

MR. BURY: C.B. and Evensus, here and after referred to as Evensus. Mr. Commissioner, Mr. President, my name is Andy Bury. I'm the Staff Representative with the United Steel Workers of America.

Currently, I'm involved with the plant shut down at Evensus in New Stanton, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania where many of the jobs have already been shipped to Mexico, where others are waiting to be shipped in Mexico when the plant shuts down in March of the year 2000.

In 1899, Frederick Robert Shaw invented and patented a device to regulate temperature for water heaters and established a company in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Subsequently, in 1913, he moved the plant to Youngwood. In 1960, he moved it to New Stanton. In the mid-1970's, there were approximately 1,700 employees there -- that's both salaried and union -- where they produced controls for gas and electrical appliances.

In July of 1998, the company moved 150 jobs to Laredo, Mexico, a little better than a year ago. In July of 1990, the company informed the union they were closing the New Stanton, Pennsylvania facility in March of the year 2000, moving the rest of the assembly. Some staffing and machining would also go to Laredo, Mexico.

The remaining fabrication work would be sent to other plants and outsourced to other areas -- different areas.

Too often we've heard that by sending these jobs to Mexico, we are raising the standard of living of the Mexicans; not true. We are lowering the standard of living of our people.

Last evening, while leaving the Four Points Hotel on or about 9:00 p.m. in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, I was approached by an employee from the company. This individual's concern is the same concern conveyed by many other employees at this facility. "Who's going to hire me at this age? How do I pay my bills? How can I afford medical insurance?" which some have repeatedly conveyed to me that they have preexisting medical conditions and are unable to cope with the end result -- the destruction of their families.

These, Mr. President, are the hard realities of the hopeless conditions that exist with little hope in sight. These are real world consequences of NAFTA and our so-called free-trade policies.

With that, I thank you, sir.

COMMISSIONER BECKER: Thank you very much, Andy.

That's the last person that signed up to speak. Somebody's holding your hand up back there? Come on down. Identify yourself.