reduce the sentence.

She cried several times as she told about disciplinary actions against her and refusal of prison officials to listen to her troubles. She said she decided to escape because "pressure was all inside me and had no way of getting out."

"I tried very, very hard for the last two years not to be hostile," he said. "I pray every day that I can learn from my experiences.

"I hope my sisters and brothers and everyone on the street realize it is not a good thing to be in jail and certainly it is nothing to be proud of."

Defense Attorney Jerry Paul said Miss Little has the emotional stability of a 13-year-old." He said she sees anyone connected with the North Carolina prison system as her enemy.

After two days of jury selection, Miss Little told the judge that "I want to change my plea because I want to get this over with and proceed in a more positive aspect with my life."

Miss Little gained international attention three years ago when she was acquitted of murdering a white jailer who she said sexually assaulted her.

She later escaped from the North Carolina Correctional Center for Women where she was serving a 7-to-10 year sentence for breaking and entering, but was captured last December in New York.

She fought extradition on grounds her life would be in danger if she were returned to North Carolina.

Says U.S. has 'hundreds'

Young stirs up big flap over political prisoners

By Arlette Baudet

GENEVA, Switzerland (UPI) — United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young has challenged Congress to try to impeach him for his statement that the United States holds "political prisoners," telling those who want him ousted to "help yourselves."

Young's latest controversial remark that the United States hold "hundreds, perhaps thousands of political prisoners," drew threats of impeachment and what a United States official described as an "unprintable" reaction from Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Young's comment, in an interview published Wednesday, came in response to a question about his reaction to the current dissident trials in the Soviet Union.

Young was quoted as responding, "Oh, that (trial) certainly is a gesture of independence on their part. But that will not hinder the Salt negotiations.

"And then one does not know what can happen to dissidents. After all, in our prisons also there are hundreds, perhaps even thousands, of people whom I would call political prisoners." He did not elaborate.

"Ten years ago I myself was tried in Atlanta for having organized a protest movement," Young said. "And three years later I was a legislator from Georgia.

"It's true that things do not change so quickly in the Soviet Union but they change also. I think the current Soviet dissidents could well be the salvation of the Soviet Union, that they are a natural development of Soviet society, but that the leaders still have not understood."

Young, who is in Geneva to attend a meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Council, appeared undisturbed by the commotion he created.

Mobbed by reporters in the halls of Geneva's Palais Des Nations Thursday morning, Young responded cockily to demands for his impeachment.

"All I can say (to them) is, help yourselves. And they can help themselves," Young said.

In Washington, Sen. Barry Goldwater, R - Ariz., said Young should be fired unless he can prove that there are political prisoners in the United States.

But the Russians said the ambassador's statement to the French newspaper Le Matin showed U.S. repression was widespread.

In Washington, Reps. Steven Symms, R - Idaho, and Larry McDonald, D - Ga., said they would ask for the impeachment of Young for "high crimes and misdemeanors."

They said they wanted to take the move Wednesday but the House was adjourned before they could act.

Goldwater told the Senate Young's remarks were "very embarrassing" to President Carter.

"I demand Ambassador Young provide details on who he thinks are political prisoners in the United States," Goldwater said. "If he (Young) can't provide the details I would expect the president to discharge Andrew Young.

"We can't afford to have this kind of thing said about our country — these are lies."

White House Press Secretary Jody Powell said Young "does not reflect the views of the president.

"Statements of this administration on foreign policy come from the president and secretary of state," he said.

In Geneva, a State Department official said Vance's immediate reaction to the Young interview was "unprintable."

But the Kremlin eagerly seized on the ambassador's remarks to score a propaganda point.

"These words are noteworthy, since they come from a member of the Cabinet and therefore signify an official admission that political persecution is widespread in the United States," the official Soviet News Agency Tass said.

"The sophisticated machine of political repressions in the United States is being perfected with every passing year."

Schaefer wants City Hospital to collect overdue bills

City Hospital officials said they can comply with Mayor William Donald Schaefer's order to reduce the facility's $2 million deficit with an aggressive bill collecting campaign.

Schaefer Wednesday ordered the hospital to reduce its $5 million deficit — paid by taxpayers through city subsidies — by $1.5 million as part of a program to reform the hospital's finances and billing system.

Thomas B. Carroll, associate director of the hospital's fiscal management, said that the subsidy could be reduced to $1 million in three years by collecting overdue bills.

He said the billing time had been about one year behind, but within the past year has been shortened to about 12 days.

Schaefer said he would like patients to be billed for their hospital stays within one week.

