

DECEMBER 2006 SCRIBE ARTICLE

We will have a vote to consider merging with the Gaithersburg branch on December 6, 2006. Gaithersburg has some top of the line Shop Stewards and is lead by the well respected president, Steve Klein. There is strength in numbers. If this merger is approved, management had better comply with the National Agreement. If management chooses to violate our contract, they will face a mountain of grievances with escalating remedies!! The Gaithersburg branch will be voting on the proposed merger on December 14, 2006.

President Bush recently signed The Military Commissions Act. With this signing, Habeas Corpus has ended and torture is now legal. Habeas Corpus is used as a protection against illegal imprisonment. The renowned Keith Olbermann recently stated;

If you somehow think Habeas Corpus has not been suspended for American citizens but only for everybody else, ask yourself this: If you are pulled off the street tomorrow, and they call you an alien or an undocumented immigrant or an "unlawful enemy combatant" — exactly how are you going to convince them to give you a court hearing to prove you are not? (And what if the Bush administration starts to call trade unionists terrorists?- added by me.)

"These military commissions will provide a fair trial," you told us yesterday, Mr. Bush. "In which the accused are presumed innocent, have access to an attorney, and can hear all the evidence against them." 'Presumed innocent,' Mr. Bush? The very piece of paper you signed as you said that, allows for the detainees to be abused up to the point just before they sustain "SERIOUS MENTAL and PHYSICAL TRAUMA" in the hope of getting them to incriminate themselves, and may no longer even invoke The Geneva Conventions in their own defense.

This is scary stuff!!!

IN THE STRUGGLE,

Kenneth Lerch
President NALC 3825