

**FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**April 27, 2006**

**Bargaining Update**

The parties met today in negotiations for approximately 37 minutes. The Company presented the Union with another “global” proposal incorporating its counterproposals to some, but not all, of the Union’s latest proposals. The Company declined to respond to any of the outstanding economic proposals of the Union, including Articles 17 (Pension) and 18 (Insurance). In regard to Article 9 (Discharges and Disciplinary Suspensions), the Company indicated that it has *no* interest in Justice and Dignity provisions. In regard to military personnel, the Company refused to commit contractually to matching contributions to the existing Military Reservist’s Joint Relief Fund. On a positive note, the Company finally responded to at least one proposal made by the Union on December 5, 2005.

The Company indicated that it is not available to meet for further negotiations until next Tuesday, May 2, but only in the morning, and next Thursday, May 4, but only until 2:00 p.m. The AEIF negotiating committee, of course, remains available to meet *every* day as the parties continue these difficult and important negotiations.

We will continue to maintain our demands for an equitable agreement, and we are optimistic.

- Your Executive Committee