PATCO STRIKE OF 1981: Students in Support of Curriculum

LESSON RESOURCE PACKAGE

LESSON TWO: PATCO Images
ACTIVITY 1: PHOTOGRAPHS
Title: PATCO Solidarity Strike in Houston, TX, August 24, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6496/rec/1
Title: PATCO Solidarity Strike in Houston, TX, August 24, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6496/rec/1
Title: PATCO Solidarity Strike in Houston, TX, August 24, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6496/rec/1
Title: PATCO Solidarity Strike in Houston, TX, August 24, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6496/rec/1
Title: Seattle Strike, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6507/rec/1
Title: Seattle Strike, 1981

[Image of people holding signs for Continental Air Lines Flight Attendants on strike and PATCO Air Traffic Controllers Support UFA]

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6507/rec/1
Image 7 (PATCO_05_11_09) Page 4

Title: Seattle Strike, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6507/rec/1
Title: Seattle Strike, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6507/rec/1
Image 9 (PATCO_05_11_09) Page 6

Title: Seattle Strike, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6507/rec/1
Image 10 (PATCO_05_11_09) Page 7

Title: Seattle Strike, 1981

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Title: Seattle Strike, 1981

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Title: Seattle Strike, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6507/rec/1
Title: Strike Pictures

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6485/rec/1
Title: Strike Pictures

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/6485/rec/1
Title: Public Affairs Program, Strike Preparation, 1980

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/129891/rec/1
Title: Public Affairs Program, Strike Preparation, 1980

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/129891/rec/1
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Title: Public Affairs Program, Strike Preparation, 1980

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/129891/rec/1
Image 24   (PATCO_06_48_03) Page 44

Title: Public Affairs Program, Strike Preparation, 1980

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/129891/rec/1
Title: Public Affairs Program, Strike Preparation, 1980

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/129891/rec/1
Title: Eastern Regional Seminar, 1975

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/154716/rec/1
ACTIVITY 2: POSTERS
"WORK OR JAIL" = SLAVERY

STOP REAGAN’S WAR AGAINST LABOR

13,000 air traffic controllers have been told “go to work or you’ll be fired.” And they have been fired. A Federal Court Judge in Brooklyn has ordered the union to pay $100,000 an hour...$2.4 million a day! A federal judge in Washington, D.C. has fined the workers $1 million a day. The Justice Department filed 22 criminal complaints against union members.

WHAT IS THE AIR CONTROLLERS’ CRIME?

They want a decent contract. They are willing to bargain. They want better working conditions. 90% never collect a full pension. Stress related diseases force them into early retirement. They went a work week of 32 hours (4 days). The U.S. is the only country in the world where air controllers must work a 40 hour week. The safety of the millions who use the airlines demands that there be a shorter work week.

REAGAN’S ALL-OUT WAR AGAINST ORGANIZED LABOR

Reagan wants to tame the union movement. Not satisfied with the $38 billion cuts in social services and in a fit of madness, he has decided to turn the clock back to the days when trade union organizing was illegal, when workers who demanded bargaining rights were put in jail. Reagan says the strike is illegal even though the overwhelming majority of air controllers voted to strike.

The controllers have the right to withhold their labor. The 13th amendment of the constitution abolished involuntary servitude. Congress has no right - nor does anyone have the authority - to deny what is guaranteed by the constitution. It is Congress and Reagan who should be held in contempt. They should be charged with conspiracy to break a union on behalf of their commitment to big business.

LABOR SOLIDARITY IS NEEDED

The attack on this small union of Professional Air Traffic Controllers must be answered by the powerful organized labor movement. A defeat of the air controllers will set the appetites of the ruthless antihuman Reagan Administration. IT CAN BE STOPPED!

The controllers have responded courageously in the face of intimidation. They all know their cause is just. Their cause is the cause of all labor.

* * * * * AIR CONTROLLERS’ CAUSE IS LABOR’S CAUSE * * * * *

Issued by EMERGENCY COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH LABOR - 547-6062
DEFEND THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS!

