



Universal Forwarding Overseas, Ltd.

Newsletter

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ILWU Update

Contract negotiations between the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the Pacific Maritime Association will resume at 1:30 p.m. today Pacific time, the ILWU confirmed.

Both sides agreed on July 7 to recess the talks for three days so the ILWU leadership could participate in contract negotiations with grain handlers in the Pacific Northwest. Those contracts are separate from the coastwide contract negotiations. The PMA is not involved in the grain talks.

The major development to look for this afternoon in the ILWU-PMA negotiations is what will happen with the extension of the previous contract. When the negotiations were recessed on Monday, the ILWU agreed to extend the previous contract for three days.

The next day, harbor truck drivers who are striking three drayage companies in Southern California posted pickets at several marine terminals in the harbor, and the ILWU workers walked off their jobs. The area arbitrator ruled the picket was not "bona fide," or legitimate, under the waterfront contract, and the longshoremen returned to their jobs.

If the ILWU later today refuses to extend the previous contract, the grievance mechanism will not be available to employers. Therefore, if the drivers that the Teamsters union is attempting to organize should establish more pickets, and the longshoremen walk off their jobs, employers will not be able to call in the arbitrator. The ILWU at this time would not comment on prospects for extension of the previous contract.

Chile Strike

Strike is now over

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