At Carrier, Corporate Greed is the Bottom Line

Jeffery Bonior

Indiana workers remain angry that thousands of middle class jobs are being sent to Mexico.

Wayne Dale got the call late in the evening on Feb. 9.

A representative from Carrier Corporation in Indianapolis was on the other end, requesting his appearance the following morning at 10 a.m. at Carrier's heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) manufacturing facility.

"They said it was very important that I be there, so I said I will be there," said Dale, who represents Carrier's employees as the subdirector of the United Steelworkers (USW) District 7.

The next morning, Dale entered a room full of curious first-shift employees. He had no idea about the shocking news he was about to hear.

Carrier representatives coldly announced the factory would be shut down and moved to Monterrey, Mexico, leaving approximately 1,400 Indiana workers jobless in the near future.

The bad news wasn’t over. Later that day, it was disclosed that the United Technologies Electronic Controls factory in nearby Huntington, Indiana would also be closing and moving to Mexico. The Huntington plant, located near Fort Wayne, employs 700 people who work on the electrical and technical components for the popular Carrier HVAC systems.

United Technologies, the parent company of Carrier and United Technologies Electronic Controls, was putting 2,100 people out of work.

"The Carrier workers are just devastated," Dale said. "They’re disappointed. Some of the employees put their hands over their faces and were crying. It’s just horrible."

Carrier has manufactured heating and cooling systems for more than
Brothers & Sisters,

I was sickened when I heard the announcement that Carrier was closing the plant on Morris Street and moving it to Monterey Mexico.

I was at the Union Hall the morning of February 10th when Sub District Director Wayne Dale called and told us that President Chris Nelson was making a closure announcement on the shop floor in 20 minutes. Derrick Morris and myself jumped in the car and headed for the plant. We arrived just in time to hear Nelson making the announcement to the employees. I was amazed at the condescending manner in which the news was conveyed. It was obvious to me that Nelson was more accustomed to addressing executives in a boardroom than speaking to workers in the shop. At one point Nelson told the crowd that they needed to "quiet down and listen" as if no one should have been upset or outraged about what he was telling them.

To be honest I was shocked by the announcement from Carrier. Carrier would have been far down the list of plants that I would have expected this type of announcement. There are other plants represented by this local that I would not have been shocked to learn were closing. This is not to say that I have any knowledge or forewarning that other plants will be making like announcements. It is simply that we have other plants that have at times or currently have struggled with finances. We have even heard the threat of closure from some of the company representatives in the past.

The Carrier plant is undeniably productive and profitable. UTC Climate, Controls and Security made $2.9 Billion in profits in 2015. Understand Carrier is not moving to Mexico because the plant is not profitable. They are moving so they can lower their operating costs and make even more in profits. Carrier is still going to sell their products here in the USA and they are not going to sell them for less even though it will cost them less to produce them.

Since that day in February the Local has been working with Sub District 3, District 7 and the International Union in Pittsburgh. The number one priority for the union has been doing everything possible to keep the plant here and not lose any jobs. Mike Millsap our District 7 Director and our Sub District 3 Director Wayne Dale have been nothing but supportive and have made available every resource they have to fighting the Carrier closure.

In Pittsburgh the Collective Bargaining, Strategic Campaign, New Media, and Legal Departments have been devoting a lot of time and resources to fighting the Carrier closure. We have a lot of intelligent hard working people devoting their time and energy to saving the jobs at Carrier.

We are not giving up the fight to save the jobs at Carrier. We will continue to push back on Carrier on the closing of this plant.

The plant closure at Carrier has been a punch to the gut of every hardworking Steelworker at the Carrier plant. It all boils down to corporate greed. These corporations will do anything to increase their stock prices. They do not have any compassion for the employees who are left without an income to support themselves and their families. Carrier has made millions of dollars in profits on the backs of the employees at 7310 West Morris Street. Now Carrier will send them to the streets while exploiting the workers in Monterrey.

In my opinion, UTC Carrier is pathetic and un-American.

Hello to all my sisters & brothers from local 1999. I would like to take this time to thank those of you that attended the rally for Carrier employees. We had a nice turn-out from our members & your support is greatly appreciated.