Three ways you can help:

1. Rally at the New York Central Labor Council
   Thursday, August 20, 6PM
   Roosevelt Hall, 100 E. 17th ST
   A rally to call for strong action by NY-area unions in defense of the striking air traffic controllers and their union will be held at 6 p.m. outside the regularly scheduled meeting of the New York City Central Labor Council.
   Sponsored by: Coalition to Defend the Air Traffic Controllers and Stop Reagan's Union Busting.

2. Mass Labor Rally to Support Striking PATCO Workers
   Wednesday, August 26, 10:30 AM
   District Council 37-AFSCME, 140 Park Place
   Sponsored by: Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO)
   For more information, contact: Coalition to Defend Air Traffic Controllers and Stop Reagan's Union Busting; (202) 695-6002.

3. Come to the next meeting of the Coalition to Defend the Air Traffic Controllers and Stop Reagan's Union Busting
   Tuesday, August 18, 7PM
   Washington Square Methodist Church, 133 West 4th St., Parlor
   The Coalition is an independent group of unionists and progressive organizations and individuals working together to build support for the striking air traffic controllers. Reagan's union busting effort is an attack on all people fighting back against the Reagan government's reactionary program. It is urgent that widespread support be built for the striking air traffic controllers. All groups and individuals are welcome to this meeting.
   For more information, call: (212) 695-6002.

STOP REAGAN'S UNION BUSTING!

-labor donated-

Special Collections, Georgia State University
Title: Strike Related Correspondence, Newsletters, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/9395/rec/1
Title: Strike Related Correspondence, Newsletters, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/9395/rec/1

**Sunday Aug. 16...**
* Beach Party @ Robert Moses State Park.
* Parking lot #2 (Come early to avoid parking fee of $200 a carload, after 8am)
* Bring your own food + beverages

**Monday Aug 17...**
* Picnic @ Eisenhower Park
* Parking lot #6A (Come before 10am, limited number of parking permits)
* Bring your own food + beverages
Emergency Demonstration!

Support the Air Traffic Controllers!

Rally:
Monday, August 10, 1981, 5:00 PM
26 Federal Plaza (Foley Square)

The demonstration is being called in response to the actions taken by President Reagan and the courts against PATCO and its members. Several strike leaders have been jailed, many members have been fired and enormous fines have been levied against the union. The rally will occur in front of the building housing the office of Richard Smith, Regional Representative of the Secretary of Transportation.

Stop Reagan's Union-Busting!

Take the A train to Chambers St. and walk east or take the 1RT 4,5, or 6 to Brooklyn Bridge and walk north to Foley Square.

Sponsored by Labor Coalition to Stop Reagan's Union Busting and Defend the Air Traffic Controllers.
For more information call 995-4802

(Labor Coalition)
EMERGENCY MEETING!

Stop Reagan's Union Busting!
Defend the
Air Traffic Controllers!

A meeting will be held Wednesday evening to form a "Coalition to Stop Reagan's Union Busting and Defend the Air Traffic Controllers." All groups and individuals are welcome to this meeting. It is urgent that widespread support be built for the striking air traffic controllers. Reagan's union-busting effort is an attack on all people fighting back against the Reagan government's reactionary program. We must respond. Please attend this important meeting.

Wednesday August 12 7PM
Washington Square Methodist Church Parlor
133 West 4th St. Manhattan

Sponsored by: Ad-Hoc Coalition to Stop Reagan's Union Busting and Defend the Air Traffic Controllers
For more information call: (212) 695-6802
Stop Reagan's Union Busting!
Defend the Striking Air Traffic Controllers!

Ronald Reagan and the entire U.S. government are trying to smash the air traffic controllers and their union (PATCO). It is in the interests of all working class and oppressed people — unionized, unorganized, working and unemployed, black, white, Latin, women and men, gay and straight — to support the striking controllers. Their struggle is our struggle.

On the surface, the controllers strike is a trade union issue, a dispute over wages, hours and working conditions, between the controllers and their employer, the Federal Aviation Administration. The controllers carry out a crucial job under extremely stressful conditions. They are demanding more money, fewer hours and other improvements in their contract. In the face of the government refusal to accept their demands, they struck.

