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THE POSTAL WORK-STOPPAGE

MARCH 17-26, 1970

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INTRODUCTION

Contingency situations involving the Bureau of the Chief Inspector have been handled in the past by personnel of various Divisions in the field and at the Bureau. The degree of participation was directly related to the location and peculiarities of the contingency situation. Involvement might include coordination with postmasters in establishing security precautions for personnel, facilities, mail; gathering of intelligence, coordination with local, state, federal or military agencies, developing necessary evidence for use in resulting criminal prosecutions, or any one of several other areas within the jurisdiction of the Bureau of the Chief Inspector.

It became apparent to Chief Inspector W. J. Cotter that the resources of the Bureau were not utilized in many contingencies until the unexpected event had happened and organization of the directly involved personnel in the field and at the Bureau was of necessity effected under emergency conditions.

To reduce the requirement for emergency arrangements to cope with contingency situations such as strikes, work stoppages, natural disasters, demonstrations, riots, plane crashes, et cetera, the Contingencies Branch of the Bureau was established in September 1969. The purpose of the Branch is to organize for the handling of and to coordinate all Inspection Service matters during emergent or contingency situations. Plans were developed under which the Bureau staff and the Division Headquarters personnel maintain a continuing state of readiness to act quickly and effectively should the need arise.

The operation of the Contingencies Branch was put to its first major test beginning in February 1970. Contingency Intelligence obtained by field Inspectors indicated efforts were being made to initiate a strike against the Post Office Department. Various branches of the National Association of Letter Carriers were holding meetings for the purpose of discussing and promoting wildcat strike activities but were not being supported by the membership in sufficient numbers to make such activities successful. It was apparent, however, that it would only be a matter of time before the promotion generated the necessary favor of the employees and the strike in some form would evidence itself in spite of the efforts of the national officer of the carrier union to discourage such action by threatening expulsion from the national association.

PRE-STRIKE INTELLIGENCE

A. Militant Activities of Employee Unions

During February and the early weeks of March 1970, concentrated attention was given in the 15 Divisions toward gathering information relative to activities of employee organizations from which an assessment of the seriousness and scope of the strike potential could be made. Inspectors contacted intelligence units of local police, sheriffs' offices, FBI, other agencies having interest in subversive and militant activities, as well as postmasters, postal supervisors and confidential informants. The reports from throughout the nation indicated the movement was principally in the metropolitan New York City area.

Employees in New York City were pressing for a strike because of the discontent generated by the delay of Congress and the Administration to act on a postal pay raise. Officers of NALC Branch 36, involving Manhattan and the Bronx, along with officers of the National Postal Union, were attempting to exert restraint on the members but these efforts were booed, hooted and shouted down at meetings. Strong differences of opinion existed with fist fights and disorders resulting at many of the meetings.

Brooklyn employees were similarly discontented. President Jack Leventhal and the local NALC Branch 41 advised unofficially that support would be given Branch 36 in the event of a strike. President Benjamin Zensky's Local 251, United Federation of Postal Clerks posted notices on bulletin boards stating they would support the NALC decision. President Harold Foster's local of the Brooklyn Postal Union indicated sympathy with the NALC but made no definite commitments.

On Long Island, Jamaica and Hicksville locals of the NALC advised that if Branch 36 voted to strike, they would join in the activity. Flushing, Long Island City and the larger cities in the upstate area had displayed no initiative towards promoting any type of work stoppage.

In the rest of the country, Tony Montanez, President of the Miami, Florida local of the NALC threatened during television interview on February 22 and 27 that a strike would be effected if a pay raise was not quickly passed by Congress. The carriers at Stamford, Connecticut were actively planning a work stoppage but no dates were set. In Saint Paul, Minnesota, which is a railroad center, a very strong union community, and listed as the

ninth highest cost of living area in the country. The employees were restless. Although no organized effort towards a strike had been initiated, they let it be known that the example set in New York City would undoubtedly be followed. Duluth, Minnesota, also a strong union town, reported employees were averse to actively supporting a strike once effected. Information from major cities such as Detroit, Chicago and San Francisco indicated no concerted action relative to the strike was underway.

B. Employee Agitators or Militant Leaders

Information furnished by field Inspectors showed that with only a few exceptions, the employee unrest was not the result of agitation by the union officials. Instead, dissension appeared to be a growing swell of emotion within the rank and file membership of the NALC in New York City. Union officials in the New York metropolitan area were inclined to follow the national association which stressed working with the administration for a pay raise tied to a modified postal reform bill. In March 1970, the union leadership in New York City and other large cities were given mandates by the membership to adopt the strike position or lose control as leaders.

The exceptions involved Akron, Ohio where during the absence of the local NALC president, Secretary John B. Carney was instrumental in setting up a strike vote meeting. In Hicksville, New York Local 2530 NALC president, Howard Speedling, promoted his local to initiate a strike and sought the support of other Long Island locals early in March. He was unable to gain the support until after Branch 36 of New York City voted to strike.

C. Outside Groups Advocating or Promoting Postal Strike

The possibility of outside groups taking advantage of the dissatisfaction of the postal employees to further their own image was given attention. Previously on July 15, 1969, the New York Students for a Democratic Society Labor Committee held a meeting to support the Kingsbridge and Throggs Neck Stations employee work stoppage in Bronx, New York. In August 1969, circulars titled "Organize to Win a Strike" were distributed showing a return address of the Manhattan and Bronx Concerned Postal Workers, c/o Campaigner, Box 49, Washington Bridge Station. This box was rented to the SDS Labor Committee by a Phillis Dillon, 647 W. 148th Street, New York City.

In the weeks immediately preceding the March 1970 work stoppage, there were no reported activities by any of the revolutionary or subversive groups actively promoting the postal strike. This

condition changed substantially, however, after the strike was effected and the activities are detailed later in this report.

D. Employees Connected with Outside Groups

In the event the work stoppage developed, it was important to know if any postal employees were active in reactionary groups. Current information was reviewed and updated. It was established that several employees were prominent in such organizations. The details are as follows:

Brooklyn, New York - Regular Carrier, Barry Cohen, a member of the SDS, had attempted to organize a postal employees group at the Midwood Station where he is assigned for duty.

Saint Paul, Minneapolis - Regular Clerk, Carol M. Ferguson, was identified as an activist in the Young Socialist Alliance and a member of the Socialist Workers Party.

Denver, Colorado - Regular Mailhandler, Al Sanchez, is an activist in the Crusade For Justice, and organizer for the International Socialists and was in a leadership position of the latter organization at a meeting on March 24, 1970 in San Francisco, California.

San Francisco, California - Carrier Peter Hoagland is an activist in the International Socialists and was arrested on March 26, 1970 for obstruction of a court order (Title 18, Sec. 1509).

Employee Peter Hodges is an active member of the International Socialists.

Employee Gene Kickler is an active member of the International Socialists.

Career Clerk Laurence J. Swain, 2nd Vice President of the United Federation of Post Office Clerks, Local No. 2, was in attendance at meetings of the International Socialists and was an active promoter of the strike.

CONTINGENCY POLICY and INSTRUCTIONS

On March 13, 1970, a bulletin was sent to all field personnel of the Chief Inspector's Bureau providing the following policy statements and instructions to be observed in conjunction with the material contained in the Contingency Plan For Work Stoppages (July 1968), the Supplement to Contingency Plan for Work Stoppages (3-4-70) and Executive Order 11491 Section 2 (E) (2) in the event the strike was effected:

Strike Definition

The distinguishing characteristic of a strike is the concerted action of two or more employees to withhold their services from an employer.

Legal Background

A three-judge Federal court ruled on 10-30-69 that the statutory prohibition against Federal employees asserting the right to strike against the Government is unconstitutional. This opinion did not concern the constitutionality of the statute that prohibits participation in a strike against the Government.

Interpretation of Activity

Implicit throughout a work stoppage situation are many legal issues. Calling a refusal to work a "strike" must be a most careful judgement and such decisions are reserved for Headquarters.

POD Policy

The immediate concern of the Post Office Department is to minimize any inconvenience to the public. Therefore, in the event of a work stoppage, we will to the maximum extent of our resources attempt to maintain essential postal service and functions at their normal level. We will try to contain and hopefully resolve the situation. We will take no action which may reasonably result in violence or hazard the safety of employees, the security of the mails, or the safety of buildings and equipment. We will keep the public fully informed on the issues involved as we know them, on the types of postal service available, the conditions for postal services, and our progress towards settlement. Further, we will keep in contact with the national leaders of all employee unions, particularly those whose members may be involved in the work stoppage. Our aim in all these actions is

to demonstrate our desires to end the stoppages as quickly as possible and with the least amount of disruption or hardship to the public or embitterment of employee relations.

As a work stoppage continues, the mail and service situation will be reassessed and services extended or limited as necessary. Further, we will determine the feasibility of obtaining replacements for absent employees.

E. Security

1. Security of Mails. During period of work stoppage increased surveillance must be given to the protection of mail in the post office or in public places awaiting pick-up. Arrangements must be made for protection of mail awaiting dispatch on post office platforms, bus terminals, railway stations, airports, piers, etc. Inspectors will assure the adequacy of protection given to mail in custody of contractors or in storage at federal facilities other than the post office. Care must also be taken regarding possible receipt in the mails of disruptive devices ranging from stink bombs to explosives.
2. Security of Employees. Employees safety shall supersede any other consideration. Employees will not be requested to enter on any premise or perform any duty which they sincerely believe might result in bodily harm. Arrangements may be necessary to assure their orderly and safe entrance and departure. Transportation at government expense is authorized as may be necessary to supply certain localities with needed manpower.
3. Security of Postal Funds, Property, Equipment, and Buildings. Inspectors will coordinate with Postmasters to assure adequacy of actions taken to assure security of postal properties. Additional employees may have to be detailed to duties as guards particularly in situations where patron traffic in lobbies and postal roadways is increased.

F. Service Investigations

1. Inspectors are requested to confer, discreetly and without fanfare, with installation heads to become familiar with their preparations and local emergency organizations, and to evaluate the adequacy of advance planning.
2. In the event of an actual work stoppage, Inspectors will move promptly, in coordination with installation heads, installation security forces and local law enforcement, as appropriate, to ensure that initial security measures are

satisfactory and that certain communications are established to permit prompt response by this Service should breakdowns in security materialize.

3. As required, Inspectors will also assist installation heads and Regional personnel in developing and implementing alternative methods of processing, storing, transporting and delivering mails during a work stoppage, similar to the support we routinely provide in any emergency situation affecting the Postal Service, e.g., following a natural disaster.

G. Criminal Investigations

1. Inspectors will direct attention to the development of all facts and evidence to establish prime investigations of work stoppages, participants and conspirators in work stoppages, and those responsible for secondary criminal activities flowing from work stoppages, e.g., obstruction of the mails. Inspectors should establish whether strikers, particularly those who may be engaged in picketing, are in or out of postal uniform. The names of all postal and non-postal witnesses should be developed. Bearing in mind that one of the most critical areas in investigations involving mass activity is positive identification of participants and their respective responsibility for specific overt acts, photographs, including motion pictures, should be taken to the maximum extent feasible. A thorough development of all available evidence is essential to support any administrative or criminal actions which may be required following Headquarters' assessment of the aggregate evidence.
2. When Inspectors establish non-criminal activities involving work stoppages by postal employees which warrant disciplinary action, an Investigative Summary should be furnished the Postmaster in the usual manner with a copy to the Regional Director. When evidence of criminal activities involving work stoppages by postal employees is developed, Inspectors will submit drafts of proposed letters of adverse action and proposed presentation letters to the U. S. Attorney, through the Inspector in Charge, for Bureau clearance, prior to issuance. Violations of 18 USC 1701 by employees or others will continue to be presented to U. S. Attorneys by Inspectors, without advance approval.

H. Field Organization

1. Inspectors in Charge will designate a member of Division management or an Inspector(s) to coordinate Inspection Service activities relating to work stoppages by postal employees.

Cognizance should be taken of the geographical and postal population composition of the Division in making these designations. Inspectors will channel intelligence by the most expeditious means to the Domicile Coordinator. The latter will report conditions in the Domicile area to the designated member of Division management or Inspector who will prepare a Division Summary, for transmission to the Chief Inspector by ARS. The frequency of reports will, of course, be governed by existing conditions but we wish to emphasize the positive requirement for timely reports, e.g., in an 'active' situation summaries at least daily are expected.

2. Domicile Coordinators will keep Postmasters fully informed and Division management will provide Regional Directors with timely reports of all significant developments.
3. In the event of an actual work stoppage, Domicile Coordinators are responsible for promptly reporting the scope of Inspection Service tasks so adequate Inspector manpower can be timely deployed by the Inspector in Charge to carry out our security and investigative responsibilities.

STRIKE MEETING

Employees of Branch 36, NALC, involving carriers in Manhattan and Bronx of New York City, held a meeting on March 12 and gave their branch officers a mandate to call a special meeting on Tuesday, March 17 at Manhattan Center. The purpose of the meeting was to take a strike vote to determine if the membership was willing to go out on strike. The voting would be by voting machines between 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm.

