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As the Presidents of Locals 514, 567, and 591, we strongly feel the need to inform our members that we are absolutely opposed to the AMP raid. Some members have been name dropping, and even suggesting that we support those soliciting AMP cards. This is false, extremely harmful and particularly now that we are nearing the end of the current JCBA negotiations, makes no sense whatsoever. While some members may have heard that the joint negotiating committee has been arguing over doing things the IAM or TWU way, that is another falsehood. Since we have been in negotiations, our M&R negotiating team has never had to hold a vote to reach a position on our proposals.

The latest rumor is that somehow "The Association" is the problem. While we all wanted a vote on representation, the National Mediation Board made the determination that was not an option. The NMB then established "The Association" as our bargaining representative. To dispel another rumor, "The Association" is our bargaining agent, not the IAM or TWU individually. Like it or not, the Javits seniority ruling is final and binding on the membership, irrespective of whomever is the bargaining agent. The reason the Javits decision exists is because the seniority integration committees from TWU & IAM were unable to reach an agreement on premium seniority; therefore, under the provisions of Alleghany/Mohawk and later McCaskill/Bond federal legislation - American/ IAM/TWU are bound by the terms of the Javits decision.

In closing, we have seen a great deal of change within the TWU over the last few years and the leadership of TWU has been extremely supportive of us in all of our efforts in negotiations and member actions. In any organization there are times where we may not agree on a particular issue, but the three of us are in agreement that nothing is more important than reaching this agreement for our members. Our anger cannot be aimed at one another, but rather directed at American Airlines. We believe that once we reach a tentative agreement for our members, they will be very satisfied with the results of our work.

Dale Danker
President Local 514

Rollie Reeves
President Local 567

Gary Peterson
President Local 591