But the controllers struggle involves all working class and oppressed people. Their struggle is only one front of the war the government and the entire ruling class is carrying out against all of us. The capitalist system in the U.S. (and throughout the world) is in deep trouble. The economy is heading into its second recession in two years. Major industries — auto, steel, housing, even the banks — are tottering on the brink of collapse. Inflation is high. Millions are unemployed. The cities are falling apart. To try to solve this crisis, the big capitalists, the bankers and politicians, have launched a massive attack on all working class people. Their goal is a tremendous redistribution of resources, from poor and working people to the capitalist corporations, the banks and the rich in general. This means driving down the living standards of the majority of people to boost capitalist profits. They are out to cut wages, throw millions more out of work, slash social services and programs, and cripple the unions. They are singling out women, gays, Latin, Blacks and old people for attack, fomenting racism and sexism and egging on the right-wing movements to use as a battering ram against us. They are taking away gains and rights won through years of struggle. And they are spending billions of dollars to build up the war machine in a desperate attempt to shore up their sagging international empire.

Reagan's attack on the air traffic controllers is a key part of this capitalist attack. He knows that if his anti-working class, anti-people program is to get carried out, he has to give the controllers a real bashing. He is using this strike to teach anybody and everybody a lesson: If you try to defend yourself, you will get smashed. And this is exactly what he
Title: Strike Related Correspondence, Newsletters, 1981

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/9395/rec/1

(back)

Is trying to do to the controllers and their union. 12,000 striking workers have been fired at a single stroke. Massive fines have been levied against the air traffic controllers union. Union leaders and individual air traffic controllers have been jailed. An entire union may be destroyed. But so far, the controllers stand firm.

As of now, the controllers have gotten little support from the U.S. labor movement--mostly words, little action. Lane Kirkland, head of the AFL-CIO, has walked some PATCO picket lines. Douglas Fraser of the UAW has done the same. Other union leaders have issued some statements. But this is not enough. Several European unions have begun to take solidarity actions with the striking airline controllers. But where is the U.S. labor movement? If AFL-CIO unions and the Teamsters simply honored the PATCO picket lines, U.S. air travel could be shut down in a day. Massive rallies and demonstrations could be organized to demand the rehiring of the 12,000 fired workers and to defend their right to strike and bargain for a decent contract. If necessary, sympathy strikes could be organized.

This is not charity. It is elementary self-defense. If Reagan is successful in smashing this strike, it will strengthen the government's hand in attacking everyone. If he attacks the controllers union, he will be in a stronger position to smash or cripple other unions and, in fact, all the organizations of working class and oppressed people. If he crushes the controllers, he takes a big step in crushing all of us. If, on the other hand, the controllers beat back the attack and win a decent settlement, it will be a defeat for the government and the capitalists and a crucial victory for all working class and oppressed people.

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL!

STOP REAGAN'S UNION BUSTING!
LIFT THE FINES! FREE THE JAILED STRIKERS!
SUPPORT THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS STRUGGLE FOR A DECENT CONTRACT!
DEFEND THE STRUGGLES OF ALL WORKING AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE!

Revolutionary Socialist League, Box 1288, GPO, New York, NY 10116; (212) 695-6822. Read the Torch/La Antorch, newspaper of the RSL: for a free sample copy, call or write us. [labor donated]
Defense of the unions begins with defense of the air traffic controllers—It’s time to draw the line!

RALLY!

A rally to call for strong action by New York-area unions in defense of the striking air traffic controllers and their union (PATCO) will be held from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM outside the regularly scheduled meeting of the New York City Central Labor Council.

N.Y.C. Central Labor Council
Thursday, August 20—5:30 PM
Roosevelt Hall — 100 E. 17th St.

Sponsored by: Coalition to Defend the Air Traffic Controllers and to Stop Reagan’s Union Busting

Speakers at the rally will include rank and file members of District 37—AFSCME, National Association of Letter Carriers, Teamsters, United Auto Workers, Public Employees Federation, District 1199 and the Communication Workers of America.