Inspectors at the scene reported the doors of Manhattan Center opened at 6:25 pm and some confusion existed at the outset in developing a system for orderly processing of voting members. Six voting machines were on hand, each person was required to display his membership card, his hand was stamped with ink to prevent repetitive voting and the individual members were noted to be solid, stable, senior employees. Although there were between 1,000 and 1,500 persons at the Center at 6:30 pm and the crowd ebbed and flowed throughout the evening, there were no instances of picketing, demonstrating, or acts of misbehavior. At 9:00 pm, the doors of the Center were closed, the last vote was made at 9:55 pm and at 10:30 pm it was announced 2,697 votes were cast; 1,559 in favor of a strike and 1,055 not in favor.

Union officials stated the crucial step had been taken by the membership of Branch 36, NALC. By a 57% majority, the voting members had defied the no-strike law. They indicated they would no longer accept the sub-standard salary provided by Congress, the "too-little-too-late" salary increases which were less than the inflationary rises in cost of living, the necessity of having to work two jobs and have their wives work to remain in a postal position and still survive, of being told they must hold the line against inflation while municipal garbage collectors were paid 2 to 3 thousand dollars per year more in salary and of the hopelessness of ever attaining a living wage under the procrastinating Congress.

CONTROL CENTER ACTIVATION

Responding to the strike vote in New York, Bureau Headquarters activated the Control Center at 11:00 pm on March 17, 1970. Likewise, Inspectors in Charge placed their Divisions in readiness by manning the Division Headquarters Control Centers on a 24 hour basis and either alerting or activating Domicile Control Centers as local conditions warranted.

Information furnished by the field was processed and briefed by the Bureau Control Center for the information of the Chief Inspector and the Postmaster General. Copies of messages from the Chief Inspector to Inspectors in Charge, from the Bureau of Operations to Regional Directors and the General Counsel to Regional Counsels were provided the Control Center as information.

The activation process at the Divisional level was immediate at the 15 Headquarters but was given less than 24 hour coverage at some Domicile Control Centers because of the absence of work stoppages. Based on necessity, the coverage by Divisions was as follows:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Field Control Centers</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
Atlanta	Florida, Georgia, N.C. & S.C.	-24 hours
Boston	Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven	24 "
Chattanooga	None (No strikes)	-
Chicago	Detroit, Minneapolis	24 "
Cincinnati	Akron, Cleveland, Toledo, Cincinnati	24 "
Denver	Phoenix, Tucson, Salt Lake City and Albuquerque	24 "
Fort Worth	None (No strikes)	-
Kansas City	None (No strikes)	-
New York	Brooklyn, Bronx, Jamaica, Flushing, Mineola, Smithtown, Yonkers, Newburgh, Albany, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo	24 "
Philadelphia	Newark, Jersey City, Pittsburgh	24 "
Saint Louis	None (No strikes)	-
Saint Paul	Minneapolis	-24 "
San Francisco	Los Angeles	24 "
Seattle	None (No strikes)	-
Washington	None (No strikes)	-

The operation of the Bureau Control Center during the prolonged period of the strike disclosed several conditions which warrant improvement for future operations. As a result of this experience, the following recommendations are made:

Staff Complement

The following assignments should be on a standing basis. In the event of any contingency and in the absence of the Director at the time of a contingency, the activation process will be initiated at the direction of the Chief Inspector by the Assistant Director of Tour Assistants.

Director of Control Center	-Director, Contingency Branch
Assistant Director	-Director, Audit Inspections Branch
Tour Assistants	-Director, Security Investigations Branch
	-Director, Personnel Investigations Branch
	-Director, Internal Thefts Branch
	-Director, Burglary & Mail Theft Branch
	-Administrative Staff Assistant to Director, SI, I & C Division

Stenographer - File Clerk

Report Brief Format

Develop a printed sheet for recording information received by telephone and for briefing messages by ARS.

Equipment

1. Two telephones located in Contingency Branch
2. Folding table for contingency operation
3. Filing cabinet and sufficient, suitable folders for filing messages according to source.
4. Two typewriters, one adding machine
5. Electrified map of sufficient size to graphically plot conditions
6. Radio
7. Television

BOMB THREATS, EVACUATIONS, HOURS LOST

Immediately after the strike vote meeting, three simultaneous bomb threats were received at the New York General Post Office. Threats increased daily thereafter and this activity was experienced in several Divisions during the strike period. No actual bombings materialized but substantial delays in mail processing and loss of manhours resulted. The following information shows the scope and import of the threats.

<u>Division</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>No. Threats</u>	<u>Evacuations</u>	<u>Hrs. Lost</u>
Atlanta	Atlanta	3	0	0
	Miami	3	3	45
	Gainesville, Fla.	1	0	0
	Tallahassee, Fla.	1	1	15
Boston				
	Prudential Station, Boston	1	0	0
	Boston - Main Office	1	1	1,664
	Boston - South Postal Annex	16	7	6,637
	Back Bay Annex	1	1	134
	Post Office Truck Terminal	2	2	40
	Malden Branch	1	1	2
	Cambridge "A" Branch, Boston	1	1	24
	Cambridge Branch 38, Boston	1	1	2
	Pawtucket, Rhode Island	1	1	1
	Belden Station, Norwalk, Conn.	1	1	45
	New Haven, Connecticut	1	1	10
	Bristol, Connecticut	1	0	0
	Windsor, Connecticut	2	0	0
Chattanooga		None		
Chicago				
	Main Office	4	0	40
	SCF, South Suburban	4	1	5,600
	Detroit, Michigan	6	0	190
	Royal Oak, Michigan	1	1	250
Cincinnati		None		
Denver	Denver	3	0	0
	(One made by Regular Clerk, Samuel Carter, Denver Terminal Annex)			
Fort Worth	Houston	1	1	145
	Thibodaux	1	0	0
	New Orleans	11	3	1,855
Kansas City		None		

<u>Division</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>No. Threats</u>	<u>Evacuations</u>	<u>Hrs. Lost</u>
New York	Bronx	Unknown	3	Unknown
	New York City	14 recorded	0	0
		250 estimated	0	0
	Brooklyn	2	0	0
	Flushing	1	0	0
	Rockville Cen.	1	1	25
	Valley Stream	1	1	15
	Far Rockaway	1	0	0
	Hamburg	1	0	0
Philadelphia				
	Hackensack, NJ	1		45"
	Orange, NJ	1		30"
	Camden, NJ	1		45"
Saint Louis	Saint Louis	2	2	Unknown
Saint Paul	Saint Paul	1	0	0
San Francisco				
	San Francisco	2	0	0
	Los Angeles	2	0	0
Seattle	Springfield, Ore	1	0	0
Washington	Washington	17	2	1,949
	N. Virginia SCF	8		838
	Post Office Dept. Bldg.	1	0	0

EXPANSION OF STRIKE IN NORTHEAST

The sympathy felt by the fellow employees of Branch 36 members throughout the area and nation evidenced itself on March 18. Brooklyn letter carriers advised they would follow Branch 36; the National Postal Union in New York City stated they would not cross carrier picket lines and voted overwhelmingly to support the strike. Carriers scheduled on Tour 1 of March 18 at GPO and stations effected the strike by not reporting or leaving their assignments after reporting. Postal Inspectors responded in sufficient numbers at 4:30 am to monitor conditions at all major area installations and provide on the spot intelligence for Departmental officials. Pickets were set up at 6:00 am and mail service ground to a halt in Manhattan and the Bronx. Major area offices on Long Island followed and became virtually inoperational. Brooklyn carriers and clerks, in an impromptu meeting held early on March 18, supported Branch 36 and did not report for duty. No problems generated from the pickets. They did not interfere with employees or supervisors desiring to report for duty. However, private and government contract vehicle drivers carrying mail, in addition to employees in large numbers, honored the picket lines, and metropolitan New York postal service ceased to function.

The strike spread into New Jersey by 8:45 am on March 18 when employees at Paterson walked out and the office was completely shut down. During the day, additional offices in Long Island, Westchester County of New York State, in Connecticut and New Jersey were closed down. Offices in the midwest, such as Saint Louis and Cincinnati, and others throughout the South and Southwest, started having strike vote meetings but the results were to abide by the policy of their National Officers to remain on duty. National President of the NALC, James Rademacher, was unable to control or influence the members of his organization in the Northeast section of the country. To solidify his position, he called a meeting of branch officials from 300 of the largest post offices throughout the country. The purpose of this meeting, in addition to strengthening his position, was to determine the course to be taken by the National Organization. The meeting was set for March 20 in Washington, D.C. During the evening of March 18, Metropolitan New York area affiliates of the National Postal Union held meetings to formalize their participation in the work stoppage by holding strike vote meetings.

SECURITY - POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Protection of the Post Office Department building is the responsibility of the General Services Administration. An understanding exists with the Metropolitan Police Department that police officers will assume responsibility for violations occurring outside the building and will enter the building only when specifically requested to do so.

The GSA protection service provided by the building guard force is minimal at all times and a two-or-three man complement during work day business hours makes building security a physical impracticability. The fact that the building has 14 entrances without guard control and is used by the public and employees means that protection is absolutely negligible. The only building entrance under any guard observation during business hours is the north center entrance which is probably the least public used entrance to the building. Likewise, a guard force for assignment to this building during non-business hours does not permit tightened security procedures such as is warranted by sensitive conditions induced by serious emergency conditions.

Acting on the premise that a major work stoppage of the nature and extent that developed at New York City on March 17 and spread to other areas could lead to a possible confrontation posing dangers to Departmental postal officials, security actions were initiated. This was particularly indicated by the rash of telephoned bomb threat calls received in Washington, D.C. on March 19. Such a call was received by the Post Office Department operator shortly after 10:00 am. GSA personnel were notified and a mobilization of the guard force and building maintenance personnel to institute a building search resulted. As an immediate measure Postal Inspectors and selected personnel of the Bureau of the Chief Inspector gave immediate attention to sensitive areas including the Benjamin Franklin Postal Station, the reception and corridor areas around the EMG's office and executive offices attached thereto, the building cafeteria and the Phila. Exhibition Room. So far as is known, this is the first bomb threat ever received relating to this building and the experience on March 19 clearly indicated the necessity of developing an orderly and comprehensive procedure for future searches of this type to be conducted by GSA personnel. Continuing attention is being given to liaison between GSA and the development of adequate and positive plans and measures to insure that search teams will be formed and promptly instituted the necessary search and security measures.

The establishment at this Headquarters of an Operations Command as well as a combined contingencies and intelligence gathering and communications operation in the Bureau of the Chief Postal Inspector

during the weekend of March 21 and 22 necessitated a sizeable work staff within the Headquarters Building. On a normal Saturday morning, only one GSA guard is assigned to this Headquarters Building. Two guard members are assigned for parking control. Request was made of GSA for assignment within the building of several additional guards and they were assigned.

In view of the general situation it was deemed advisable to close the Philatelic Room on Saturday March 21. One particularly vulnerable opening was the loading platform serving both the Postal Station and Building Service. An electrically operated overhead door was secured by the immediate installation of a key locked cover plate for the control switch.

At the beginning of the emergency and continuing thereafter, careful observation was made of the building security maintained by the GSA guard force, particularly as to the requirement of display of building passes or other identification and the signing of the register upon entry and departure. The system was put into effect beginning at 6:00 pm and continued until 7:45 am, and, on a 24 hour basis during the holidays and weekends. The actions taken gave reasonable assurance of non-admittance of unauthorized personnel.

As soon as the postal strike materialized, two Postal Inspectors were assigned to the Postmaster General, one to meet him with the chauffeur at his residence in the morning and accompany him until about noon, and the other to accompany him until the General retired..

In addition, two closed circuit TV cameras and screens were set up in the offices of the Postmaster General. One camera monitored the inner corridor leading to the Postmaster General's private elevator, and the other monitored the public corridor door leading to an outer office. Postal Inspectors observing the screens could thus be alerted to the entry of any unauthorized person into these office areas.

A patrol was also set up to guard the 3000 corridor during office hours. The south end of the corridor was locked, and the guard patrol set up at the north end.

Protection of the Blount residence on a 24 hour basis was also undertaken by having three Inspectors each take an eight hour tour in the home. The presence of an Inspector was supplemented by use of two-way radio equipment and electronic alerting devices. A total of 14 Inspectors were assigned to the protection of the Postmaster General and his residence on a 24 hour basis between March 20 and April 3, 1970.

SECURITY - FIELD ESTABLISHMENT

Throughout March 18, the Inspection Service initiated steps at all postal installations to assure that mail matter, facilities, personnel and equipment exposed to the work stoppage were secure. Examples of attention given are:

- a. At 24 hour and large postal installations, steps were taken to reduce the number of entrances used and arrange for guards at those designated for use.
- b.. Inspectors circulated in lobby areas to assure patron traffic was not interfered with by groups or individuals, to counsel over-zealous employees in picket lines outside the office and if necessary, remove trouble makers if the situation required such action to preserve order.
- c. Effected the required security of workroom areas to prevent any attempts at sabotage.
- d. At smaller stations where only one supervisor was on duty, arranged for surplus supervisors to be assigned to provide at least two at each station.
- e. Arranged to have installations which were closed during the night to be well illuminated and patrolled regularly by Inspectors, guards or police, giving particular attention that dock areas were clear and doors secure.
- f. In New York City, the police moved a communications van to the General Post Office through which coordination between the Inspection Service and several hundred policemen could be maintained throughout the borough.
- g. Due to the ever increasing demands being made on the Inspection Service, the Chief Inspector deployed eight Inspectors from the Boston Division, nine from the Atlanta Division and ten from the Fort Worth Division, with an Assistant Inspector in Charge from the Cincinnati Division, to assist with strike related work in New York City.
- h. Guidance was provided relative to designating storage areas at air mail fields, railroad platforms, yards, marshalling areas for flexivan and containerized shipments. Appropriate measures were taken to achieve maximum security.
- i. Assured that a thorough inventory of vehicles was maintained to preclude any being abandoned. To the greatest extent possible, vehicles were concentrated in designated storage areas which were patrolled to prevent malicious damage.

