

times the cost of the fine. Even with a better than a 50% chance of winning the case, the odds were so stacked against the fishermen most of them simply signed off. With such a skewed system of justice who could predict what might happen.

Although I haven't crabbed for several years, I have been involved in the commercial fishing industry all my life. To ask a fisherman not to talk about the price they expect to receive for their catch is like asking freshmen highschool girls not to talk about boys. Fishermen talking about price is a normal, natural American thing to do.

Violence, intimidation and destruction of property to achieve price goals is a different matter. Seems to me if any of this could be proven real criminal charges should be filed—not phoney fines with no realistic way of challenging them.

I contend that Mr. Aubertine, being fairly young, politically ambitious and not too bright, spent a lot of state money on his price fixing investigation in hopes of furthering his political career. When the investigation came up short of hard evidence he took the easy way out. He tried to recoup the money he had wasted by singling out members of the industry by their ability to pay rather than other reasons. He did it in such a way they had no chance to defend themselves.

The solution is simple. If Mr. Aubertine has real evidence of price fixing he should come forward with this evidence and file charges. If he doesn't have this evidence he should accept the responsibility of wasting the state's money and face the consequences. This would include public apology to the men he wronged and immediate disbarment proceedings.

Sincerely,
Peter G. Heckes,
Heckes Oyster Co.

Oregon Crabbers Fight To Stay Afloat

The two Oregon Crab Fishermen that have been charged with price fixing must be mighty powerful forces to have done what they are accused of. I have read the articles and editorials that have been published, and have spoken with each of these fishermen.

It would appear from everything I have heard and seen that the Department of Justice has used threats, coercion, and intimidation to get these hard working, self employed fishermen to sign statements saying that they are guilty when in fact they are not. Most of these individuals simply could not afford to fight the Attorney General on matters they didn't understand. Faced with fines of over \$100,000.00 and loss of their commercial fishing license (their very livelihood) they simply caved in to the pressure, payed the \$9,000.00 "settlement" and went back to work.

It sure is odd that the Department of Justice alleges that meetings were held to organize and enforce the conspiracy to fix prices at \$1.25 per pound when in fact they went fishing for \$1.15 per pound, (which all the major fish plants were offering). If this is price fixing then it sure went the wrong way! It would seem that the rule of supply and demand set the prices. I should remind everyone that since the dawn of time

fishermen have had to negotiate the best price they can for their product.

The State Attorney General Office said the lawsuit was filed after several months of negotiations failed to produce a settlement. What it should have said is they failed to produce a settlement after the threats, intimidation and coercion didn't work. The Assistant Attorney General, Andrew E. Aubertine, told these fishermen that they would pay for this investigation, and the ones who pay last will pay the most! I for one was unaware that this was the way our elected officials conducted investigations. Now, you tell me, who is guilty of coercion, threats, extortion, and intimidation. Is it the hard working fishermen, or the overzealous A.G.?

T.J. Lindbloom,

Roseburg, Oregon, 541-673-6047.

[FR Doc. 97-11939 Filed 5-8-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 6, 1997.

The Department of Labor (DOL) has submitted the following public information collection requests (ICRs) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). A copy of each individual ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Department of Labor, Departmental Clearance Officer, Theresa M. O'Malley ({202} 219-5096 ext. 143). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY/TDD) may call {202} 219-4720 between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Comments should be sent to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for the Employment Standards Administration, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316, within 30 days from the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information,

including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Title: Airline Vacancy Listing.

OMB Number: 1214-0004 (extension).

Frequency: Semi-Annually.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 223.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 310.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: 0.

Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): 0.

Description: The Airline Deregulation Act requires the Secretary of Labor to establish a program to implement the first-right-of-hire provision of the legislation (29 CFR part 22.0) to ensure that furloughed, protected employees may exercise their Statutory rights. This Act provides a mechanism for the monitoring hiring activity in the airline industry. Section 43(d)(2) of the regulations provides that covered air carriers shall report their permanent job vacancies as they occur, to a central job center, for the preparation of a comprehensive list of jobs in the industry that is distributed to all State Employment Agencies.

Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Title: Notice of Final Payment or Suspension of Compensation Benefits.

OMB Number: 1215-0024 (extension).

Frequency: On occasion.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Responses: 28,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 7,000.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: 0.

Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$7,000.

Description: This report is used by insurance carriers and self-insured employers to report the payment of benefits under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Title: Request for Earnings Information.