We have a bigger rally planned for April 29 at the statehouse downtown. We would like for a massive turn-out. "Our strength is our members." We must let it be known that we do not support these bad trade deals that are "good union job killers." Our local & our international are standing strong against TPP. We need our members to stand with us. "No job is safe from relocation if we don't fight."

In Solidarity,
Derrick Morris
March and Rally
Stand up for good jobs in Indianapolis

Friday, April 29
12 Noon
Indiana State Capitol (South Lawn)
200 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN

On February 10th Carrier Corporation and its parent company, United Technologies, abruptly announced to its dedicated workforce of 1,400, that their jobs were headed for Mexico.

This company has been highly profitable, raking in over $7 Billion in profits in 2015 - enough to reward the company’s president, Gregory Hayes, a pay package of over $10 million. Now, this highly profitable company plans to pay Mexican workers poverty wages estimated at $3.00 an hour, while continuing to sell their product to a US market.

Carrier’s greed seems boundless - with callous disregard for hard-working families that made it successful. This unnecessary move will devastate our community.

For more information, visit http://usw.to/CarrierRally or call 317.639.1479
“Keep It Made In America”

Chuck Jones, President

I’m sure that most of our members have heard by now that UTC Carrier Local 1999-07 is planning to move to Monterey Mexico. February 10, 2016 UTC Carrier Management called all of the first shift employees together and made the announcement. For the first several weeks Carrier claimed that the reason for the move is due to Federal Regulations. After being asked over and over by the Union and by U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly to tell us what Regulations are the cause for such a decision, that maybe something could be done to work things out. The President of UTC (Climate Controls and Security) Mr. McDonough finally said “This is strictly a business decision.” Also stating that “The cuts are painful but are necessary for the long-term competitive nature of the business” and “shareholder value creation” These are just some big words for CORPORATE GREED!!!

This company is not struggling, in fact they had a 7.6 Billion dollar profit last year and that was up from the previous year. The bottom line is UTC Carrier is neglecting and abandoning their workforce here in Indiana and moving their business to Mexico to abuse and exploit the Mexican workforce. In Mexico temporary workers will make $9.40 a day while permanent workers will make $19.00 a day.

The workforce at the Carrier facility are hard working men and women that make a good quality product and have been dependable, loyal employees. There are 1400 men and women slated to lose their jobs over the next few years, starting in April of 2017.

If you have been a member of the United Steelworkers for any length of time then I know you have heard of NAFTA. I hope you have also heard of The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) The Federal Government wants you to think that these Trade Deals are good for American workers but the truth is they are just a legal way to Out-source your jobs to other countries. What is happening here is just the first of many. I don’t want to cause anyone unjustified anxiety but this is real and we need to “Stand Up and Fight Back”

The United Steelworkers has been fighting hard to stop TPP. We are asking for everyone to join in this fight against this devastating “Trade Deals” Call Congress, talk to your Representatives and let them know that you stand in opposition to the TPP.

It is highly unlikely that Carrier will stay here in Indiana but we still need to fight for their jobs and all working men and women in this country. It is now time for this Local to pull together and support our Brothers and Sisters at the Carrier facility.

Friday, April 29, 2016 at 12:00 noon USW Local 1999 will be holding a Rally/March at the Statehouse to let our voices be heard, to tell Carrier: Keep it Made in America! If you need to schedule a vacation day, a personal day, or take a red mark( but don’t jeopardize your job) We would like to see you there!!!

SOLIDARITY
District 12 Supports Carrier Workers at 2016 Annual Carrier Meeting

On the morning of March 18, United Steelworker members from Locals 560, 675, 5632, 8599, along with Director Bob LaVenture and District 12 Staff Reps, handbilled people attending the 2016 Annual Carrier Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort in California.

Standing in solidarity with our 1,400 Brothers and Sisters from Indianapolis, IN, they handed out USW flyers throughout the facility to conference participants, guests, workers, as well as placed on tables, in phone stations and in restrooms. While some of our members were asked to leave the premises early on, others continued to hand out the remaining flyers until they ran out.