- j. Large buildings having collection sack racks were visited and arrangements made with building management to provide security.
- k. Collections from street boxes were made by supervisors in their privately owned vehicles and police were provided with a telephone number to call if a box overflowing with mail was noted.
- l. Registered mail was withdrawn from incoming mail receipts scheduled for storage, from dispatches made up to stations and branches and to post offices where it was known Star Route drivers would not cross existing picket lines. Registers were transported to stations by supervisors and patrons were notified by telephone of registers, special delivery and perishable articles on hand which could be called for at their convenience.
- m. Provide convoy service on shipments of salary checks and high value registry shipments.

NEW YORK AREA - March 18-19

Inspectors gathered evidence to support violations of criminal statutes by persons agitating, aiding, abetting, commanding and inducing the postal strike. Assistance was provided the U. S. Attorney's Office relative to preparing injunctions and restraining orders and Inspectors were available to assist in the in the serving of the orders when they were authorized by the federal court starting late on March 18. The temporary restraining orders issued by federal judges in Manhattan and Brooklyn on March 18 were ignored and the number of employees reporting to duty in metropolitan offices diminished to a very small percentage.

The Army made a firm offer on March 18 to furnish personnel and vehicles to process all letter mail and official mail as well as provide shuttle service between JFK Airport Mail Facility and Postal Concentration Center of New York City. They advised Building 179 at JFK could be used for distribution purposes provided the employee pickets did not interfere. The Army inquired whether the Post Office Department had any objections to the NALC officials being contacted relative to making amicable arrangements. A decision was made to hold the offer in abeyance pending the outcome of the clerk union meetings being held during the evening.

✓ Injunctions were served on officers of the Brooklyn and Manhattan-Bronx carrier unions. Picketing by carriers ceased but was almost immediately by members of the clerk craft.

Outside groups such as the Progressive Labor Party, Vietnam Peace Parade Committee, The Committee for Self-Defense of the Working Class, Youth Against War and Fascism and the Students for a Democratic Society now began distributing leaflets and propaganda literature in the areas of picketing. These were adroitly prepared to indicate support for the strike and at the same time justified such action as necessary against the government.

EXPANSION OF STRIKE NATIONWIDE

On March 19, the strike action expanded to 59 New Jersey, 13 New York and 2 Connecticut post offices. Outside of the Northeast seaboard area, Buffalo, New York; 17 stations of Philadelphia; Chester, Pa., and Akron, Ohio voted to strike. More and more indications were received from Inspectors in the midwest and west that strike votes were scheduled and sentiment appeared in favor of strike action.

Conditions worsened on March 20, with large offices such as Chicago, Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Cleveland, Detroit, Milwaukee, Madison and a large number of smaller first class offices in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin being shut down by strikes. The Manhattan-Bronx vote of March 20 was to remain on strike.

On March 21, carriers at Denver, Duluth, Pittsburgh, and San Francisco, as well as eight smaller first class offices in California, voted to strike. Additional offices in Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York joined the strike.

Strike vote meetings had been or were being held at many of the large post offices in that portion of the country generally south of a parallel line running from Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Denver to Los Angeles but all had taken a moderate stand of not striking or abiding by the dictates of the national organization.

CIVIL COURT ACTIONS

In eight Divisions, Inspectors were securing and presenting to the U.S. Attorney necessary information and documentation for restraining orders and injunctions against union organizations and officials that were on strike.

A review of the activity and actions in affected Divisions follows:

Boston:

Inspector R. W. DeLong assisted Regional Counsel John T. Farrell, Jr. and Assistant United States Attorney Richard L. Winter at Bridgeport, Connecticut on March 20, 1970. Mr. Winter and Mr. Farrell prepared motions and supporting documents for application of a Temporary Restraining Order enjoining the strike of postal employees and for a Preliminary Injunction. Chief Judge William H. Timbers issued temporary restraining orders at 5:45 pm March 20 against 16 branches of the NALC and their president in Connecticut. Inspectors accompanied Deputy United States Marshals in serving the restraining orders on the presidents and the branches. On the morning of March 21, 1970 it was found that all branches in Fairfield County on whom restraining orders had been served were partially complying in that all picket signs disappeared and picketing ceased. Employees continued to gather in groups and to mill around post office areas without forming picket lines.

On Tuesday, March 24, 1970 Regional Counsel John T. Farrell, Jr. and United States Attorney Stewart H. Jones represented the Post Office Department before Judge Timbers for the hearing on motion for preliminary injunction. All branches and clerks' locals in Connecticut, with the exception of those at Hartford, returned to duty on this date.

Federal Judge T. Emmet Clarie, U.S. District Court at Hartford fined Local Branch 86 \$2,500.00 and Branch President James J. Godfrey \$300.00 for contempt of court. The fines were paid to the Registry of the court on April 8. On April 9, Attorney M. G. Ratner representing the NALC entered a motion that a stay of execution be made for the purpose of retaining the fines in the Registry of the court pending application to the President of the United States for amnesty or pardon. Judge Clarie handed down a decision on the same date that the defendants should have the right and opportunity to petition for executive clemency according to Article II, Section 2, of the Constitution of the United States. The writ ordered the the fines to be held until 10:00 am, June 15, 1970. *

Assistance was also rendered the United States Attorney and Regional Counsel at Providence, Rhode Island. On Sunday afternoon, March 22

* On June 10, 1970, a six-month stay of execution for the contempt fines was denied by the court. An appeal with the Second U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York, NY has been made.

a temporary restraining order against the walkout by Branch 15 of the National Association of Letter Carriers was issued by Chief Judge Edward W. Day and hearing was set for 2:00 pm Wednesday, March 25. However, at about 1:00 am on the morning of March 23, 1970, the president of Branch 15, NALC Arthur Salzillo, called off the pickets at the main office in compliance with the restraining order.

Cincinnati:

At Cleveland, Ohio on March 23, 1970 the names and addresses of employee union officials were furnished the United States Attorney's Office for the purpose of preparing temporary injunctions. These injunctions were not served, however, since the employees at Cleveland voted to return to duty.

At Akron, preliminary liaison with the office of the United States Attorney was made by Postal Inspectors on March 21, 1970 looking toward the issuance of a temporary restraining order. The actual issuance of this order was delayed pending decision on the part of the Justice Department at the Headquarters level. On March 24, the postmaster at Akron was driven to Cleveland by Inspectors where he filed his complaint with the United States Attorney and temporary restraining orders were issued covering the pickets at the various postal units at Akron. Service of the orders was made by Deputy U. S. Marshals from Cleveland with the assistance of Akron Inspectors.

At Toledo, Ohio, local Assistant U.S. Attorneys visited the Inspector's office to determine the scope of the activity and offered their assistance. After they contacted the U. S. Attorney, they were advised they should proceed with legal action against the pickets. Inspectors assisted the Postmaster and U. S. Attorney in preparing an affidavit for use in temporary injunction procedure. A total of approximately 30 temporary restraining orders were issued and shortly thereafter picket lines began to disintegrate.

The temporary restraining orders proved to be very timely and effective in halting further picketing at Toledo. They also were effective in Akron, but would have been more beneficial if they had been issued sooner.

Chicago:

Close liaison was maintained with the Regional Council at Chicago and Minneapolis and information was exchanged on a continuing basis. Close liaison was maintained with the U. S. Attorneys in all judicial districts in the Division. Injunctions and/or restraining orders were obtained at Milwaukee and Madison, Wisconsin. The same procedure was followed in the Chicago and Detroit areas. In the Greater Detroit area, Greater Chicago area, and Madison, Wisconsin, the orders were actually served by Postal Inspectors in cooperation with the U.S. Marshall and U.S. Attorney's office.

Denver:

Restraining orders were obtained against units of the National Association of Letter Carriers at each of the perimeter offices in the Denver, Colorado Metropolitan area affected by the work stoppage. These included Arvada Local 4405, Aurora Branch 5996, Broomfield Branch 5135, Englewood Branch 4600, Golden Local 1982, Littleton Branch 2323 and Westminster Local 4501. Restraining orders were also served on the United Federation of Postal Clerks Local 4219 at Arvada, Colorado and on three local unions of the Denver, Colorado office. These were NALC Local 47, UFPC Local 229 and Local 25 of the Mail Handlers Division of Labors International Union of North America, Denver Postal Union of the National Postal Union. In addition, a show cause order for criminal contempt was issued against Richard Tungseth, Vice President NALC Local 4405, at Arvada, Colorado. Hearings in all of these actions were continued until May 11, 1970. The timing of the actions was apparently effective and it is believed that the actions contributed to restoration of normal postal service in the Denver, Colorado area. Assistance was furnished the U. S. Attorney at Denver, Colorado and the Denver Regional Counsel in identifying the organizations and individuals involved.

New York:

The initial court action was taken at 1440 on March 18, 1970, when the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York entered an order granting the United States' application for a preliminary injunction against Branch 36, National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO, John Doe and Richard Roe. The order was immediately served on President Gustave J. Johnson of Branch 36 and other officers of the Local.

Inspectors working with the U.S. Attorney's office were obtaining information of a financial nature relating to Branch 36 since it was apparent the membership did not intend to return to work, would defy the injunctions and fines against the union treasury and officials would have to be considered by the court for the contempt shown. Show cause hearings were scheduled in Manhattan and Brooklyn federal courts for March 23.

The work stoppage continued and on March 23 and 24, 1970, there was further action in the Southern District Court when the United States Attorney asked for an order pursuant to Rule 14 of the Civil Rules of the Court providing that Branch 36 and the officers and agents named in the order to show cause why they should not be held in contempt of court for violation of the order filed by Judge Inzer B. Wyatt.

A number of witnesses were called including the Regional Director, the Regional Counsel, Inspectors and some of the officers of Local 36.

On March 24, District Judge Frederick van Pelt Bryan rendered the decision that Branch 36 and its President would be considered to be in contempt if the employees did not return to work as of 1700 on March 25, 1970. Since the employees did return to work, no further action has been taken by the District Court. On March 26, 1970, copies of official communications were delivered through the United States Attorney to the court showing under the Postmaster's signatures at Bronx and New York, N.Y., that employees had, in fact, returned to duty.

Between March 18 and 23, 1970, Postal Inspectors served copies of the injunction to the Officers and Station Delegates of Branch 36, NALC. The Assistant United States Attorney in charge of this civil action, Michael Hess, and this Service kept communication lines open constantly during the period of time when the possible work stoppage first became evident. This liaison continues to date, and it will not be discontinued until the emergency is definitely over.

While the preliminary injunction was timely, it had little effect on the employees who stayed away from work due to the strike. It was not until the threat of rather heavy fines was imminent that the return to work movement started. Perhaps the fact that the position of letter carrier, clerk or mail handler is so low in the overall pay scale in the New York, N.Y. area leaves these employees with a feeling that it would be just as well to lose their positions as to continue on a job where the salary, according to the United States Department of Labor statistic figures, is too low to support a family of four. Postmaster John R. Strachan, on April 15, 1970, advised that over 1,000 carrier vacancies existed in his organization on that date. It is possible mail service may be severely disrupted unless a means to fill these vacancies is forthcoming. This is strong evidence of the present labor problem in the New York, N.Y. post office.

Late in the work stoppage period the injunction against Branch 36, NALC, John Doe and Richard Roe, was also served on the Officers and members of the Executive Committee of the Manhattan-Bronx Postal Union. No further action was taken, for the members almost immediately went back to work when the Letter Carriers in Branch 36 complied with the preliminary injunction issued against that branch at an earlier date.

(Brooklyn, N.Y.)

The United States Attorney's office in the Eastern District of New York was requested on the morning of March 18, 1970 to designate an Assistant U.S. Attorney to handle any legal action in connection with

the work stoppage at the Brooklyn, N.Y. post office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Lloyd Baker called and advised that he had been designated to handle any legal action and he in turn was informed that Assistant U.S. Attorney Hess in the Southern District was handling the matter. Mr. Baker and another Assistant U.S. Attorney went to New York and conferred with the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District. Later in the day Mr. Baker advised that a Restraining Order would be sought in Brooklyn against Branch 41, NALC, and others and that Judge Travia would sign the Order. Named in the Order would be Brooklyn, Flushing, Jamaica, Long Island City, Hicksville and Mineola.

