

May 26, 2010

Brothers,

We are at a crossroad and need to stay the course. Two Committees have and said No to the Single System Agreement. One Committee has caved and voted yes for the agreement, barely and with questions lingering about the vote. Finally the last Committee is getting another chance to vote one way or another on the agreement. We have seen and heard over the past weeks General Chairman's talking doom and gloom about the agreement not passing or what the Railroad may do next. We have seen what the Railroad will do and it's in this Single System Agreement. We will all lose on this agreement doesn't matter on what Committee that you work under. Past Union Brothers fought hard to get and keep what agreements that we all have. These agreements are written in Blood, Sweat and Tears. For the General Chairman's to use scare tactics on his own members is sad and shows what kind of leader they are. They work for us, the Membership not the other way around. They are suppose to look out for us but it seems they are only look out for themselves. They need to stand up not kneel down. Stick together not run and hide. When it comes to this Agreement it should have been voted down on all Committee's. Guys no matter what is said or implied just look again at page 2 Section E "The parties recognize that this Consolidated Southern Region Agreement **replaces any and all existing property Agreements.** The parties acknowledge that this Consolidated Southern Region Agreement **also replaces any and all Local Agreements, past practices and arbitrary jurisprudence that are in conflict unless otherwise agreed as provided for in Side Letter 9**". On page 166 Side Letter 9 states "It's agreed that within forty-five days after the effective date of this agreement, the General Chairman will provide the HDO with a copy of such agreements for **review and concurrence.** Local agreements identified as not in conflict with **any of the provisions of the Consolidated Southern Region Agreement CSXT Labor Agreement No. 4-037-09 would then be listed and remain, subject to the cancellation provisions, if any, peculiar to each**".

Think about your Local agreement how many do you think the Railroad will let us keep? Few, if any! We all heard that "the General Committees stuck their feet in the rock, and we were not washed away by the storms of the Company's demands". Does the Agreement look like they done what they said? It was state in a letter also that "They are excited of what we have been able to maintain and obtain in this proposed Agreement. In this round of bargaining, CSXT obtained very little and we obtained much". Do we really believe this?

Brothers this is my personal opinion and thoughts over this whole mess of Agreement and our General Committees. I truly believe in Unions and would hate to see how we would work for the Railroad if not for the unions. So far I have seen NO help from the Committees or the International. I voted No for this agreement because the Committees and Railroad could have done a better job, I'm willing to stand and fight for better working conditions, wages and benefits for the members past, present and future. Thanks for your time.

Fraternally,
Craig Spangler
Member UTU 974