Over 300 flyers were distributed in all and judging by their upset response to our presence, our success in crashing their party was quite effective.
Carrier Plant Gate Rally

Photos: Lisa Duncan
At the WOS Conference in Pittsburgh March 7 - 9, 2016.
Front Row: Christina Parrot & Terri Cook
Back Row: Vickie Burrus, Stephanie Evans, Michelle Hughes & Lakita Clark.
Senator Joe Donnelly has been hammering UTC Carrier since the February 10th announcement that the Indianapolis Carrier plant would be closed and the work shipped to Monterrey, Mexico. Donnelly immediately reached out to Local 1999 and to UTC Carrier. Donnelly attended the February Local 1999 Union Meeting. He expressed his anger over the announcement and committed to fight UTC over their decision. Donnelly has also met with Robert McDonough, President of UTC Climate, Controls and Security, over the plant relocation. Donnelly has confirmed he will be at the Carrier rally at the statehouse on April 29.

“I asked United Technologies executive Robert McDonough if the company would reconsider its decision to move Hoosier jobs to Mexico. He said he does not see a path forward—a response that I found both disappointing and frustrating. He also laid out the reasons the profitable company is shipping jobs from Indianapolis and Huntington to Mexico. The primary reason was the company’s desire to reduce costs by taking advantage of $3 per hour labor in Mexico.

“What companies like United Technologies, Carrier, and UTEC fail to account for is the unique capability of American workers to make high quality products day in and day out, year after year. For decades, workers and their families have worked hard and been loyal to Carrier and UTEC, helping to build them into highly profitable and successful companies.

“I will continue standing shoulder to shoulder with the hardworking Hoosiers and their families who are being impacted.” —Joe
105 Years Later, We Remember the Triangle Fire and Its Role in the Fight for Worker Safety

Janella T. Hinds

It’s March and, though the old adage is that the month comes in like a lion and goes out as a lamb, for women, this is also a month to celebrate our strength and to remember our sisters who helped pave the way for us.

In the labor movement, women are excelling and showing what we can do when we claim our rightful seats at the table. Labor leaders like AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler, AFT President Randi Weingarten, Service Employees International Union President Mary Kay Henry and National Education Association President Lily Eskelsen Garcia are helping to set the direction for workers across the country, and around the world. The labor movement is more diverse than ever, and though attacks on workplace rights still threaten the safety of workers, we can all agree that workers have never been safer than they are right now. Who do we have to thank for regulations and laws protecting workers? We can wholeheartedly say that the sacrifices of a group of 146 workers, roughly 105 years ago, signaled a true push for worker safety and protection.

On March 25, 1911, a group of workers reported for duty at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in Greenwich Village. Some of the workers were still in their teens, but they were responsible for helping to support their families. The ladies went to work, expecting that day to be no different than the day before. They were used to working nearly 60-hour weeks, taking home paychecks amounting to between $7 and $12 per week. These women—garment workers—crafted the delicate shirtwaists that clothed everyone, from the wealthy society women to the poor and everyone in between.

Janella T. Hinds is the secretary-treasurer of the New York City Central Labor Council, which represents 300 unions and 1.3 million workers in the New York City area.
District 7 Lobby Day

Photos: Sarah Dolph Smith, Kelly Ray Hugunin
Hello to all Union Brothers and Sisters:

Just to update you on some things, I talked to Kevin on 4/13/2016 and he said that in the first quarter of the fiscal year in addition to the customer orders that we are going to run, we will also be restocking the warehouses from what was used from last quarter.

On the grievance side of things. The union has 3 grievances slated to go to grievance committee to be voted on and heard at the 3rd step level on 5/5/2016. We also have 2 grievances slated to go to arbitration.

On the OSS OUTSOURCING side of things, there have been some issues with the quality from some of the vendors. I want to thank Danny Ahlbrand, and 2 of the gage setters, they have gotten a hold of me and brought up issues, and we have relayed them to the company and they are looking in to the issues. I cannot stress enough the importance to let someone know if there are quality issues on any parts that we run or assemble. Remember sending bad quality parts to a customer can mean a lost customer, which could end up with us having less work to run.

From the Wellness side of things I know most people are like me and they are FED up with the JIFF PROGRAM. I understand the concerns, but understand the goal is to get the LOWEST RATES by September 1st, 2016, so we still have time, if there are ANY issues, please see me or the HR department. The Union and the Company are constantly getting in touch with Milwaukee and letting them know the issues here so PLEASE let me know OF any concerns you have.

Remember to register to vote if you haven’t already, so you can vote for the candidate that has the working man and woman best interest in mind.