A Temporary Restraining Order was obtained and served at about 10:00 am on the morning of March 19, 1970 on Vincent Scollo, Vice President of the Brooklyn Letter Carriers Association, Branch 41, National Association of Letter Carriers. Shortly after the Restraining Order was served, the carriers stopped picketing in front of the General Post Office and at the stations. Members of the two clerks' organizations of Brooklyn continued picketing. A hearing was held at 10:00 am on March 20, 1970 in connection with the Temporary Restraining Order served on the Letter Carriers organization in Brooklyn and later in the day, a Restraining Order was served on Harold Foster, President of the Brooklyn Postal Union and Benjamin Zemsky, President of the United Federation of Postal Clerks, Local 251. Shortly after these orders were served, the clerks stopped picketing at the General Post Office and the stations in Brooklyn.

The United States Attorney prepared Show Cause Orders on March 22, 1970 returnable on Wednesday, March 25, 1970 and these orders were served by Postal Inspectors on Jack Leventhal, Benjamin Zemsky and Vincent Scollo on March 22, 1970. Harold Foster was served on the morning of March 23, 1970. These orders were looking to have a fine imposed on the unions and the union presidents for contempt of court.

(Long Island):

Relative to the issuance of injunctions against striking National Association of Letter Carriers Branches, immediate action was taken on March 18 to obtain from each struck post office the branch number and names and addresses of officers for reference to the United States Attorney in order that injunctions could be issued. As this information was received, it was relayed to Inspector Caldwell at Brooklyn, N.Y., who turned it over to the United States Attorney.

During the late afternoon of March 19 a representative of the United States Marshal's office for the Eastern District of New York, visited the Mineola domicile and advised he was attempting to serve restraining orders on officers of NALC Branches at Mineola and Hicksville, N.Y. However, as of midnight, these orders had not been served.

(Long Island):...cont'd

The Inspectors at the Mineola domicile in Nassau County held themselves in waiting on March 23, 1970 for the possible delivery of "Restraining Orders" to union officials of the various NALC Branches. However, they were not received.

During the late morning of March 24, 1970, Restraining Orders issued by the United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, Brooklyn, N.Y., were received for service on 60 Branches of the NALC. Forty of these branches were located in Nassau County and 20 in Suffolk County. By late evening, officers of 30 NALC Branches in Nassau County and 19 NALC Branches in Suffolk County had been served. Service of Restraining Orders on the remaining NALC Branch officers was scheduled for March 25, 1970, in the event the employees of the post offices involved did not return to work.

Postmasters reported on March 25 that full or partial complements of employees had reported for duty at 28 of the 49 offices where work stoppages had occurred. Inspector Gaughran at Brooklyn relayed the request of the United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York, to discontinue serving restraint orders on NALC Branches and officers. Consequently, ten NALC Branches in Nassau County remained unserved. The affidavits of service were completed by Inspectors involved and submitted to the United States Attorney's office, Eastern District of New York at Brooklyn, New York.

(Buffalo):

The Regional General Counsel authorized the postmaster to obtain an injunction against the striking carriers' union and furnished a copy of the text used at New York City for guidelines.

Cooperation was extended the postmaster, Myron F. Blakeney, and Inspectors jointly met with Mr. H. Kenneth Schroeder, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of New York, who drew up an order to show cause and complaint for a temporary injunction. This was accomplished late Friday afternoon, but the order was not signed by Honorable John O. Henderson, Judge, Western District of New York, until Saturday morning, March 21. Following the signing by Judge Henderson and making of sufficient copies, Inspectors served notices on the following officials of Local #3 of the National Association of Letter Carriers:

John J. McGuire, President

Robert D. Ohlenschlager, Vice President

Joseph J. Walsh, Jr., Recording Secretary

The notices were served at Becker's Restaurant, 1536 William Street, where the local's executive officers were having a meeting. Following

(Buffalo):...cont'd

this, papers were served on 22 pickets at entrances to the GPO. In all cases papers were served without incident except that some pickets gave their name as "John Doe". However, pictures were taken which should serve to identify all pickets served with stop orders. Within one-half hour, or about 2:00 pm, all pickets left the scene. Some took positions across the street without signs. Approximately 150 Tour III clerks gathered across the street from the GPO, but despite the lack of pickets and a clear driveway, only a few entered on duty. Notices were not served on pickets at stations as they close at noon on Saturdays, and picketing had stopped by Monday morning.

Union officers appeared in Federal Court Thursday, March 26, 1970, when the show cause hearing was postponed, and final disposition of the matter is still pending.

Philadelphia:

Full cooperation and assistance was given United States Attorneys and the Regional Counsel in obtaining and serving, in coordination with U.S. Marshals, 52 injunctions and restraining orders. Those issued at Newark were obtained on March 20, 1970. Some were served on Saturday, March 21 and the balance on the following Monday. They were considered neither timely nor effective. However, at Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, temporary restraining orders issued on March 21 resulted in almost immediate removal of pickets.

Saint Paul:

Temporary restraining orders were issued on March 23, 1970, by United States District Judge Earl R. Larson, Minneapolis, ordering officers and members of the NALC branches at Saint Paul and Minneapolis to terminate the strike and discontinue picketing activities. Carrier pickets at both cities were removed upon issuance of the restraining orders, and carriers at Minneapolis began returning to work on March 24, 1970.

San Francisco: Temporary Restraining Orders were issued March 21, 1970, against the NALC, San Francisco; on March 23, 1970, against the same organization at San Rafael, Palo Alto, San Jose, California. On March 24, 1970, a persistent picketer, Peter Hoagland, caused the issuance of a Temporary Restraining Order against him, which he ignored, and for which he was arrested on March 26, 1970. He was released on his own recognizance by the United States Commissioner, San Francisco, the same day and the charges against him have since been dismissed.

CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS BY EMPLOYEES

As previously detailed in this report, the development of the strike was primarily due to the spontaneous reaction of the employees in New York City. Attention in the field failed to establish the strike was the result of the efforts of strong, militant leadership or organized agitation.

Following the strike vote in New York City on March 17, field Inspectors began gathering intelligence and evidence which could be presented to the U. S. Attorney and would support prosecutive action against unions and employees who assumed dominant positions of leadership during the strike. This involved positive identification of employees that were actively instigating, participating or abetting the strike.

Although the Post Office and Justice Departments agreed to hold in abeyance any prosecutive action until after the work stoppage, liaison with U. S. Attorneys was maintained and Inspectors developed the necessary evidence for future consideration. Simplified data sheets were utilized which showed the employee's name, roster designation, duty station and tour, union membership, overt acts, failure to report for duty and dates involved and picketing activities. The evidence included statements, photographs and video tapes.

Brief descriptions of the employees established to be in violation of the strike statutes were furnished the Chief Inspector and a file is maintained in the Contingencies Branch.

DEGREE OF INVOLVEMENT AND IMPACT OF OUTSIDE GROUPS

Of the 15 Divisions, only seven experienced involvement by outside groups. The degree of involvement varied from token efforts involving only a few persons handing out handbills in favor of the strike to major efforts to develop mass demonstrations.

The impact outside groups had on the strike was considered minimal in all Divisions, principally because the officers and rank and file members of employee organizations refused to associate themselves with the groups. The consistent reaction of the employees was to refuse any offered participation and assistance from outside organizations and spoke out loud and clear throughout the strike that they neither desired or appreciated being identified with individuals or units from outside the postal establishment.

A summary of the outside groups and their degree of participation by Divisions follows:

BOSTON DIVISION:

Boston, Massachusetts

3-23-70. Approximately 100 students attended SDS "Support the Postal Strike" meeting at Boston University. A flyer bearing the name of a professor identified with leftist movements had announced that two postal workers would speak--one tentatively identified as Carrier James Leary was present and answered questions related to strike causes.

Commencing early in the AM, SDS representatives handed out Progressive Labor Party literature outside South Postal Annex.

3-24-70. In early morning, Progressive Labor Party members handed out literature at GPO.

There was considerable early morning agitation by Progressive Labor Party members distributing flyers at AMF, GPO, Back Bay Annex, South Postal Annex, and Cambridge Branches.

At noon, about 200 participated in demonstrations opposite GPO proclaiming SDS support. National secretary and others identified with SDS Boston National Headquarters were present. After one hour, the demonstrators marched through principal shopping area to the South Postal Annex and attempted, without success, to pass handbills to postal personnel ending tour of duty. Two speakers were also present. Wording on one large banner included "SDS vs. warmaker, vs. strike breaker".

Marchers chanted about underpaid postal carriers, war in Vietnam, and Army strike breakers. Members later harangued the assemblage the bulk of which consisted of their own following with few spectators, and no attention was paid by postal carriers.

Cambridge, Massachusetts

3-22-70. Worker-Student Alliance Faction of SDS met at MIT. About 150 individuals attended meeting, including representatives of SDS Chapters from colleges in the area, and agreed to support striking postal workers.

CHICAGO DIVISION:

The following organizations either passed out leaflets supporting the strike or had identifiable representatives near employee picket areas at Chicago and Detroit:

Federation of Student Social Workers
Student Democratic Society - Chicago Peace Council
Progressive Labor Party - Industrial Workers of the World
Native American Committee of Chicago
Students Mobilization Committee
Students Mobilization Committee to End War in Vietnam
Students Mobilization Committee to End War in Vietnam Trade
Union Committee

Madison, Wisconsin

3-23-70. A parade of 350 persons was organized by a SDS leader at Wisconsin University who obtained a permit in the name of Strike Communications Committee. Young Socialist Alliance was also involved.

NEW YORK DIVISION:

New York, N.Y.

3-21-70. The Worker-Student Alliance Faction of SDS held an assembly at Columbia University. 65 individuals attended, including delegation from the SDS Labor Committee. Representatives of the Labor Committee stated they had done some organizational work among postal employees, and proposed capitalizing on the postal strike but this was turned down by others present at the meeting.

3-25-70. The Workers World Party reportedly distributed leaflets supporting postal strikers.

Reported attempt of Black Panther Party to attack a postal facility did not materialize.

The Communist splinter group, Youth against War and Fascism, distributed literature supporting the postal strike.

The SDS-sponsored rally at Columbia University failed--other students paid no heed.

Jerry Rubin, recently convicted at Chicago on anti-riot violation, urged support for the postal workers during a Black Panther Party rally to raise bail funds.

Victor Goltbaum, President of Municipal Union of State and Government Employees, pledged moral support to the postal employee pickets and \$5,000.00 financial assistance.

Civil rights representatives were noted among crowd of onlookers when the military personnel arrived at GPO, New York. Among them was Bayard Rustin, a well-known civil rights activist.

3-24-70. About 100 attended the first SDS-sponsored rally at City College of New York. Approximately 125 attended a second rally--speakers included SDS and Black Panther Party members.

At Queens College, 75 individuals demonstrated.

When the military concluded their assignment at GPO at about 1:30 am., the non-postal student-type agitators attempted to provoke confrontation between the military personnel and the postal employee pickets.

Some 150 SDS members assembled in front of GPO at 5:15 pm., separated from the postal employees who were stationed on the street to support the work stoppage.

The SDS-sponsored a demonstration at City College and announced another at GPO on 3-25, with the Black Panther Party member speaker at both rallies.

The Progressive Labor Party (PLP) ad hoc committee held a nighttime meeting at Columbia University; announced plans to hold a rally at the University on 3-25-70, then march to City Hall-Park and Church Street Station for another rally.

Many outside groups concentrated on producing handout material. Following is a description of such groups and a brief description of their material distributed at New York City and Brooklyn:

- a. Victor Gotbaum, c/o District Council 37, 365 Broadway, New York, N.Y., and Harry Van Arsdale, c/o New York City Central Labor Council, 386 Park Avenue, South, New York, N.Y., as the "Workers League", telephone 254-7120,

distributed circulars calling for a mass rally and a general strike to support the postal workers. The date of issue is not known.

- b. A circular which was updated, supported the striking Postal Workers and was issued by the "Labor Division, Youth Against War & Facism, 58 West 25th Street, New York, N.Y., 10010, telephone 242-9225 and 675-2520". At this time, the exact nature of this organization is not known.
- c. The Vanguard Newsletter, P.O. Box 67, Peck Slip Station, New York, N.Y., 10038, had a circular distributed on March 24, 1970, which was inflammatory in nature. Post Office Box 67, Peck Slip Station, is rented to Vanguard Newsletter, 155 East Fourth Street, New York, N.Y. 10009, with the application signed by Harry L. Tanser, Editor, same address, telephone 254-7955. The box was opened on April 14, 1969.
- d. The Socialist Labor Party, P.O. Box 200, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11202, published a rather low tempered, non-inflammatory circular. The date of its issuance is not known.
- e. The Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance published a rather strongly worded, four-page newspaper during the strike that solicited subscriptions to the paper with payments to be made to "The Militant, 873 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003".
- f. On March 24, 1970, a distribution was made of a circular, soliciting men in the Military Service assigned to the Post Office to commit vandalism, without the publishers being identified. The return telephone numbers were 533-8920, 674-0050, 228-0270 and 228-0450.
- g. The Young Workers Liberation League, 29 West 15th Street, Seventh Floor, New York, N.Y., on April 10, 1970, distributed circulars which were very critical of the Federal Government for stopping the strike, and they demanded that Postal Employees have the right to strike, and many other features which might be interpreted to be against the "Establishment".
- h. The Socialist Committees of Correspondence, GPO Box 1948, New York, N.Y. 10001, on March 23, 1970, issued a leaflet supporting the strike by Postal Workers. Telephone numbers were 297-9297 and 898-0080.