"You see, we're changing the philosophy of a municipal hospital," he said. "In the past, the philosophy was, 'What's the difference if we collect or not? The city'll make it up.'

"We're now going to collect every penny we can."

However, Schaefer said poor people without public or private insurance who are unable to pay will be guaranteed free care.

Baltimore took over operation of the hospital two years ago and sent in auditors to discover why there were millions of dollars in uncollected bills.

Schaefer said the city decided to increase salaries for administrators to remain competitive with comparable facilities elsewhere.

The Board of Estimates approved an additional $45,000 to upgrade the salaries of five city hospital officials and created another assistant for the hospital.

"I thought long and hard about those increases," Schaefer said. "But people with the expertise to run a hospital were getting astronomical salaries (elsewhere). I hear Blue Cross pays one executive in excess of $90,000 a year so when we tried to fill our top administrative posts, we found it impossible."

School board prexy says lay-offs still up in the air

The president of the city school board said the number of teachers facing lay-offs before September is still conjecture.

"The project that we will lay-off 500 is just that — a projection. We still don't know how many teachers will be let go," said Mark Joseph, school board president.

Earlier reports from Moses Holmes, executive director of the Public School Teachers Association, said as many as 850 teachers would not be employed in September — 500 would be dismissed and 350 would be lost through attrition.

Joseph said the 850 figure is "a guess."

And he was quick to point out that the school board does not "want to or enjoy laying off teachers."

In early June, the school board released a plan to reduce class size to less than 40 students per class. Joseph said that the teacher-student ratio was one to 30.

But the 30 to one statistic fell apart because some elective classes, third year foreign languages, etc., have only 10 students per class.

"The very kids who most needed smaller class sizes, the kids in remedial and survival classes, were in larger classes. It was backward," Joseph said.

He said one solution is to reduce electives and courses taken by few students.

Another alternative is to move school administrators to the classrooms to teach.

Joseph said some teachers have already been informed not to return in September. They were provisional teachers or non-tenured teachers who did not receive a good or superior rating on evaluations.

And he said it is still possible that teachers already dismissed may be hired back before the fall term.

"We hope that a meaningful number of those laid-off will be hired back. But the law requires us to operate a balanced budget. If we have to eliminate some teachers and some electives to do that, we will.

"Everyone agrees 100 percent on one thing — the (school) system needs more money," he said.

"UNSUNG HERO" — Dr. Theodore O. Randolph (L) accepts congratulations on being named "Unsung Hero" at the League for the Handicapped's Volunteer Recognition Luncheon from John G. Schisler, president of the League's board. Randolph received a special plaque in recognition of his dedicated service to the League for the past 15 years. He is currently chairman of the speakers' Bureau and Tours Committee in addition to serving on the League's board. Randolph is a resident of the 4400 block of the Alameda.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
BALTIMORE CITY TAXES
ARE NOW DUE FOR
FISCAL YEAR

JULY 1, 1978 to
JUNE 30, 1979

Notice is hereby given that all City of Baltimore Real Property Tax Bills for fiscal year 1979 have been mailed. If bill has not been received, contact the Bureau of Collections, Municipal Office Building, at once, by calling 396-3987.

The maximum discount will be allowed if bill is paid during the month of July. Interest and penalty will accure on all bills not paid by September 30, 1978. Pay the exact amount printed on the bill under the caution "Pay Amount" for the month in which payment is made.

The 1978/79 tax bill must be paid not later then October 31, 1978, to avoid the posting on the property of a Final Bill and Legal Notice of Tax Sale, which will commence during the month of November, 1978. If the property is posted, a charge of $7.50 will be imposed.

Failure to receive a bill by mail is no excuse for nonpayment of the taxes, interest and penalty.

Bills may be paid at authorized banks or mailed to the Director of Finance, Bureau of Collections, Municipal Office Building, 200 N. Holliday Street, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202. Enclose a self - addressed stamped envelope for return receipt.

Closed Saturdays.

CHARLES L. BENTON
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

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BROWN'S BLUES

'Godfather of Soul' ends in the hole—why?

See Column 1

Welcome home Cab, Damon
See inside

Baltimore Afro-American
WE ARE IN OUR 86th YEAR

'Let's shout' at altar call
See The Living Church

86th Year
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'Mom's still alive'

Clerk's children hopeful—but hunt for body continues

"Mom is still alive, we hope. We think she has been hurt and feel she has been hidden somewhere."

Those were the words of Mrs. Gwendolyn F. Stanback's two young daughters, age 12 and 17.

Even as they spoke to the AFRO, police were searching for Mrs. Stanback's body and according to Det. Ronald Michaels "We are looking everywhere, especially in the Patapsco State Park area." The search has been underway seven days.