Always remember that my door is always open to EVERYONE no matter how big or small the issue is. TELEPHONE 273-5581.

Thanks to everyone for ALL they do, it is a pleasure to work with everyone.

In Solidarity,
Don Zering
Unit President

Brothers and Sisters,
I know it has been two months since that infamous day of the announcement and there is still some uneasiness over the whole ordeal. But, there have been some positive moments since then.

First Next Generation and the Women of Steel volunteered their free time to give back to the community with this year’s Easter egg hunt at Garfield park. Kids and adults alike had a good time searching for the Easter bunny and their youth.

Secondly, there was a great sign of solidarity in the rally we had that showed we are still a Union that is strong and willing to fight for American jobs wether it be here or anywhere else. The same kind of fight that we take to the streets is the same we must give in the plant.

In spite of our circumstances, we must continue to put out good units, be proud of our department, have the same kind of enthusiasm we had on the day of our orientation, and still have a sense of satisfaction of a job well done.

Yes, it is simple to pack it in, but is that what we tell our children when adversity comes up against them? Hell no, we are Union, when they didn’t want to give us a paid holiday we stood up! Hell no, we are Union, when they didn’t want to give us timely raises we stood up. Hell no, we are Union, and anyone who is prepared to block men and women who want to give an honest days work for an honest days pay have not begun to understand what it takes to live and die for something that is bigger than themselves. So continue to come to work and get this bread, and let the committee handle those things that are out of our control. Remember this from the most senior employee Larry Linville to the least one Desmond Rolland, we are all in this together!

In Solidarity,
Walter J. Jones III
2nd Shift Union Official

Hello Brothers and Sisters,
Things are going pretty smooth at the plant. Seven new hires just completed orientation.
We will be starting a twenty one day rebuild on May 31.
I was happy to see a large number of RSR employees at the Carrier rally a couple of weeks ago. We need to stick together now more than ever.

In Solidarity,
Paul Hedden
Grievance Committee

NEW LINE:
The Company may install a new line in the near future. That will be the 9th line which will make Indy the largest Producer of all Gatorade plants. We are the largest single producer of product presently.

NEW HIRES:
The Company has hired a large group to add to the extra group to cover weekend O.T. for the alternative schedules and weekday coverage for vacation and call off. This will also be beneficial if a new line is installed. There will be trained operators to fill the positions which should greatly reduce the impact associated with a new line installation.

Issues:

CAMERAS:
The Company has placed cameras in the facility. They have used them for discipline and even placed a camera in the fitness room. Creating an uncomfortable work environment and privacy of using the fitness room.

POLICY ENFORCEMENT:
The company has focused on enforcement of safety and all other policies including some that have never been enforced. Company will now be issuing ½ point for clocking in late from lunch.

FORCED EXTRAS:
Currently dealing with the Company forcing employees in on their day off as extras in different positions. At first when not needed they were placing them as GL's resulting in seniority violations. Grievances were filed so the Company now places them on the equipment forced in on as an assistant. If not needed company will allow them to leave after 4 hours or in some cases could be 12 hour shift. This is also a violation of work reduction should be seniority and skills by shift. This has been a disruption to Members and their work life balance.

OVERTIME:
We continue to have issues with the way O.T. is distributed and scheduled. Input from the employees points to known O.T. and call offs being the big drivers of this issue. Recent survey taken reflects employees prefer O.T. be crewed daily and overtime by seniority opposed to by line on weekend.

TRAINING:
Training still is an issue. Some are being forced to train and others denied training. The Company says they are optimizing training to fill gaps that create forcing of O.T. and forcing of employees to work day off.

SHIFT CHANGE:
On the issue of employees being moved from 1st or 2nd shift, the Company is now giving those affected a day off before shift change, ie; if changing from 1st or 2nd shift you will have Saturday or Sunday off prior to starting 3rd shift the day off is based on company decision to meet needs. This is a step in the right direction. Achieved by voice of the Members to management.

The Company still fails to recognize Extras seniority rights for shift preference.

DEPARTMENT 8:
Department 8 still continues to

See PEPSICO Page 19
The Choice Is Not Between TPP Or No Trade

Lori Wallach

The high-profile presidential primary revolt against decades of damaging American trade policy finally has forced the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) into mainstream media coverage.

