

RED TALES

(612-726-2230) Newsletter of the MSP ESSC Shop Committee (612-201-0383)

Special Edition

The Raise

You would be hard pressed to find a baggage handler, ticket agent, reservation agent, stores employee, clerical or sim tech who doesn't understand that Richard Anderson's announcement of a 9.4% raise for topped out pre merger Delta (PMDL) employees in October has everything to do with the upcoming union election. We wanted to go over some of the facts surrounding this announcement.

Why October?

It is Delta's expectation that representation will be resolved by October. So this is clearly designed to impact that election. They would like us to believe that if we vote against the union we will get a \$3 per hour raise in October and if we vote for the union it will take years to get any raise at all. They are hoping that this will crack what is now a solid union group throughout the system. Guess again, Richard.

Lessons of the Past

They are also hoping that Delta workers forget that in the past, once the union threat has passed the raises are taken away. This happened in 1999 when the union idea was gaining strength. Pay for baggage handlers went from \$3391 per month to \$3664. By 2002, when the

drive ended, top out pay for this group was \$3772 per month. With the end of union activity pay was cut by 2005, eventually down to \$3040 per month. (Source – Pay stubs of PMDL employee)

Why Not Northwest Workers Too?

Richard Anderson has cited the fact that PMNW employees have a union contract and therefore can not be granted the same 9.4% raise. This is false. Robert Roach Jr., IAM General Vice President wrote to Anderson on February 5, 2010 – “The IAM has already advised you that there are no restrictions in the IAM-NWA collective bargaining agreements preventing raises above the minimum amounts listed in the contracts. Indeed in 1999 when you were CEO of Northwest Airlines, you had no problem raising wages of IAM represented Mechanic and Related employees in the middle of a representation dispute. Therefore you are certainly aware that you can apply these raises to contract employees as well.”

Who Doesn't Get The Raise

If it is granted many workers would not be eligible for the 9.4% raise: such as those on probation, those with any disciplinary action, those with less than 10.5 years seniority, those who are Ready Reserve and all PMNW.