Mrs. Stanback, 37-year-old mother of three daughters and a Social Security clerk was reported missing from home July 13 when she did not return home from work on July 12.

(Continued on Page 2)

Mrs. Gwendolyn Francca Stanback

Hopkins foes put in trick

Implementation of an affirmative action plan will no longer be a condition for Johns Hopkins University Hospital receiving state $53 million expansion program grant.

A nine to seven vote by the Central Maryland Health Systems Agency (CMHSA) Wednesday night rejected "condition six" recommended by the Certification and Review Committee.

That proviso sponsored by several community health organizations, required that the hospital implement certain affirmative action programs like employment of minorities and care of minority patients before receiving the grant.

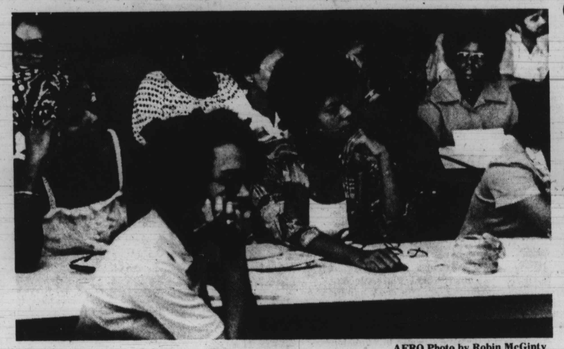
The CMHSA decision caught many groups unaware.

What was most surprising to groups like the Community Health Council that were actively seeking an affirmative action plan for the hospital was when two blacks on the executive committee changed their votes.

Quentin Lawson, of the mayor's office, and Carolyn Stith, a board member of the East Baltimore Community Corporation changed their votes from supporting the affirmative action plan to against it.

"I was so mad," said Howard "Pete" Rawlings, president of the Community Health Council. "She (Stith) was the one who proposed this at the last meeting that required Hopkins to produce an affirmative action plan."

(Continued on Page 2)



AFRO Photo by Robin McGinty

PROTEST TEACHER LAYOFFS — Some 250 angry city school teachers gathered at Walbrook Senior High School to protest recent terminations by the school board.

500 city teachers fired

By Michele L. McRae
AFRO Staff Writer

Approximately 500 Baltimore City Public School teachers learned this week that they would not be returning to their classrooms in September. They were notified by both certified mail and telephone calls that their jobs had been terminated.

Included in this group are 174 special education teachers, 74 English teachers and 250 additional teachers.

Some 250 of these outraged teachers met in the cafeteria of Walbrook Senior High School Thursday afternoon to voice their grievances and fine out what could be done.

The Baltimore Teachers Union, Local No. 340, AFT, AFL-CIO, headed by John Bethea as president, hosted the meeting to outline steps already taken by the union to restore approximately 500 positions cut by the Board of School Commissioners.

In addition, other officers of the BTU instructed teachers on proper procedures to follow when filing a grievance and how to apply for temporary unemployment benefits.

Teachers were notified that they would be covered by their present Blue Cross-Blue Shield plans up until October 1 and that if they filed for unemployment compensation they could receive no more than $108 a week, regardless of the number of dependents.

"The laying-off of 500 teachers is the end result of the action taken by the school board at its June 22 meeting," said Bethea.

He continued, "The Baltimore Teachers Union is convinced that this callous action by the board is unwarranted and amounts to the effective decimation of our already troubled big-city system."

Even though talks of a massive teacher lay-off has been brewing throughout the school system for the past several months, the BTU charges that "the board gave no prior notice, no hearings, no appeals, no time to find another position."

(Continued on Page 2)

Suspect was pal of 'Liddy' Jones

(See story above)

HUSBAND HELD — Alonzo Stanback (L), held without bail following the disappearance of his wife, accompanied convicted narcotics king John "Liddy" Jones (C) to the AFRO when Jones protested police harassment in 1972. At right is Andrew Strickland.

CRC probes brutality

By Fred Hines
AFRO Staff Writer

Baltimore City Police Officer Richard D. Curley Jr., who fatally shot 20-year-old Calvin Hazelton has a history of brutality in the Mt. Winan's section of Baltimore, it was charged in testimony presented Wednesday to the Community Relations Commission (CRC).

CRC records also reveal that Officer Curley has come before the Complaint Evaluation Board of the police department consistently during his career.

The testimony about the Curley-Hazelton incident marks the second consecutive month that the issue of police brutality has dominated the agency's meeting.

As a result, the commission (though its members seemed hesitant, quite cautious) voted at the July 19 meeting to hold a public hearing in the near future that will have as witnesses community persons, elected officials and police officers.