The usual free-trade-agreement cheerleading squad of chronic-job-offshoring corporations, Wall Street, agribusiness and their coterie of think tanks and pundits are unnerved.

After spending billions in campaign contributions, lobbying and PR since the 1990s to enact our current trade policies, they want us to believe there is no alternative. In recent weeks, they have ginned up a PR campaign with two main themes: Critics of free trade agreements in general and the TPP in specific are protectionists who want to stop trade and/or are ignorant and misled.

The recent Washington Post piece by Vice President Biden’s former chief economist Jared Bernstein does a great job explaining why the real choice is not between TPP and no trade. As he notes, we don’t need more free trade agreements to expand trade.

How can that be? For the same reason polls repeatedly show that most Americans are for trade and against our trade agreements: America’s trade policy and trade agreements have been hijacked by special interests.

Indeed, the TPP’s strongest opponents are not against trade and do know what is in such agreements. That is precisely why they oppose them.

This Washington Post infographic shows how our secretive trade negotiating process gives a privileged role to hundreds of official U.S. trade advisors representing corporate interests. They have turned our “trade” agreements into delivery mechanisms for an array of retrograde policies, many unrelated to trade, that have hurt most Americans.

Having lived with the damaging results over the past decades, it should be no surprise that many
The women were packed into rooms on the building’s eighth through 10th floors, with locked doors, because the company’s owners were convinced locked doors would prevent theft. And so they went to work that day, just like the days, weeks and months before.

History tells us the fire started on the eighth floor in a scrap bin, and spread quickly. A deadly combination of locked doors, a broken fire escape and a fire ladder that only reached the building’s seventh floor have been blamed for the day’s fatalities. All of those factors, however, were symptoms of a larger problem: unsafe working conditions. Lives were lost because the need for profit was placed over the importance of worker safety. Outrage about the senseless deaths helped to mobilize a city and a nation to fight for worker safety policies and legislation.

In New York City, women are continuing to lead the way in the fight for worker safety. Over the last year, both the New York Times and MSNBC have reported on the workplace hazards facing nail salon workers. According to reports, the chemicals used in even the most basic of nail maintenance can prove toxic when used in high quantities. Many of these chemicals have been linked to higher instances of miscarriages, cancer and other lung issues in nail salon workers. Now these women are standing up and fighting back against the health hazards and wage theft that have plagued the industry for far too long.

New York’s nurses also are standing up for patient and worker safety in the form of safe staffing levels at local hospitals. When nurses are forced to take on heavy patient loads, both the health of patients and nurses can suffer. According to the Journal of the American Medical Association, the odds of patient death increases by 7% for each additional patient a nurse must care for at one time. It is also not uncommon for nurses to suffer from burnout from being overworked. Symptoms ranging from chronic fatigue to insomnia to back pain have been reported when health care professionals are overworked. New York’s nurses are continuing to make the case for hospitals and other medical facilities to maintain their commitments to protecting the health of patients and workers, as well.

On March 23, workers from all over New York City gathered at the site of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire to remember the sacrifices of the women who died at that location 105 years ago. Working men and women stood with labor leaders, students, elected officials, community groups and even family members of those who perished during the tragic blaze to continue the fight for worker safety. This Women’s History Month, and every month, let us continue to draw strength from the sacrifices of those who made worker safety legislation possible. And let us show our gratitude by continuing the fight to improve conditions for all working people.
Over 550 USW paperworkers attended the conference last week to update safety and bargaining policies that will be enacted for the next two years. The Conference reaffirmed the mandatory foundational bargaining priorities around contract length and health care. The top priority included developing a bargaining agenda around Making & Converting Paper Safely - a 10-point plan that was developed and adopted unanimously by the Conference after a study of fatalities at USW Paper Sector facilities from 2012-2014 inclusive. The plan addresses the fact that the USW paper sector has the highest fatality rate of any other industrial sector. The plan recognizes the common areas and trends among US Paper Industry Fatalities and puts forth a plan to address them. The USW Paper Sector is committed to working with OSHA and companies in the industry to implement the plan to make and convert paper safely and prevent more fatalities in our industry.

A final copy of Making & Converting Paper Safely will be circulated after final inputs from the Conference are incorporated.