OMB Number: 1215-0112 (extension).

Frequency: On occasion.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Number of Respondents: 1,900.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Total Burden Hours: 475.

Total Annualize capital/startup costs: 0.

Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services): \$7,000.

Description: This report gathers information regarding an employee's average weekly wage. This information is needed for determination of compensation benefits in accordance with Section 10 of the Longshore and Harbor Worker's Compensation Act.

Theresa M. O'Malley,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-12166 Filed 5-8-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-27-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Bureau of International Labor Affairs; Public Hearings on Forced Labor in Burma

This document is a notice of public hearings to be held by the Department of Labor for the purpose of gathering information regarding the use of forced labor in Burma. The hearing will be held on June 27, 1997, at the Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, N-3437 D, Washington, DC 20210, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The hearing will be open to the public. The Department of Labor is now accepting requests to provide oral or written testimony at the hearing from all interested parties. Each presentation will be limited to ten minutes. The Department is not able to provide financial assistance to those wishing to travel to attend the hearing. Those unable to attend the hearing are invited to submit written testimony. Parties interested in testifying at the hearing on forced labor in Burma should call Joan Mackin Barrett (202) 219-7471, ext. 105, to be put on the roster.

On March 27, 1997, the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization (ILO) established, pursuant to Article 26 of the ILO Constitution, a Commission of Inquiry to investigate a complaint by worker delegates to the

1996 ILO Conference about the existence of forced labor in Burma. The complaint alleges that the Government of Burma has repeatedly failed to abolish legislation which allows for the use of forced labor, and, far from ensuring that forced labor is eliminated in practice, that the Government has been actively engaged in its promotion. Specific allegations include the forced recruitment and abuse of porters by the military, as well as the use of forced laborers on railway, road, construction, and other infrastructure projects. The complaint charges that the SLORC government is directly responsible for an endemic abuse affecting hundreds of thousands of workers who are subjected to the most extreme forms of exploitation, including all too frequently loss of life.

The Commission of Inquiry is the ILO's most formal, prestigious, public and extensive procedure for the supervision of international labor standards. The ILO Constitution requires member States to provide to Commissions of Inquiry all relevant information in their possession. Thus, information obtained at the hearing will be provided to the ILO's Commission of Inquiry on Forced Labor in Burma. Testimony should be confined to the topic of forced labor in Burma.

DATES: The hearing is scheduled for Friday, June 27, 1997. The deadline for being placed on the roster for oral testimony is 5:00 p.m. on Friday June 20, 1997. Presenters will be required to submit five (5) written copies of their oral testimony to the Office of International Organizations, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, by 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 25, 1997. The record will be kept open for additional written testimony until 5:00 p.m., Monday, July 7, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The hearing will be held at the Department of Labor Auditorium, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Written testimony should be addressed to the Office of International Organizations, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Room S-5311, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210; fax (202) 219-9074.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joan Mackin Barrett, Office of International Organizations, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Room S-5311, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C., 20210; telephone: (202) 219-6241, ext. 105; fax: (202) 219-9074. Persons with disabilities who need special accommodations should contact Joan Mackin Barrett by Monday, June 23, 1997.

All written or oral comments submitted pursuant to the public hearing will be made part of the U.S. submission to the ILO referred to above and will be available for public inspection.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 2nd day of May 1997.

Andrew J. Samet,

Acting Deputy Under Secretary, International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-12230 Filed 5-8-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-28-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Labor Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations and Trade Policy; Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463 as amended), notice is hereby give of a meeting of the Steering Subcommittee of the Labor Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations and Trade Policy.

Date, time and place: May 28, 1997, 10:00 a.m., U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-1011, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210.

Purpose: The meeting will include a review and discussion of current issues which influence U.S. trade policy. Potential U.S. negotiating objectives and bargaining positions in current and anticipated trade negotiations will be discussed. Pursuant to section 9(B) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B) it has been determined that the meeting will be concerned with matters the disclosure of which would seriously compromise the Government's negotiating objectives or bargaining positions. Accordingly, the meeting will be closed to the public.

For further information, contact: Jorge Perez-Lopez, Director, Office of International Economic Affairs; Phone: (202) 219-7597.

Signed at Washington, DC this 2nd day of May 1997.

Andrew J. Samet,

Acting Deputy Under Secretary International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-12229 Filed 5-8-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-28-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Notice of Determinations Regarding Eligibility To Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance and NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, the Department of Labor herein presents