Reagan’s assault on the air traffic controllers and their union is the most serious union-busting effort the labor movement has faced in years. More is at stake here than one union. If Reagan is successful in ousting PATCO, he will be in a stronger position to destroy or cripple other unions. He will be in a stronger position to attack the rights of all workers to organize. And to all those under attack by his reactionary policies he will have sent a short and simple message: “If you fight back, you will be crushed.” Reagan’s union-busting must be defeated. We must join together to defend the air traffic controllers and the entire labor movement.

Come to the next meeting of the Coalition to Defend the Air Traffic Controllers and to Stop Reagan’s Union Busting.

Monday, August 24—7 PM
Washington Square Methodist Church, 133 West 4th St., Parlor

For more information, call: (212) 866-9802

(LABOR DONATED)
Title: Strike Update, Cluster Mailing, 1982

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/10151/rec/1

(Freedom and Unity Nite, 1 of 4)
money to continue their legal defense efforts. Unless lawyers are retained and paid, these men WILL go to jail.

IT IS TIME FOR ALL UNION BROTHERS AND SISTERS TO STAND UNITED

A concerned group of Hollywood celebrities—and national recording artist—led by unionists Ed Asner and Pat Harrington, have agreed to stage a variety show for the benefit of those PATCO members facing prison terms. All proceeds of this show will be used to assure that these Americans have access to the federal judicial appeal system. So, during a down in the country—have an up in your life. Round out May 1 by attending the FREEDOM AND UNITY VARIETY SHOW

ON WITH THE SHOW

THE FREEDOM & UNITY VARIETY SHOW
EXCITING, ENTERTAINING, ENTHRALLING, EXCLUSIVE,
EXPLETIVE, EXPRESSIVE, EXCLAIMING,
EXPLOSIVE, EXTRAVAGANT, & EYEOPENING

ED ASNER for
FREEDOM & UNITY
also...............P

PAT HARRINGTON [tv's "SCHNEIDER"]
JOHN HENRY FAULK
WILL BARNES BAND
Title: Strike Update, Cluster Mailing, 1982

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/10151/rec/1

(Freedom and Unity Nite, 3 of 4)
Title: Strike Update, Cluster Mailing, 1982

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/10151/rec/1

(Freedom and Unity Nite, 3 of 4)

OH MAY 1, MAKE IT A DAY
IN THE MID-CITIES AREA, PRIOR
TO THE SHOW, BE SURE TO COME AND MEET
THE STARS AT A PRIVATE WINE N' CHEESE PARTY
AT THE WESTERN HILLS INN--------GET AN AUTOGRAPH OR
EVEN HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN WITH ED ASNER, JOHN
HENRY FAULK, PAT HARRINGTON, WILL BARNES, CRISTAL
SUTTON ---- OR ANYONE OF THE GREAT AMERICANS WHO WILL
PART OF THIS STAR-STUDDED EVENING.

* Wine n' Cheese Party  4:30 to 6:00
* Freedom & Unity show  7:30 to 9:30

This show promises to stimulate any American
today. May 1st is the day, 7:30 is the time,
Texas Hall in Arlington is the place to be if you
are the type who wants to be part of what this country
is all about. Join us for a night of stimulating
commentary from the likes of Ed Asner, John Henry Faulk,
Crystal Sutton (the movie 'Norma Ray' was based on her
life) and Richard Dockery.--------enjoy the hilarity of
Pat Harrington (Schneider of 'One Day at a Time) and
the comedy gang and be entertained by the musical
genius of the Will Barnes Band and the Sunshine Boys
PLUS.....if these country and western headliners excite you,
you will be pleasantly surprised by our star country and
western performer who will be announced ONLY at the performance.
LIMITED SEATING PRECLUDES ADVERTISING THIS STAR PERFORMER

ARLINGTON

1-30 (D-FW Turnpike)

US 80 (Division St.)