The Conference added three additional key bargaining priorities to the agenda: staffing, achieving rational overtime restrictions, and protecting our core work from outsourcing. All of these three key priorities are interrelated and impact safety. The Conference continued the primary goals and objectives to confront trends, adding new employee orientation to the objectives.
Americans are against these corrupt special interest trade policies.

And now we have presidential candidates from both parties revealing the truth: There is nothing inevitable about the damage, but rather the rules have been rigged against us.

We can do better and we must.

Trade agreements and policies are how we can write rules for the global economy.

And the United States is uniquely able to set trade policies that others have to follow. That leverage is the only upside to having the largest trade deficit in history.

China, Vietnam, Mexico, Japan and other nations are deeply reliant on being able to sell things here. That means these governments need to come to agreement with us on terms of trade or risk economic disruptions that could undermine their own political viability.

But to date, this leverage has been squandered to obtain special protections for Big Pharma and U.S. firms seeking to invest abroad rather than to secure terms that work for all of us.

We desperately need a new American trade policy.

To achieve that, first, we must do no further harm. As Paul Krugman put it in a recent New York Times column, we need “a standstill on further deals, or at least a presumption that proposed deals are guilty unless proved innocent.”

We must not enact any more-of-the-same, job-killing, race-to-the-bottom agreements.

Polls show majorities of Democrats, Independents and Republicans oppose the TPP. Currently there is not a majority in the House of Representatives to pass it. Supporters’ hope is to slime it through Congress in a lame duck session post-election with the votes of retired and fired representatives.

Second, we must review and replace our existing trade policies and pacts. The special interests that put our current system in place are jealously intransigent about commonsense changes for which there is now growing consensus.

This includes enforceable disciplines against currency cheating; removing offshoring incentives, bans on Buy American preferences, patent extensions and the investor-state tribunal system in trade pacts; conditioning access to the U.S. market on countries meeting international labor, environmental and human rights standards; eliminating existing U.S. tax credits, subsidies such as Export-Import bank loans, and government contracts for firms that ship jobs overseas; enacting domestic tax and procurement policies that reward firms producing here; expanding Buy American procurement preferences; eliminating the corporate benefits for companies that relocate their corporate headquarters overseas to take advantage of a tax loophole and so forth.

Third, before we consider negotiating any new agreements, we must create a new model that ensures any future pacts create jobs here and raise wages.

What would a good trade agreement look like? In 2009, Congress’ leading fair-trade champions worked with economists, trade experts, businesses and environmental, labor, consumer, faith and family-farm organizations to develop that alternative. They hoped it would shape the approach taken by the new incoming Obama administration.

That is not how history played out, and thus we have the TPP – NAFTA on steroids.

But the 2009 Trade Reform, Accountability, Development and Employment (TRADE) Act provides a good blueprint for trade pacts that could benefit more Americans. The legislation set forth what must and must not be included in future pacts – basically eliminating the special interest non-trade riders that now comprise the majority of our Trojan horse agreements and adding the rules to make actual trade terms more fair.

It also included criteria for what countries would be appropriate U.S. trade agreement partners – those that offer American exporters opportunities and where strong labor, environmental and human rights standards exist in practice, not just on paper.

Unless and until we enact a trade policy that can harvest the benefits of expanding our exports to create well-paying American jobs and prosperity for American farmers while growing jobs at home, raising wages and promoting democracy, human rights and a healthy environment, the trade fury we are now witnessing will only grow.
60 years in Indianapolis. And in an instant, Carrier employees were told their jobs were being phased out and they were left to fend for themselves — even though the company promised some job skills retraining.

Juan Martin, a 42-year-old assembler of heating units at Carrier, is a relative newcomer, having only worked 2 1/2 years at the plant.

"Actually, I love working at Carrier," he said. "It’s a nice atmosphere and for me, coming from 17 years as a mentor and counselor for troubled children, switching to Carrier allowed me to make a little more money than I did. A good manufacturing job is sometimes better than a job with a sociology degree.

"But there was no warning. You know, sometimes you might hear a whisper or a rumor but you didn’t even hear that. It just happened.

"I am very angry. I felt disrespected. I felt like they pulled the rug from under me and that they don’t care about American workers. Corporate greed is the bottom line."

Martin, who often received overtime hours, used the extra money to pay the bills of his young grandson who just had heart surgery.