- i. The National Welfare Rights Organization, address unknown, issued a leaflet supporting the Letter Carriers in their "Fight" for adequate income.
- j. The Young Workers Committee to Support Striking Postal Workers, address unknown, telephone 924-8620, issued a leaflet supporting the strike of the Postal Employees, and threatening use of labor union local powers to demonstrate on March 24, 1970 between 1700 and 1900 hours against the Government.
- k. The Progressive Labor Party, 1 Union Square, New York, N.Y. 10003, passed out leaflets supporting the Postal Strikers and solicited subscriptions to the newspaper of the organization named "Challenge".
- l. The International Socialist, 874 Broadway, Room 1005, New York, N.Y. 10003, telephone 254-7960, on March 24, 1970, issued a leaflet that supported the "Right" of Postal Employees to strike.
- m. The American Serviceman's Union, 156 Fifth Avenue, Room 538, New York, N.Y. 10010, telephone 675-6780, Andrew Stapp, Chairman, and Bob Lemay, National Executive Director, on March 20, 1970, issued a leaflet supporting the Postal Workers Strike.

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION:

The Liberation Fighters Coalition, The Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance distributed leaflets in Philadelphia, Newark, Jersey City and Patterson during the strike period.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

3-23-70. The Philadelphia Resistance, anti-draft group, at their meeting, urged flooding postal system with mailings of underpaid items and bulk permit matter and telephone books, to be sent to non-existent addresses. Resistance members felt these actions would impede the military handling of mail.

3-24-70. SDS Labor Committee distributed literature criticizing capitalism and supporting strikers.

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

3-19-70. About 50 young persons, who had previously demonstrated for three days in groups of five or six inside and outside Federal Building housing the Selective Service Board, seated themselves in the Federal Square Station lobby. No direct

interference with movement of patrons, but created nuisance with the noise and discarded foodstuffs and peanut shells.

Newark, New Jersey

3-22-70. Leroi Jones, writer, militant, and activist, at 5:00 am requested meeting with postmaster.

Accompanied by several unidentified men, Jones told postmaster if the National Guard came into Newark, black militants would become fully involved, evidently meaning rioting would ensue. (Jones was arrested in prior Newark riots where Guard was used).

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION:

Los Angeles, California

The Bay Area Peace Action Committee printed the "Strike Newsletter" which supported the strike.

The Progressive Labor Party passed out leaflets on March 23 and organized a Solidarity Demonstration held on March 25 which was poorly attended and lasted only 15 minutes. They had 24 pickets in front of Terminal Annex on March 25 but were thwarted by postal employees who uniformly stated they did not want such support.

The Federation of Student Social Workers and "Hippie" associates distributed literature and volunteered workers for picket duty.

San Francisco, California

3-20-70. Known campus agitator, Hardy Thomas Frye, was spotted among strikers outside Rincon Annex, actively moving from group to group.

3-22-70. "Hippie" group, calling themselves Bay Area Peace Action Council, set up "strike headquarters" at 992 Valencia Street, and printed leaflet titled "Strike Newsletter No. 2". Contents of leaflet indicate that material was furnished by postal employee having knowledge of events. Larry Swaim, Vice President of NPU, was mentioned favorably in article. Swaim had been active on carrier picket lines, keeping them together, etc. Undercover agents who visited the "strike headquarters" were told they could assist by reporting to Rincon Annex at 4:00 am on 3-23. Carriers were scheduled to report back to duty at 5:00 am that date.

Six "hippies" were noted at VMF at approximately 11:25 pm preparing signs and placards. Some also distributed leaflets, misquoting

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION: (cont'd)

Carrier union officials as saying they (officials) recommended that work stoppage continue.

Nine "hippies" congregated at PCC during late evening hours.

3-24-70. SDS pickets at Rincon Annex molested postal employees entering or leaving building. Police called to intervene.

Approximately 75 persons representing Worker-Student faction of SDS demonstrated at Federal Building and marched to National Guard Armory. .

WASHINGTON DIVISION:

Washington, D.C.

3-23-70. An SDS member distributed literature at main post office. Literature reported a strike vote meeting of postal workers would be held that afternoon at NALC Hall. This was not a legitimate strike vote, but strictly a proposal of Debbie Lerner, the SDS member distributing literature. 25 individuals, including Lerner, went to the hall, but were refused admittance.

3-24-70. The New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam attempted to generate demonstration at the post office.

Seven to ten individuals led by Arthur Waskow of New Mobilization Committee and Karl Hess, a former speech writer for Senator Goldwater, distributed leaflets at Benjamin Franklin Station, located in the Post Office Department Building. Leaflets urged support of strike and claimed other government workers are "poised on edge of joining strike".

UNUSUAL DISRUPTIVE INCIDENTS, ACTS OF VIOLENCE,
PROPERTY DAMAGE OR SUSPECTED SABOTAGE

The most noteworthy aspect of the postal strike, considering the scope of the work stoppage and number of employees involved, is the complete absence of any significant disruptive incident involving postal employees.

Acts of violence did not occur and field reports relate that in most locations, a good humored air of camaraderie existed among the picketing employees and patrons.

Only two isolated incidents of property damage were reported. One involved a broken front entrance door and a window in another front entrance door at stations. In both instances, employees were not involved and the damage was considered attributable to irate patrons chagrined by the fact the installation was closed.

There were no reports of attempted sabotage. The closest incidents to suspected, possible sabotage involved a piece of metal found on a conveyor and small, smoldering fires in New York City and Brooklyn. None of these were significant and cannot be definitely established as deliberate acts to damage or destroy government property.

WORK STOPPAGE - MARCH 18-26, 1970
MAIL EMBARGOES

39

EMBARGOES IMPOSED

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>SCF</u>	<u>ZIP Code Areas</u>	<u>Categories of Mail Affected</u>
3/18	9:28 AM	NY	New York City	100,103,104	All Mail - O&D
			Long Island Term.	110,111,112,113,114	" " - "
			Mineola	115,116	" " - "
			Hicksville	117,118	" " - "
			Riverhead	119	" " - "
3/19	10:35 AM	NJ	Newark	070,071,072,073	All Mail Exc. Ltr Size Zip-Coded 1st Class & AM
			Paterson	074,075	" " " " " " " " " " " "
			Hackensack	076	" " " " " " " " " " " "
			Red Bank	077	" " " " " " " " " " " "
			Summit	079	" " " " " " " " " " " "
	2:22 PM	NY	Westchester	105,106,107,108	All Mail - O&D
			Suffern	109	" " "
	5:43 PM	NJ	Dover	078	All Mail Exc. Ltr Size Zip-Coded 1st Class & AM
			Lakewood	079	" " " " " " " " " " " "
3/20	9:40 AM	CT	Hartford	060,061	All Mail - O&D
			Willimantic	062	" " "
			New London	063	" " "
			New Haven	064,065,066	" " "
			Waterbury	067	" " "
			Stamford	068,069	" " "
					" " "
		NJ	Newark	070,071,072,073	" " "
			Paterson	074,075	" " "
			Hackensack	076	" " "
			Red Bank	077	" " "
			Dover	078	" " "
			Summit	079	" " "
			Camden	080,081,082,083,084	" " "
			Trenton	085,086	" " "
			Lakewood	087	" " "
			New Brunswick	088,089	" " "

EMBARGOES IMPOSED

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>SCF</u>	<u>ZIP Code Areas</u>	<u>Categories of Mail Affected</u>
3/20	3:17 PM	PA	Doylestown	189	All Mail O&D
			Philadelphia	190-191	" " "
			Paoli	193	" " "
			Norristown	194	" " "
3/21	8:48 AM	PA	Pittsburgh	150,151,152	All Mail O&D
		MI	Royal Oak	480	All Mail O&D
			Detroit	481,482	" " "
		MN	St. Paul	540,550,551	All Mail O&D
		WI	Milwaukee	530,531,532,534	All Mail O&D
	1:23 PM	IL	N. Suburban	600,601,602,603	All Second, Third & Fourth Cl Mail-O&D
			S. Suburban	604,605	" " " " " " " "
			Chicago	606	" " " " " " " "
	2:40 PM	MN	Minneapolis	553,554	All Mail O&D

EMBARGOES LIFTED

41

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>SCF</u>	<u>Zip Code Areas</u>	<u>Categories of Mail Removed from Embargo</u>
3/22	2:00 PM	PA	Pittsburgh	150,151,152	Zip Coded 1st Cl & AM - O&D
	2:51 PM	MI	Royal Oak	480	Zip Coded 1st Cl & AM - O&D
	3:55 PM	NJ	Camden Trenton	080,081,082,083,084 085,086	Zip Coded 1st Cl & AM - Originating only " " " " " " " "
3/23	9:02 AM	CT	Willimantic New London	062 063	Zip Coded Ltr Size, 1st Cl & AM - O&D " " " " " " " "
	12:25 PM	PA	Pittsburgh	150,151,152	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D
3/24	9:01 AM	PA	Doylestown Philadelphia Paoli Norristown	189 190,191 193 194	Zip Coded 1st Cl & AM - O&D "
	9:01 AM	WI	Milwaukee	530,531,532,534	Zip Coded 1st Cl & AM - O&D
	9:54 AM	WI	Milwaukee	530,531,532,534	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D
	11:30 AM	IL	N. Suburban S. Suburban Chicago	600,601,602,603 604,605 606	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "
	11:30 AM	MI	Detroit	481,482	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D
	1:37 PM	MI	Royal Oak	480	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D
	1:49 PM	CT	Hartford Willimantic New London New Haven Waterbury Stamford	060,061 062 063 064,065,066 067 068,069	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D "

EMBARGOES LIFTED

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>SCF</u>	<u>Zip Code Areas</u>	<u>Categories of Mail Removed from Embargo</u>
3/24	1:49 PM	NJ	Red Bank	077	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D
			Dover	078	" " " " " " " "
			Summit	079	" " " " " " " "
			Camden	080,081,082,083,084	" " " " " " " "
			Trenton	085,086	" " " " " " " "
			Lakewood	087	" " " " " " " "
			New Brunswick	088,089	" " " " " " " "
	5:31 PM	NY	Westchester	105,106,107,108	Zip Coded First C1 & AM - O&D
			Suffern	109	" " " " " " " "
			Long Island Term.	110,111,112,113,114	" " " " " " " "
			Mineola	115,116	" " " " " " " "
			Hicksville	117,118	" " " " " " " "
			Riverhead	119	" " " " " " " "
	5:43 PM	NY	New York City	100,103,104	Zip Coded First Class & AM Originating in the Boston, Philadelphia & Washing- ton Regions and in New York State other than in Zip Code Areas 100, 103, 104.
3/25	7:45 AM	NJ	Hackensack	076	Zip Coded Mail of all Class - O&D
	8:27 AM	NJ	Newark	070,071,072,073	Zip Coded First Class & AM - O&D
	10:42 AM	MN	St. Paul	540,550,551	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D
			Minneapolis	553,554	" " " " " " " - O&D
	10:42 AM	NY	New York City	100,103,104	Zip Coded First Class & AM Originating in all areas except Zip Code Areas 100, 103 and 104.
	1:32 PM	NJ	Newark	070,071,072,073	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D
			Paterson	074,075	" " " " " " " "

EMBARGOES LIFTED

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>SCF</u>	<u>Zip Code Areas</u>	<u>Categories of Mail Removed from Embargo</u>
3/25	1:32 PM	PA	Doylestown Philadelphia Paoli Norristown	189 190,191 193 194	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D "
3/25	2:13 PM	NY	New York City Westchester Suffern Long Island Term. Mineola Hicksville Riverhead	100,103,104 105,106,107,108 109 110,111,112,113,114 115,116 117,118 119	Zip Coded Reg., Cert., and S/O - O&D "
3/27	2:00 PM	NY	New York City Westchester Suffern Long Island Term. Mineola Hicksville Riverhead	100,103,104 105,106,107,108 109 110,111,112,113,114 115,116 117,118 119	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D except Fourth-Class mail originating in Zip Code Areas 100 - 119 and Second-Class Mail other than current issues.
3/30	9:15 AM	NY	New York City Westchester Suffern Long Island Term. Mineola Hicksville Riverhead	100,103,104 105,106,107,108 109 110,111,112,113,114 115,116 117,118 119	Zip Coded Mail of all Classes - O&D

COURIER SERVICE

Arrangements were discussed and plans formulated on March 21 by the Bureau of the Chief Inspector for establishing a Courier Service for Official Mail.

It was concluded that Courier Service between Washington, D.C. and six strike bound cities - New York, Philadelphia; Cleveland, Ohio; Chicago, Illinois; Saint Paul, Minnesota and Denver, Colorado should be inaugurated on Monday March 23, 1970. The service was to be made available to 43 Government agencies connected with "DEFCORD", a teletype system used in connection with Civil Defense preparedness.

