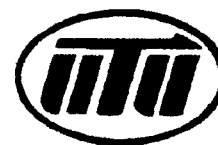


united transportation union



MICHAEL J. CANINO
General Chairman
ROBERT M. BILELLO
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L. RUSSO

January 25, 2000

Mr. Anthony Bottalico, General Chairman
United Transportation Union
420 Lexington Ave., Room 460
New York, NY 10170

Dear Brother Bottalico:

Tony

It has come to my attention that you have petitioned the National Mediation Board in order to decertify the United Transportation Union and join with a start-up organization, which is referred to as ACRE.

International Vice President Anthony Iannone has advised me that you are informing UTU members on Metro-North that eventually the LIRR/UTU members will see fit to join with ACRE. Tony, if this is so, I just want to make it perfectly clear that this will never happen as long as I am General Chairman. On occasion, we have discussed your personal dissatisfaction with the UTU, however, during each conversation I have made it perfectly clear that I, my committee and over 2,600 members are very satisfied with our affiliation, the national representation and overall support of the UTU.

In 1981 when the MTA/LIRR claimed we were no longer under the Railway Labor Act, our International Union spearheaded the "Taylor Law Fight" in federal court. Legal bills in that battle alone ran over a quarter million dollars.

I could cite case after case where our International dues dollars have protected our members' rights. Just think about the attacks on the railroad retirement system that have been thwarted by our International legislative lobby. Our political lobbies in Albany and Washington are worth their weight in gold. The voice of unity speaks very loudly!

Tony, as a friend, I would be remiss if I did not warn you that this endeavor may place your members at risk. They should know all the facts, and I hope you will encourage them to hear both sides.

Fraternally,

Michael J. Canino
General Chairman

cc: C.L. Little
B.A. Boyd, Jr.
A. Iannone
R.M. Bilello

January 26, 2000

All Active Members of BLE Division 127

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We represent the engineers on Amtrak, Long Island Railroad, New Jersey Transit, PATH and SEPTA, with a total of 2,630 active members, and are writing to you concerning the upcoming representation election between the BLE and ACRE. While we believe that it would not be proper for us to advocate a position concerning the election on your property, there is one subject that we feel compelled to address.

It is our understanding that some ACRE advocates suggest that one of the reasons to vote ACRE — rather than BLE — is because ACRE would become the cornerstone for an organization that would expand and include engineers from our properties. We think it is important for you to know that — even though no relationship is perfect — the level of service and support we receive from the International Division is well worth what our members contribute in dues.

Moreover, each of us has worked with and supported President Dubroski for our entire BLE careers. We view his election as International President last summer as an important event for our members, given his background in passenger service. Therefore, we feel you should know that we do not consider ACRE an attractive option for our memberships, regardless of the outcome of the case currently before the National Mediation Board.

Fraternally yours,

M. B. Kenny, GC — Amtrak

R. M. Evers, GC — LIRR

R. A. Vallochi, GC — NJT

D. R. Henry, GC — PATH

S. J. Bruno, GC — SEPTA