PROFITS OVER PEOPLE

Carrier was founded in 1915 in Farmington, Conn. as an independent, American company manufacturing and distributing HVAC systems. By 2012, Carrier was a $12.5 billion business with more than 43,000 people working in 170 countries.

In 1979, Carrier was acquired by United Technologies Corp., which expanded its growth. United Technologies has sales of $56 billion annually. It earned $7.6 billion last year, and $2.9 billion came from the division that includes Carrier.

United Technologies officials have said the move to Mexico is a preemptive necessity to secure the corporation’s long-term future and that of its shareholders. But many workers, policymakers, union officials and others cite greed.

The majority of workers at Carrier in Indianapolis earn $20 per hour or more, with ample overtime. Many earn $60,000 to $70,000 per year, with benefits.

When the jobs begin moving to Mexico in April 2017, Carrier profits will certainly rise. In Mexico, temporary workers will earn $9.40 a day while permanent workers will take home $19 a day.

Robert James is the 57-year-old vice president of USW Local 1999 in Indianapolis. He has worked at Carrier for 18 years as a material associate, who drives products to the assembly line.

"I think the way they handled it was not a good way to handle it," James said. "I also think it was very disrespectful. Quality of product will decrease being made in Mexico.

"I would say there is a large amount of anger, a large amount of hurt. You give your life to the job and then they treat you like nothing and that is the way the majority of employees feel."

James feels the plant closing will have a major effect on the city of Indianapolis. He knows the Carrier workers spend a lot of money in the city supporting restaurants, gas stations and other small businesses. He also realizes the devastation that will be experienced by Carrier suppliers.

"We’re still in talks with Carrier," he said. "Right now we are still in the
process of trying to convince Carrier to stay in Indianapolis.”

But its highly unlikely Carrier will continue to manufacture in Indiana.

“I think it’s wrong and I think it’s simply the company being greedy,” James said. “And I see our government helping them. These different trade bills and different things of that nature, that’s what’s taking our jobs out of the United States.”

Carrier is a bit rare in that its employees range in age from 18 to 75; the majority of American manufacturing tends to hold a median age in the 50s.

Kelly Ray Hugunin is the business representative for USW Local 1999 and has seen more millennials working at Carrier because of the current cost of a college education and lack of a guaranteed well-paying desk job upon graduation.

“It’s a wide range,” Hugunin said. “But we do have some people working in their 70s. We’ve got a guy out there that been working here for 52 years.”

Hugunin has strong feelings about the move to Mexico.

“I think it’s a betrayal. I think it’s un-American and I’ve said it before, we grow up and we’re taught to go find a good job and work hard and if we come to work like we’re supposed to, we’re going to be rewarded having decent wages and having that job and here Carrier just took that all away from those people,” he said.

Also at the expense of the American people is the nearly $1.6 million in tax incentives and training to bring Carrier to a favorable situation in Indianapolis. After meeting with Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, Carrier agreed to return the $1.6 million tax and incentive funds.

But United Technologies will continue to profit from taxpayer dollars. The company is a major United States military contractor that receives an additional $5.6 billion from the federal government each year.

"Moving to Mexico, it’s basically greed," Hugunin said. "It’s simply that everything we’ve heard from the company and what they are telling elected officials, it’s just simply about those wages. They want to go down there and exploit those Mexican workers and make their profits. It’s not like they aren’t making profits now. It’s a way to make more profits at the expense of the American people."

United Technologies did not respond to numerous requests for comment.

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PEPSICO From Page 13

struggle for work. Employees bidding out of department 8 because of lack of work, policies and more responsibility.

In Solidarity,
Ed Roell
Unit President

Unit 32
Cenveo

Brothers and sisters,

There is not a lot going on in the plant right now. We have 1 grievance at 3rd step.

We are in the process of looking for a new insurance carrier. We have a broker comparing quotes for us. The biggest problem we have, is our usage is extremely high. It will be very difficult to find cheaper quotes.

Our plant is slow right now and we are taking time off without pay voluntarily. The company will still accept applications by going to Cenveo careers and applying that way. I hope to see everyone at the carrier rally on April 29th.

In Solidarity,
Jason Campbell
Unit President
STEEL VOICE

Kelly Ray Hugunin
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