

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER

810 LOCUST ST.

PHILA; 7 PENNA.
PEN. 5326

PRESS RELEASE

AUG. 3, 1944

THE DISGRACEFUL TIE UP OF PHILA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND ITS RESULTANT DAMAGE TO WAR PRODUCTION IS A BLOT ON THE GOOD RECORD OF OUR CITY. THE ATTACKS ON THE RIGHTS OF OUR NEGRO CITIZENS TO EQUAL JOB OPPURTUNITIES IS A DENIAL OF THE VERY PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH WE ARE FIGHTING IN THIS WAR. A FLEET OF NAZI BOMBERS COULD NOT HAVE CAUSED AS MUCH DAMAGE AS HAS THIS TREACHEROUS "STAB IN THE BACK" TO PHILA'S WAR PRODUCTION AND REPUTATION AS THE "CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE".

THE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER, A FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETY, WHOSE 175,000 MEMBERS ARE DRAWN FROM EVERY NATIONAL GROUP COMMUNITY, IS ORGANIZED INTO 15 NATIONAL GROUP SOCIETIES. OUR OWN EXPERIENCES SHOWS THAT ALL AMERICANS, NEGRO & WHITE, OF ALL FAITHS AND NATIONAL GROUP ORIGIN CAN WORK TOGETHER HARMONIOUSLY.

THE HUNDREDS OF OUR NEGRO MEMBERS IN THIS CITY KNOW THAT IN UNITY OF ALL PEOPLES WITH OUT DISCRIMINATION, THERE IS STRENGTH TO DEFEND AND EXTEND OUR DEMOCRACY.

WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IN CONTROL OF PTC PROPERTIES, WE FEEL SURE THAT SERVICE WILL BE SPEEDILY RESUMED, AND THAT LOYAL WORKERS WILL RETURN TO THEIR JOBS. WE HOPE THAT THE TREASONOUS INSTIGATORS AND LEADERS OF THIS ATTACK ON OUR WAR EFFORT AND ON THE RIGHTS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS, WILL BE PROSECUTED TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THE LAW.

WE WANT TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE CITY STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS AND TO THE TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION CIO, WHO HAVE SINCERELY AND HONESTLY WORKED HARD TO GET THE MEN BACK ON THE JOB.

SOL ROTENBERG
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
EASTERN PENNA. DISTRICT
INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER