

Anthony P. Salvatore (Big Tony)
2 Rancid St.
Brooklyn NY
June 15, 1921

Mr. Stillman
Superintendent
Easton and Potomac Railroad
Whitehall Holler
Outer Boondocks VA

Dear Mr. Stillman:

It has come to my attention that there is considerable unrest among our rank and file working on your railroad. Within the past six months my staff fielded multiple reports from our local shop steward citing work practices that fall outside the current contract bounds and quite frankly sir, border on abusive actions. Examples include:

- On March 12, Engineer R. U. Kidding reports that not only was the air-conditioning in the cab of your locomotive #27 inoperative, but the seat cushion was so thin that it caused Mr. Kidding to develop a massive hemorrhoid over the course of his run.
- On April 7, Operator Kippster reports that the toilet paper in the outhouse at Flat Run was so coarse that it made 60 grit sandpaper feel like velvet. Mr. Kippster claims that such toilet paper and the distress it caused lay at the root of the unfortunate incident when your CEO's train was delayed.
- On May 3, Trainman Bubba T. Bubba informed us that while re-setting the retainers on the Broadway turn as it came down the mountain, he was so be-dazzled by the vast array of flashing blue lights outside of Hood that he temporarily blacked out. This caused him to fall off the train and fracture his tailbone.
- On June 1, engineer Clem Kiddle Hopper was so overburdened with forms, schedules, rule books and other massive amounts of paperwork that he aggravated his sciatic nerve as he attempted to haul this pile of paper into his cab.
- Finally, there is a steady drumbeat of other complaints from the rank and file. At each gathering in the local union hall we hear another story of the endless red-assing from E&P management.

This pattern of abuse cannot be tolerated. The specifics cited above coupled with the E&P's long record of over-expectation and bombastic verbal abuse of employees must cease and desist. Under normal circumstances this letter would end with notification of a general strike on the E&P until conditions improve. Unfortunately last month's Las Vegas Management Retreat for the BSEG leadership has left the strike fund a little short. Shifting to Plan B, the BSEG will be shipping in a carload of beer for the local rank and file to enjoy on June 15. Two hundred cases of beer should take their mind off the E&P for a day or two. I urge you to capitalize on this gesture of goodwill and the short window of opportunity it will provide by making every effort to revise the E&P's abusive practices.

Sincerely,

Anthony P. Salvatore

Big Tony

P.S. – Don't make me send Gino down there to negotiate. He don't much like the country and he really don't like hillbillies like you. Believe me, when Gino's not happy, youse ain't gonna be happy.