In view of possible picketing at strike bound post offices it was concluded that temporary receiving and delivery units should be established in non-postal Government buildings if possible. Room 1402 in the Department Building was designated for the receiving and dispatch point in Washington, D.C.

Inspectors in Charge in whose Divisions the strike bound cities were located were contacted by telephone and requested to make arrangements for a room suitable for our purposes. They were also requested to make arrangements for manning the temporary unit on a 7-day week, 24-hour daily basis, with supervisory personnel. The first telephone call was made at approximately 4:15 pm, 3-21-70 and required information was returned by telephone prior to 8:30 pm, 3-21-70.

It was concluded that surface transportation should be used between Washington, Philadelphia and New York with commercial air travel between other points. It was jointly agreed that Forms 160 should be used for air transportation. The Bureau of Operations agreed to make arrangements for obtaining Forms 160, air and rail reservations. This Bureau prepared schedules for all the couriers and daily round trips were scheduled between all points except Denver, Colorado.

Arrangements were made for issuance of temporary travel commissions for use on Monday and Tuesday and for hard back travel commissions indicating the title "Official Courier" on subsequent dates. Bureau of Operations furnished couriers from other Bureaus.

To prevent ready identification of the couriers by striking Postal workers and causing a possible confrontation, Army duffle bags were selected for transporting the courier mails. Arrangements were made through Military Liaison and 100 duffle bags were delivered to Room 1402 on Saturday evening. Brief cases were also

obtained for use where volume of courier mail would permit.

In view of the anticipated daily round trips to as many cities as possible 10:00 am was established as lock-out time for the courier mail. The six couriers scheduled for duty Monday were briefed early Monday morning. They were furnished an instruction and schedule paper prepared by this Bureau, and were verbally instructed as to the highly confidential nature of the assignment and of the mail they would be carrying. The need for tight security was emphasized. Later on Monday afternoon the remainder of the courier force was briefed and furnished a set of instructions.

No mails were received in time for outbound trips made on Monday. Some mails were returned to Washington by the couriers and the volume increased daily. Close contact was maintained with the activities of the Courier Service and for the most part all schedulings and instructions were followed.

The duffle bags used for transporting the mails were sealed at the dispatch units by using the cord and lead seal method. The bags were marked for identification by use of luggage identification tags showing the name and home address of one of the officials involved in the Courier Service. All dispatches and receipts were properly handled.

All inquiries from participating agencies related to schedules, exceptions to size limitations, contents, manner of addressing inner envelopes, hours of receipt and delivery, as well as calls to determine whether any mail was on hand for a particular agency.

Courier Service between Washington and all cities except New York was suspended on March 26, and the New York segment was suspended March 29, 1970. This information was disseminated over the "DEFCORD" ARS system.

Inspector in Charge reports from the five Divisions involved provide insight on their experiences with the Courier Service.

NEW YORK DIVISION

The headquarters for this courier exchange of mails was established in Room 650, U.S. Customs House, 201 Varick Street. Through the cooperation of Mr. Harry Frumess, Assistant Regional Commissioner of Customs, access into the Customs House and use of the elevators was assured at all hours. Although no difficulty was encountered in the use of Room 650 in the Customs House, it is recommended the mail room in the basement of the Federal Building and Customs Court, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, N.Y., be utilized for subsequent

courier service if this service again becomes necessary. This latter location was considered with 201 Varick Street, but difficulty was experienced in contacting a responsible building manager for the necessary access into the building when closed.

Courier service at New York, N.Y. operated from 0800 Monday, March 23 through 1700 Friday, March 27, 1970. No record was maintained of the number of pieces of mail received and dispatched. The cost was 176 man-hours to maintain this Courier Service.

CHICAGO DIVISION

The Courier Service between Washington, D.C. and Chicago was set up and operated in the Federal Building in Room 2418 on March 23, 1970 at 11:00 am. Service was maintained on a 24-hour daily basis. During the period of operation, three couriers from Washington brought mail to this office for various government agencies in the Chicago area. The agencies concerned had messengers bearing proper identification pick up this mail. The total volume of mail received and returned was very light.

The arrangement was considered ideal and a very efficient operation. It has tremendous potential and in the event of other work stoppages, could be utilized to a greater degree by all government agencies.

The operation was deactivated on March 26, 1970 at noon.

CINCINNATI DIVISION

The only Courier Service established in this Division was at Cleveland, Ohio where arrangements were made for the use of an office at the Cleveland Hopkins Airport normally used by the U.S. Customs office. The office was manned by three supervisors on 8 hour tours beginning at 9:00 am on March 23 and lasting through 12:00 Noon March 26, 1970. This service was established to provide a means for the heads of the various federal agencies located in Washington, D.C. to transport urgent letters to their field offices located in the vicinity of Cleveland, Ohio. These agencies were permitted to prepare a packet reportedly measuring 14" x 16" x 2" addressed for delivery to their representative for pickup at Cleveland. A courier was then dispatched by plane to Cleveland, Ohio carrying a large duffel bag containing these packets addressed for delivery to a supervisor at the Cleveland post office by name. Upon the courier's arrival at Cleveland, he turned the duffel bag over to the supervisor who emptied the contents and if any return mail had been deposited by the various agencies for transportation to their Washington office, it was returned by the courier on the next available flight.

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION

At Philadelphia 36 manhours were expended for a postal supervisor to oversee courier operation conducted from Room 902, United States Custom House, 2nd and Chestnut Streets, from Tour 2 on March 23 to noon on March 25, 1970. A round trip daily to Washington, D.C. was made. Mail volume was small and was carried in courier-type case.

SAINT PAUL DIVISION

At the direction of the Chief Inspector, this office arranged for the operation of a mail room in the Twin Cities for a courier service being established at the National level. Supervisory personnel were provided on a 24-hour per day basis during the time the courier service was operating, on March 23 and 24, 1970. The room selected was the mail room at the Federal Office Building, Fort Snelling, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Two courier trips from Washington, D.C. arrived in Minneapolis during the work stoppage. The Minneapolis Regional Office was in the process of establishing local courier service to sectional centers within the Region, but conclusion of the strike made such arrangement unnecessary. The mail room was operated during the emergency mainly by supervisors and Regional staff members. With the exception of 16 hours of clerical time, all operations were by supervisors or staff members without additional cost.

Copies of the Courier Service Plan, schedules and instructions issued to couriers are attached for review.

PLAN I

Official mail messenger service in Washington, D.C., will collect and deliver vital mail from and to all Government Agencies in the Washington area.

Base of official mail messenger service should be relocated from Washington, D.C., post office to Post Office Department Building at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Outbound Service from Washington, D.C.

Mail will be sorted into containers (duffle bags) addressed to proper city for dispatch via courier (couriers to be selected from non-operational headquarters personnel).

Transportation

Service to cities within four hours driving time will be via unmarked GSA automobiles. It is possible that two or more cities will be served by one courier.

Service to other cities will be via commercial airlines.

At Destination

Courier will deliver duffle bag to a selected postal official at a designated point in destination city.

The point designated should preferably be in a Government building not housing a postal facility. The Inspector in charge will pre-arrange the delivery location and a receiving postal official.

Mail will be held at delivery location pending pick-up by addressee Agencies.

In Bound Service to Washington

Vital mail from Government Agencies within the area served by a particular city will be delivered to the designated point by the mailing Agency.

This mail will be enclosed in a container (duffle bag) addressed to Washington.

Couriers will pick up containers and return to Washington via the same type of transportation used to leave Washington.

PLAN I (cont'd)

Inter-City Mail

Vital mail from one strikebound city to another strikebound city will be routed via Washington for re-dispatch to destination.

Proposed Destination Cities

<u>City</u>	<u>Strikebound Area Served</u>
New York City Via GSA Vehicle	New York Metropolitan Area Stamford, Connecticut Waterbury, Connecticut New Haven, Connecticut Hartford, Connecticut Newark, New Jersey
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Via GSA Vehicle	Philadelphia Metropolitan Area
Chicago, Illinois	Chicago Metropolitan Area Berwyn, Illinois Detroit, Michigan Dearborn, Michigan East Lansing, Michigan Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Minneapolis, Minnesota	Minneapolis - Saint Paul Metropolitan Area
Cleveland, Ohio	Akron Area Buffalo, New York

Add other cities and/or change above points to meet changed conditions.

Type of Mail

Only ultra-vital mail will be accommodated. This is to be determined by the Agency head or by someone directly designated by him. Classified matter - special arrangements if necessary to handle.

Volumes

Each Agency will be limited to the amount of mail that can be wholly contained in one standard 12" x 16" envelope (not wallet type) for each destination city. The destination city envelope may contain individual letters for any city served by the destination city..

PLAN I (cont'd)

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Arrange for space for base of operations in POD Headquarters Building - preferably on first floor
2. Arrange for OMMS to deliver other Agency mail to our base of operations
3. Notify all Agencies of the plan, criteria, volumes, mailing instructions, stop point for base of operations and their responsibility at destination points
4. Select couriers from Departmental personnel
5. Request Inspectors-in-Charge to select destination points in each city and to designate receiving official in each city
6. Obtain duffle bags from GSA
7. Obtain vehicles from GSA
8. Arrange for travel advance to couriers
9. Arrange for couriers to obtain Government vehicle operators permit
10. Arrange schedules consistent with volumes, airlines schedules, etc
11. Arrange for use of "Defcord" teletype system to notify Agencies (Consult Office of Emergency Preparedness)

EFFORTS TO RESOLVE STRIKE

NALC President Radmacher proposed to his membership on May 21 that they return to work for five days during which negotiations could be worked out for a settlement. This proposal came out of the meeting attended by union representatives of the 300 post offices and would provide the climate for the administration, department and union representatives to discuss issues. If, at the end of the five day period, progress was not being made, his mandate was to call a nationwide strike.

On the same date, March 21, President Nixon advised that the postal issue must be settled by Monday, March 23, or he would see that the mails go through. Although no mention was made of the means, the use of military personnel was considered the only recourse he had at his disposal to effect the promise.

President Nixon reiterated his "get tough policy" on March 22, by stating, "On Monday, I will meet my constitutional obligation to see to it that the mails will go through". He stated the grievances of the postal employees were recognized and negotiations could get underway immediately if the employees returned to work. Congressional leaders stated Congress would not act under duress and refused to be intimidated. NALC President Rademacher sent telegrams to his people urging a return to work and advised that they were subjecting themselves to loss of jobs, criminal prosecution, loss of dues-checkoff privileges, the national union will face bankruptcy and cease to exist.

RESPONSE TO EFFORTS TO RESOLVE STRIKE

The carriers and clerk organizations in Manhattan-Bronx scheduled another meeting for March 22 to vote on the 5 day return to work proposal.

The deteriorating trend of the postal strike stopped on March 22. Picketing was reduced or eliminated in many cities and the restraining orders, injunctions, and pending show cause hearings appeared to have taken definite effect. Employee meetings were held to reassess the desires of the membership. Several of the larger branches such as Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Akron and Duluth reaffirmed their strike status. In contrast, Camden and 33 other New Jersey offices, Pittsburgh, 10 other Pennsylvania offices, Boston, Rochester, Buffalo, Toledo, Columbus, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and many smaller Michigan and Illinois first class offices and Berkley, California voted to return to work on Monday, March 23 for the 5 day cooling off period.

At this point, the activity of several outside activist groups increased substantially in the larger cities of New York, Chicago, Detroit and San Francisco. In New York, the Progressive Labor Party and SDS attempted to rekindle the resolve of postal employees to maintain their firm stand. The Federation of Student Social Workers and "Hippie" associates increased the distribution of literature and volunteered workers for picket duty. At San Francisco, the Bay Area Peace Action Council distributed newsletters, recruited people for picketing and attempted to stimulate resistance to the moderate trend being taken by postal employees. In all of the major cities where dissident groups were active, Inspectors had infiltrated the factions to gather intelligence, establish the identity of the leaders and determine plans for proposed activities.

By 5:00 am on Monday, March 23, the Atlanta, Fort Worth, Chattanooga, Saint Louis, Seattle, Washington and Kansas City Division still had no office on strike. The improving trend continued with first class offices in Connecticut and Massachusetts returning to work as well as Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee and Denver. However, New York City and metropolitan offices remained firm and remained inoperational.

The hearing on the show cause order in the Southern Federal District Court of New York was continuing during the day. Three defense lawyers were involved and they engaged in protracted cross-examination of the Regional Director, Regional Counsel and several Inspectors. It was estimated that the hearing would continue late into the evening because the defense had not completed examining the government witnesses at 5:35 pm and had yet to present the defense witnesses.

MILITARY LIAISON

On March 22, 1970, the Chief Inspector received a request from the Office of the Provost Marshal General, Department of the Army, that a representative of this Service be assigned to the Pentagon during the postal strike emergency. Questions were being raised frequently by military officers on duty in the Army Operations Center (AOC) relative to security and law enforcement matters at the postal facilities and in the areas affected by the strike activities. The Army authorities felt that there should be a single liaison contact immediately available in the AOC at all times. Coverage on the assignment began in the Pentagon at 7:00 pm and lasted until 11:00 pm the first day of the assignment.