No one from the police department was present during the meeting so many of the "why" questions went unanswered regarding young Hazleton's death.

Mrs. Viola Hazelton, mother of the slain man, and another witness, Ms. Alice Ali, said they had several witnesses willing to testify in court that they had seen Officer Curley brutally beat up her son before he was killed.

Mrs. Hazelton's son, Horace Hazelton said he could not understand why Curley had not been taken off the force.

Calvin Hazelton was shot by officer Curley on July 12, according to police reports, after he refused to open a burlap bag he was carrying.

(Continued on Page 2)

Murphy's widow challenges Blount

Civil war in 41st

Underlying the bid of the late Del. Arthur Murphy's widow, Mrs. Margaret Murphy, to win election to his seat is what is reportedly shaping up as a political struggle between 41st. District political factions.

The AFRO learned this week that the candidacy of Mrs. Murphy is leading to a confrontation between the Vanguard Club ably led by her husband and the Five-of-Five Organization spearheaded by State Sen. Clarence Blount.

Here is what is reportedly simmering behind the scenes.

Recently appointed to complete the term left by her late husband, Mrs. Murphy, a third grade teacher, now intends putting her 20-year experience as teacher in this community into work in another way — politics.

One of the last persons to file to run in the upcoming primarly elections, her action surprised, even shocked, several political activists in the district. It also cleared, once and for all, the cloud of uncertainty as who was going to oppose whom in the district.

(Continued on Page 2)

From White House to jail house

Brown must report to probation officer

Just yesterday, it seems, entertainer James Brown was the darling of just about everyone, a frequent guest at the Johnson, Nixon and Ford White Houses.

Now the Godfather of Soul has rapidly gone from White House to jail house.

The reason: money. More specifically his financial difficulties involving Baltimore's troubled radio station WEBB, one of the few black-owned broadcast facilities in the U.S.

Brown, the 44-year-old internationally known star, has left Baltimore after spending two nights in City Jail and four hours in Federal Court.

Brown will be returning to Baltimore in 45 days but it will not be for a show at the Civic Center or Painters Mills.

He is scheduled to appear before District Court Judge C. Stanley Blair for another hearing.

Soul singer Brown was arrested July 17 by Federal Marshals in New York City on a contempt of court warrant issued by U.S. District Court Judge C. Stanley Blair.

Court records state he had failed to appear at court hearings involved in a contract dispute concerning the dale of radio station WEBB.

The station, owned by Brown, is in financial trouble and creditors have asked that a court appointed receiver take control of the station.

Metro dumps Webster

Incumbent Del. Kenneth Webster, D-40th, has been dropped from the slate of the Metro Democrats, the political organization led by William "Little Willie" Adams.

Del. Kenneth Webster

Replacing him on the Metro slate is candidate Frank M. Conaway, chairman of the Board of Ashburton Insurance Ltd. Others on the slate are Western Ivey, the candidate for state senator and Dels. Troy Bralley and Lloyal Randolph.

Erla McKinnon, a spokesperson for Del. Webster, said he was "surprised it happened but it hasn't daunted his spirits any. We have been moving for the last 18 months and we are determined to get him elected one way or the other."

"I am very pleased to join the Metro slate," Conaway said. "I have worked with Del. Randolph and Del. Bralley. Both have done commendable jobs in the legislature during the past 11 years."

Conaway served in the legislature from 1971 to 1975, a period in which he introduced more than 100 statewide bills. He lost to Webster in 1976 by 172 votes.

Ivey will be seeking the seat presently held by Verda F. Welcome. An accountant and business consultant, he is active in the district's Park Heights area community.

"We hope that we can work together in alerting people to the dangers of voter apathy, and that we can stimulate them to come out and let their voices be heard in the Sept. 12 primary," Ivey said.

Loyal Randolph, the veteran representative from the 40th, is chairman of Metro's Executive Board. A former chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus, he has pushed for rent subsidy legislation and related matters.

Metro candidates endorsed for the Democratic State Central Committee are Mary B. Adams, Victorine Q. Adams and Robert E. Haynes.

Pettit hitting hard

In a scathing attack on his major opponent this week, A. Dwight Pettit, candidate for state's attorney, accused incumbent William Swisher of having "wronged the community" and "gross mismanagement of his office."

Speaking last Tuesday night before a NAACP forum to which Swisher and a third opponent in the race, Anton Keating, were invited, Pettit further charged Swisher with having dismissed 50 percent of all major white collar crime investigations since taking office in 1974.

(Continued on Page 2)