The AOC is a highly restricted area. The most important area within the complex is the "Command Balcony". It is the area where the highest ranking military and civilian officials were located and is the point from which the major policy decisions were disseminated to the action officers. It was not unusual for 15 or more Generals, Admirals, and Cabinet Officers to be on duty as a group on the balcony at a given time. The top POD representative, Mr. Maples and/or his alternate, Mr. Cawley, also conducted their operations and provided liaison on the balcony.

The area next in importance to the Command Balcony is the "Augmentation" area, immediately below the balcony. This is the area where the action desks of the various elements of the military departments were located. Each desk was covered 24 hours a day, by three eight-hour tours. For the most part, the action officers were of the rank of lieutenant colonel or higher or by civilians with equivalent GS grades. This is the area where the data relating to the strike was received and compiled, reports prepared, slides for projection produced and briefings for top staff prepared. The desk at which our representative was located was in this area and was the point to which all of the action officers came with any question relative to data, postal terminology, facilities locations, embargoes, etc. Also, on several occasions, during the absence of both Mr. Maples and Mr. Cawley, questions were directed to the Inspection Service representative by the top staff officials on the balcony. Very few questions arose concerning security and law enforcement matters.

At the comprehensive, top staff briefing sessions held at 8:00 am on the mornings of March 23 and 24, attendance was necessary as the POD representative because neither POD top staff member had arrived at the AOC. These briefings were attended by the highest ranking military officers in the Pentagon and by two or more Under-Secretaries. It was expected that the POD representative be knowledgeable of the latest top level decisions of the Postmaster General and his Assistants relative to embargoes, injunctions, dispersion of troops, etc. That

Military Liaison (cont'd)

kind of information was not made available to our representative and it would have been embarrassing for the POD had questions on any of the aforementioned subjects been asked at the briefings.

At 6:00 am on March 23 at the AOC, it became apparent very soon that there should be POD representation in the augmentation area, at the working level, around the clock. Messrs. Paul Andrews and Arthur Phelps were designated to provide coverage by each working 12 hour tours, midnight to noon and noon to midnight. In practice, this actually required approximately 13 hours duty taking into consideration "turn over" of information, etc. This arrangement continued until 8:00 pm March 25, by which time continuous coverage became unnecessary. Mr. Phelps reported to the AOC at 8:30 am March 26 and remained until 7:15 pm, at which time the POD desk was closed permanently.

All of the foregoing relates to the liaison function fulfilled by this Service for the POD as a whole, not just for security and law enforcement matters under our jurisdiction. The assistance was needed and it was provided but it is obvious most of the information requested by the military participants in the operation would more properly have been furnished by a Bureau of Operations representative if one had been available.

One area of immediate concern to this Bureau which it is believed should be given further attention in contingency planning is the Military Liaison function for which we are responsible on a day-to-day basis, that is, the arrangements for military postal operations (APOs and NPOs) and military mail (official and personal). This is a very sensitive area and is one in which the military postal services can render self-help, with adequate coordination. For example, it may have been feasible to divert FPO New York mail to Norfolk, Virginia, where experienced Navy Postal Mail routers could have furnished dispatching instructions to POD personnel for ships and overseas destinations. It is recommended the military postal problems be given separate attention by the Military Liaison personnel of the Contingencies Branch with the view to devising contingency plans for the continuity of postal service for overseas military personnel in emergencies.

Based on experience gained during the postal strike emergency the following recommendations are made relative to POD liaison with the military, should another strike or other emergency requiring the use of troops occur:

1. Provide Inspection Service representation for the Army Operations Center Augmentation Area immediately after the AOC is activated or at such later time as the Army

Military Liaison (cont'd)

authorities consider warranted. The coverage should be on a 24-hour basis, unless the Army decides part-time coverage is sufficient. If on a 24-hour basis there should be three 9-hour tours, with the 9th hour of each tour being used for turn-over of information and briefing of the next tour representative. The tours should be arranged to coincide with the tour hours of the military teams.

2. That the Bureau of Operations provide 24-hour coverage at a desk in the Augmentation Area, in addition to any POD top staff coverage on the Command Balcony. Discussions were held on this recommendation with Messrs. Andrews and Cawley and both agreed that Operations personnel with broad knowledge of the Postal Service should be available to the military teams at the working level at all times.
3. That definite arrangements be made for the assignment of parking spaces in the Pentagon Mall Entrance parking area for Inspection Service representatives for the duration of an emergency. This is an important consideration due to the unavailability of public transportation during the night hours.

USE OF MILITARY PERSONNEL

President Nixon proclaimed a national emergency on March 23 and advised that he was taking the necessary action to provide essential mail service by sending troops into New York City. He explained the issue at hand was the survival of a government based on law. The seven union chiefs were briefed on the plans to use military personnel and they expressed their regret that such action was necessitated.

At 6:25 pm, thirteen buses carrying 525 Air Force military personnel arrived at the Brooklyn Army Terminal for assignment and deployment to a postal facility. Other members of the military were enroute for proposed assignment to postal establishments at 9:00 pm.

A last minute conference attended by Regional, Departmental officials and the Inspector in Charge was held during the early evening and it was confirmed that 600 of the military personnel would be assigned to the New York General Post Office, 100 to Brooklyn General Post Office and 100 to the Church Street Station in lower Manhattan.

The military personnel arrived at General Post Office, New York City by buses at 10:45 pm - 11:00 pm and 11:25 pm. Simultaneously at 11:25 pm the military arrived at General Post Office, Brooklyn and Church Street Station.

No fanfare or problems were experienced at Brooklyn or Church Street Station, but unexpected circumstances occurred when the largest contingent of the military was arriving at 11:25 pm at General Post Office, New York City. These troops arrived in trucks and just prior to their arrival at the intersection of Eighth Avenue and 33rd Street where the vehicles would turn onto 33rd Street to enter the enclosed transportation deck area of the post office, thousands of people exited from Madison Square Garden from a basketball game. The Garden is directly across the street from the General Post Office. With the arrival of the troop-laden vehicles, crowd control became a delicate problem. Police were on hand in sufficient numbers to control the situation of directing traffic. The crowd was noisy but good humored. Members of the military and the crowd entered into an exchange of waving and amiable banter. Inspectors were circulating through the crowd keeping a watchful eye on known civil rights agitators who were on the scene prior to the arrival of the troops and the people from the Garden. The military vehicles moved slowly without incident into the post office and the crowd dispersed with conditions quickly returning to normal.

At 1:35 am on March 24, the military left the postal facilities. Student type agitators were on hand at General Post Office - New York City and tried to provoke dissension and trouble. Inspectors charged with the responsibility of affording security for the troops and

Use of Military Personnel (cont'd)

premises were not required to take any action. The picketing postal employees told the recalcitrants that they did not need or desire their participation.

The use of military personnel was increased on March 24. They were assigned at the New York City General Post Offices as well as at the Morgan, Church Street, Grand Central, Madison Square, FDR, Murray Hill, Cooper, Old Chelsea and Canal Street Stations of New York from approximately 10:00 am to 7:00 pm. Arrangements were being made to man all three tours beginning at 7:00 am on March 25.

The assignment of military personnel at each installation on March 24 and 25 were as follows:

<u>ASSIGNED UNIT</u>	<u>NUMBER OF TROOPS</u>
General Post Office	5,500
Church Street Station	4,000
Grand Central Station	3,200
Madison Square Station	400
Morgan Station	400
FDR Station	1,000
Murray Hill Station	500
Midtown Station	350
Total.....	15,350

CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT CHECKS

On the evening of March 24 a meeting was held for the purpose of developing a plan for the delivery of monthly government checks in the event the postal strike was not resolved by the end of the month. In attendance were representatives of the Bureau of Operations, Bureau of Planning and Marketing and the Bureau of the Chief Inspector.

A contingency plan was formulated and developed to draft form. The primary contribution and responsibility of the Inspection Service was in the area of security. It was agreed that the participation of this Service would be as follows in the event implementation was necessary.

- a. The Postal Inspection Service will provide guidance to the Postmaster in all security measures. Local police agencies, through established Postal Inspector contacts, will be requested to control auto and pedestrian traffic in streets and sidewalks. Local authorities will be requested to also provide additional protection for any necessary transportation of checks to and from and while delivery is being made from a temporary unit.
- b. The Postal Inspection Service will provide guidance to the Postmaster and delivering employees in establishing proper identification to be presented by addressee, for delivery to addressee, as well as delivery of checks addressed to the invalid, infirmed, etc., to a person other than the addressee. Cards, such as Social Security cards will not be accepted.

Proper identification is that from which a customer may establish his identity, e.g., a driver's license containing the signature and photograph of the holder, military identification cards, or some document having a serial number or indicia which can be traced to the customer.

The matter of proper identification will be made known for dissemination to the public.

- c. Heavy customer traffic through Post Office and/or temporary delivery unit lobbies will be controlled by existing guard personnel and, if necessary, other employees or military personnel will be detailed to assist.

CONTINGENCY PLANS

FOR DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT CHECK LETTERS WEEK OF MARCH 30, 1970

A. Processing

1. Postal employees will merge check letters for affected areas at Treasury disbursing centers to 5-digit ZIP Codes.
2. Pouches and sacks of all Treasury and Defense checks will be distinctly identified with a standard special delivery label.
3. Distribution of check letters will be on an alphabetical basis within ZIP Code areas, using three alphabetical divisions.
4. Final breakdown of check letters from delivery units to sub-units will be determined by local supervision.
5. All government checks will be kept separate from other mail at delivery points.
6. Non-ZIP Coded check letters will be handled separately. Civil Service checks will be distributed in Washington, D.C. by scheme (their file is only partially Zipped and, non-verified). Any other government checks not Zipped will be handled separately and identified as such.

B. Transportation

1. The postmaster will be responsible for arranging transportation of check letter mail from delivery units to any sub-units established.

C. Availability

1. Tuesday, March 31 - Military allotment and retirement

Wednesday, April 1 - Veterans; Railroad Retirement;
Public Debt; and Civil Service
Retirement and Survivors

Thursday, April 2 - (Above not yet called for)

Friday, April 3 - Social Security and disability
insurance payments. (Local welfare
check letters will be incorporated
in the above schedule whenever avail-
able).

Contingency Plans for Delivery of Government
Check Letters, Week of March 30, 1970 (cont'd)

2. Local Treasury officials will determine the date on which delivery of check letters will be terminated, at which time all checks on hand will be returned to local Treasury District Offices.
3. Appropriate publicity will urge patrons to call for their Social Security checks over a 3-day period.
4. Other mail will not be available for delivery to patrons at these delivery points on days when check letters are being delivered, except for lockbox patrons and established will-call patrons at postal units.
5. Call windows or other call facilities established will be open during daylight hours (6:00 am to 6:00 pm) Tuesday through Sunday.
6. Regional office will coordinate with postmasters and determine the total number and location of delivery points to be established for delivery of checks where space conditions or check letter volume dictate, establish sub-units in school auditoriums, church parish halls, or other similar government or private buildings where a general delivery operation would be workable.

D. Security

1. Postmasters will request local police authorities for assistance where necessary to insure orderly delivery of check letters.
2. Guidelines for necessary identification for patrons picking up check letters will be provided by regional offices in coordination with postmasters.
3. Treasury will furnish a representative to assist at each delivery point. In addition, Treasury will provide forms to be completed by patrons at delivery points when they want to pick up someone else's check letter.

E. Notification to the Public

In cooperation with the Treasury and Defense Departments, Post Office Department will publicize all necessary details of this project.

FINAL STAGES OF STRIKE

The back to work trend continued throughout the country on March 25 with major holdout offices at San Francisco, Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Duluth, Cleveland, Akron, Toledo, Brooklyn and Long Island offices of Jamaica, Hempstead and Rockville Center voting to return.

Due to the continuing trend, the Postmaster General sent telegrams to the seven union organizations calling for negotiations to begin at 2:00 pm on March 25 in Washington, D.C.

In New York City, the NALC was found in contempt of court for failure to return to work. It was ruled by the court that if the strike was still in effect at 5:00 pm on March 25, the Union would be fined \$10,000.00. It was further stipulated that if the men do not return to work on March 26, the fine will be increased to \$20,000.00 and \$10,000.00 for each additional day of the strike. If by noon on March 30, members are not back on duty, the U.S. Attorney would apply back to the court for relief as deemed appropriate.

The President of the New York Branch of the NALC was also subjected to a fine of \$500.00 per day beginning at 5:00 pm on March 25 and this rate would continue per day until March 30 at noon. If the members had not returned, the U.S. Attorney would apply to the court for relief.

At 3:00 pm on March 25, the carrier and clerk organizations held mass meetings in New York and were told by their officers to return to work. The response from the attending members by voice vote indicated the members were in agreement.

Further use of military personnel in the New York and Brooklyn postal facilities beginning at midnight on March 26 was held in abeyance until the rate of return of employees to duty could be assessed.

The employee turnout on Tour 1 of March 26 was near normal and in several units, better than normal. During the rest of the day, isolated hold out offices returned to work, all embargoes were withdrawn and the task of getting the mail operation back to normal was in effect throughout the country.

SPECIAL INTEREST MAILHANDLING PROBLEMS

BOSTON DIVISION

On March 25, 1970, four Postal Inspectors in two cars accompanied four Regional employees to the Postal Data Center, New York, New York to pick up the payroll for all New England. Checks were delivered to Postal Service Officers at Portland, Maine, White River Junction, Vermont, Springfield, Massachusetts, Providence, Rhode Island, Willimantic, Connecticut and Boston, Massachusetts.

There were no occurrences concerning military mail of high value registered mail.

The movement of mail in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island was at a virtual standstill during a major portion of the work stoppage period despite the use of administrative personnel on mail distribution. Maine, Vermont, with the exception of Burlington, Vermont, and New Hampshire did not participate to any noticeable degree in the work stoppage. Embargoes placed on mails in the north-east corridor disrupted mail service. Also, Star Route drivers refused to cross picket lines which hampered movement of the mails. It is believed that in the future all such contracts should include, in addition to the "no strike clause", a reference to "crossing of picket lines set-up by other crafts", if at all possible to do so. Through arrangements with the Federal Reserve Bank at Boston there were no large sums of currency shipments sent through the mails during the period of the work stoppage.

CINCINNATI DIVISION

At Cleveland, Ohio the officer-in-charge at the post office, notified the Inspectors that a Misca shipment was on hand at the Cleveland Hopkins Airport addressed to the Federal Reserve Bank at Cleveland. He requested assistance in transporting this registered article to the main office. However, the Registry Section at Cleveland had previously contacted the Federal Reserve Bank officials who dispatched one of their own vehicles to the Airport Mail Facility where the employees accepted delivery.

Also at Cleveland, the Inspectors were notified that payroll checks for the Cleveland and Cleveland Sectional Center post offices had been received at the Airport Mail Facility. It was requested that Inspectors, for security purposes, obtain the

Special Interest Mailhandling Problems (cont'd)

CINCINNATI DIVISION (cont'd)

payroll checks and transport them to the main office. Two Inspectors carried the checks from the Airport Mail Facility to the main office where they were turned over to postal officials.

Originating military mail was diverted in accordance with instructions received from the Cincinnati Regional office. There are no military installations in the affected areas which would cause a problem regarding incoming military mail.

NEW YORK DIVISION

At Bronx, New York the work stoppage reflected in an almost complete discontinuance of mail mail service from 0600 hours on March 18 until 1500 hours on March 25, 1970. On March 24, 1970, approximately 879 National Guard troops arrived to assist in distributing mails with the overall number of troops increasing to about 969 with the arrival of about 365 Reserve Air Force personnel. It should be realized that all units of a Post Office the size of Bronx, New York do not cease operation at the same time. It is known that City Island and Kingsbridge Stations made complete deliveries of mail on March 18, 1970 and did not discontinue service until March 19, 1970, but the times reflected in the first line of this paragraph merely specify a general condition.

At New York, New York normal distribution and delivery of mails was discontinued from about 2230 hours on March 17 until 1500 hours on March 25, 1970. It is estimated there were about 18,000,000 letters on hand in the Incoming Section when the work stoppage began; and at the time it ended, there was about 9,000,000 still on hand. Deliveries to patrons were negligible during this period of time. On March 18, there were about 6,000 sacks of bulk mail on hand awaiting distribution, and this amount was reduced to about 800 sacks on March 25, 1970. The mail volume counts, however, do not give a true picture of the volume of mails due to be distributed in that none of the mails in the more than 300 trailer loads were counted.

Following the return of the regular employees, the handling of preferential letter and flat mails returned to fairly normal conditions on Monday, March 30, 1970, but again became heavy for a period of about ten days, indicating firms were making exceptionally large delayed mailings.

Special Interest Mailhandling Problems (cont'd)

NEW YORK DIVISION (cont'd)

No large mailing of Government checks, including relief, was due to be made during the period of the work stoppage. To the best of information available, all such checks were later given to the Post Office Department to deliver, although some plans had been made to effect delivery of welfare checks through the local offices prior to the ending of the work stoppage.

There was a complete discontinuance of acceptance and delivery of Military mails in New York and Bronx, New York during the period cited above. The Post Office Department could be criticized for failing to take appropriate measures to keep these distributions and dispatches open as they relate to the outgoing and transit Military mails. It is believed the Unions would have allowed their personnel to handle these Military mails and any failure to do so is a management responsibility. In the future it is necessary to revise the Contingency Plan for Work Stoppages and its Supplement to include the specific actions to be taken to keep channels open for the acceptance, dispatch, and handling in transit of Military mails. The overall discontinuance of handling of these Military mails through units like the GPO and the Postal Concentration Center, New York, New York and AMF Kennedy, Jamaica, New York cannot be justified.

In addition, it is further pointed out the SCF San Juan, Puerto Rico area held all mails normally dispatched through the New York, New York Gateway, although alternate routings of value exist for most of these mails except for those in the immediate New York, New York area. This is particularly true with airmail for Military and Foreign addresses, with the former being routed via AMF Dulles, Washington, D.C. and the latter either directly or to one of several International Airmail Exchange Offices. In the future it is suggested a knowledgeable member of the Logistics Division give immediate attention to such re-routings.

High Value Currency Shipments are a constant problem in the New York, New York area. They were received with about the same regularity during the period of the work stoppage as during normal times. Convoy service can be expected to be a daily necessity to control the handling of this matter within the AMF Kennedy operation. On Thursday, March 19, 1970, three vehicles loaded with valuable mails were given Inspection Service convoys with known currency shipments alone being valued in excess of \$1,000,000. On Friday, March 20, 1970, a five-ton VS truck

Special Interest Mailhandling Problems (cont'd)

NEW YORK DIVISION (cont'd)

loaded with incoming registered mail, as well as currency shipments known to be in excess of \$1,000,000 were again convoyed by Inspectors. The opening of these seals at AMF Kennedy to detect and secure the valuable shipments is a necessity during any work stoppage period, and this procedure should be continued in the future. This does result in the need for convoys, but security needs would preclude the storing of such mails until the work stoppage period was concluded.

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION

Postmasters at the struck offices with personnel available culled out Government and State Assistance checks and arranged with the local news media to advise expectant recipients that they could call for their mail at the carrier delivery stations or main office delivery windows.

Postal supervisors visited the stations and branches to collect official remittances and other registered mail for delivery to the main post office.

State authorities made arrangements to deliver welfare checks not already in the mails to their district offices in Philadelphia for delivery at those offices to addressees. Seven major banks in Philadelphia banded together to channel mortgage and loan payments received at any bank branch to the proper bank, through their check clearing agency.

SUSPENSION OF PRIVATE EXPRESS RESTRICTIONS

Postmaster General Winton M. Blount issued the following order on March 18, 1970:

"In view of the work stoppage which is impairing mail service in and about New York City and certain outlying areas, and pursuant to the authority vested in me by 39 United States Code 901(b), I hereby suspend the operation of paragraphs (1) through (6) of 39 U.S.C. 901(a) in respect to any carriage of letters out of the mails that originates in, or is destined for delivery in New York and its immediate vicinity and that results from the impairment of mail service by the Post Office Department in and about New York City."

Suspension of Private Express Restrictions (cont'd)

On March 21, 1970, the Postmaster General extended the suspension of statutory restrictions on private carriage of letters outside the mail. This extension applied to Zip Code areas in which the Post Office Department had imposed an embargo on mail service and to areas subsequently embargoed.

Effective 12:01 am, March 27, 1970, the Postmaster General terminated the suspension of the operation of paragraphs (1) through (6) of 39 U.S.C. 901 (a).

OTHER SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

CINCINNATI DIVISION

Akron Motor Vehicle personnel and special delivery personnel at Akron, Ohio did not participate in any picket line activities but both crafts took the position that they would not cross the lines established by the NALC members. In regard to clerk personnel who are members of the UFPC, none of these employees were active in the lines and they also took the position that if the picket lines were gone they would work. The clerks who did become active on the lines were members of the two other non-exclusive groups, Akron Postal Union and the National Alliance of Federal and Postal Employees.

NEW YORK DIVISION

Communications between the Regional Headquarters and SCF Puerto Rico may have not been sufficient during the period of the work stoppage. It would appear this area should be strengthened in making up the Regional Contingency Plan for Possible Work Stoppages in the future.

Toward the closing days of the work stoppage, the Postmaster at a single large office advised that, in his opinion, he could have shortened the period of the Employee absence if he had known that he could contact the local Postal Labor Organization officers directly. There is no evidence available of instructions which forbid the making of such contact while employees are conducting a work stoppage. Consideration should be given to providing specific instructions in the Contingency Plan for Work Stoppages for allowing such liaison to continue between the Postmaster and the Officers of the local branches of labor organizations during these periods.

The building housing the GPO, Brooklyn, New York is GSA operated and is used by the local Draft Board, Armed Forces Recruiters, Department of Labor, Internal Revenue Service and employee welfare activities. The building cafeteria is post office operated by the Welfare Committee and is open to the public. It is located on the 2nd floor and can be reached by stairways or elevators. Men and women's lavatories and pay phones are also on the 2nd floor and open to the public. In the lobby is a bank of telephones, approximately 8 to 10 that are also available to the public. Many problems arose over the cafeteria, rest rooms and telephones as the strikers entered the building for their personal use and there was no

Other Special Interest Items (cont'd)

NEW YORK DIVISION (cont'd)

clear cut instructions advising the guards or police to deny the employees access to them. Since the employees refused to cross any picket line (real or imaginary) it is believed instructions should be issued refusing them the use of these facilities during any future strike.

Also, in any further strike, arrangements should be made as to the issuance of salary checks for striking employees i.e., security, tours of employees, hours of issuance, identification of employees, station based employees and one central issuing center.

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

While George Pieraldi, President of Branch 214 NALC, San Francisco, was in Washington, D.C. on March 20, 1970 a story was phoned in to the San Francisco Examiner by someone who stated he was Tom Hackett, Vice President of Branch 214. He said he had heard from Mr. Pieraldi that the carriers were not to return to work the morning of March 21, 1970. It was later determined that the story was pure fabrication for both officials of the local union are moderates in every respect and held the line at all times against striking. Incidentally, the Examiner printed a retraction of the story as soon as Mr. Pieraldi and Mr. Hackett called the misstatement to their attention.

An official of the Bank of California, San Francisco, who has more or less frequent need to phone Rincon Annex for information, began receiving what he believes to be taped telephone messages concerning the status of the strike beginning with the first day of the incident. At first the message reported areas which were embargoed, information of value to him, but after the announcement was made in the press and other news media that the carriers and other employees would return to work March 23, 1970, he received a call, apparently from the same source, stating that the information was erroneous and that the strike would continue indefinitely. The San Francisco post office offers no such service as described, and thus far telephone company officials have been unable to suggest the point from which the messages might have emanated, although it is strongly suspected that it was Bay Area Peace Action Council headquarters.

Other Special Interest Items (cont'd)

SEATTLE DIVISION

On March 21, 1970, a strike vote was held at a meeting of Branch 79, NALC, Seattle. This meeting was poorly controlled, the dissident members were active and there were rumors of duplicate or double voting. They voted to not strike by a narrow margin. On March 22, another meeting was called but the officials were in control and allowed only members to attend. They were able to preclude the members from taking a second strike vote.

WASHINGTON DIVISION

There were no strenuous attempts to bring about strike action at the Washington, D.C. Post Office. Below is a statement of policy originating from the Postmaster dated March 23, 1970, strongly urging employees not to participate in any work stoppage. The statement was signed by all local presidents except the President of the National Alliance of Federal Employees, who called for a strike vote without significant response from his membership. It is felt that policy statement served to maintain stability in the various memberships during critical periods of strike publicity from local media.

We, the undersigned, strongly urge that each and every employee, not participate in any work stoppage. It is our conviction that negotiations by the Congress and/or the Administration, for wage settlement and other benefits will be in the interest of you, the employee, and your family.

At the present time we have the sympathy and the confidence of the postal patrons of this city and by remaining on the job we will continue to maintain their confidence which will enhance our efforts to obtain from the Congress and the Administration, better wages and other benefits.

Should there be any picket lines around the main office or stations or branches, employees who wish to work are assured that they can cross the picket lines without any jeopardy to their well being. We have been assured that the United States Postal Inspection Service will provide proper protection.

This is a critical time of decision for all of us. We urge each of you to join with us in the decision to remain at work. This is the

Other Special Interest Items (cont'd)

WASHINGTON DIVISION (cont'd)

only course to take to improve your opportunities for better wages and increased benefits for yourself and family.

/s/ Lawrence A. Fells, President
Washington Area Postal Union

. /s/ William E. Peacock, President
Natl. Assn. Special Delivery Messengers
Branch 43

/s/ Ernest Payne, President
Natl. Assn. of P O & GSA Maint. Emp.
Local 7

/s/ Elliott C. Peacock, President
Natl. Assn. of Letter Carriers
Branch 142

/s/ Timothy Evans, President
Natl. Assn. of P O Mailhandlers, Watchmen,
Mess. & Group Leaders, Local 57

/s/ Samuel Divers, President
Natl. Federation of PO MVS Employees
Local 6

/s/ Royal R. Robinson, President
United Federation of Postal Clerks
Local 140-148

/s/ T. H. Reddick, Reg. VI President
Natl. Federation of PO Mailhandlers, Watchmen,
Mess.