TICKET INFORMATION

-gen'l admission $12.50
-reserved seating $15.00
-CALL: 267-8969 or 214-783-3646

Special Collections, Georgia State University
FOR SALE:

SUPPORT OUR CONTROLLERS FOR AIR SAFETY

(Matching Envelopes with same logo)

STATIONARY & ENVELOPE SET
Price:
Set of 12 - $2.50 + 25¢ postage
Set of 24 - $4.50 + 50¢ postage

LABELS
250 Labels - $1 + 20¢ postage

ATCSO T-SHIRTS
$5.50 + 50¢ postage

Front...
Light Green
Available in Small/Medium

Back...
Jacking Air Traffic Controllers
Out Front...

Send Orders To: Jo Werts, E.10416 Nora, Spokane, Wa 99206

Special Collections, Georgia State University
Title: Regional and Local Strike Newsletters, 1981-1982

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/12524/rec/1

(back)
Title: Regional and Local Strike Newsletters, 1981-1982

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/12524/rec/1
Title: Regional and Local Strike Newsletters, 1981-1982

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/12524/rec/1
ACTIVITY 3: CARTOONS
"Now hear this .... The big red one with the yellow stripes is the last one I bring down ..... I got my own goddam job to do!"
Title: Strike Related Correspondence, News Articles, 1981-1981 [2 of 2]

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/7969/rec/1
Title: Strike Related Correspondence, News Articles, 1981-1981 [2 of 2]

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/7969/rec/1
CONTROLLERS SENDING SIGNALS TO FAA REGARDING CONDITIONS

OF COURSE AIR TRAVEL IS SAFE!

UH-OH! GOTTA GO ALL THE WAY TO WASHINGTON JUST TO TELL CONGRESS OUR SAFETY STANDARDS ARE UP TO SNuff.

Special Collection, Georgia State University
Title: PATCO Lives, 1985

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/11732/rec/1
"We're still short of air traffic controllers... he may be just the kind of recruit we're looking for."

"OK, Tower... We're reviewing our check list... Brakes, landing gear... Rabbit foot... Horse shoe... Last will and testament... St. Christopher medal..."
Title: Statements in Support of Strike, 1981-1982

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/12138/rec/1
Title: Statements in Support of Strike, 1981-1982

http://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/PATCO/id/12138/rec/1
NARA Analysis Worksheets
Step 1. Observation

A. Study the photograph for 2 minutes. Form an overall impression of the photograph and then examine individual items. Next, divide the photo into quadrants and study each section to see what new details become visible.

B. Use the chart below to list people, objects, and activities in the photograph.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People</th>
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<th>Activities</th>
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Step 2. Inference

Based on what you have observed above, list three things you might infer from this photograph.

Step 3. Questions

A. What questions does this photograph raise in your mind?

B. Where could you find answers to them?
1. What are the main colors used in the poster?

2. What symbols (if any) are used in the poster?

3. If a symbol is used, is it:
   a. clear (easy to interpret)?
   b. memorable?
   c. dramatic?

4. Are the messages in the poster primarily visual, verbal, or both? Limit response for each question to 2 lines of text

5. Who do you think is the intended audience for the poster?

6. What does the Government hope the audience will do?

7. What Government purpose(s) is served by the poster?

8. The most effective posters use symbols that are unusual, simple, and direct. Is this an effective poster?

Designed and developed by the Education Staff, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408
# Cartoon Analysis Worksheet

## Level 1

**Visuals**

1. List the objects or people you see in the cartoon.

**Words (not all cartoons include words)**

1. Identify the cartoon caption and/or title.

2. Locate three words or phrases used by the cartoonist to identify objects or people within the cartoon.

3. Record any important dates or numbers that appear in the cartoon.

## Level 2

**Visuals**

2. Which of the objects on your list are symbols?

**Words**

4. Which words or phrases in the cartoon appear to be the most significant? Why do you think so?

3. What do you think each symbol means?

5. List adjectives that describe the emotions portrayed in the cartoon.

## Level 3

**A.** Describe the action taking place in the cartoon.

**B.** Explain how the words in the cartoon clarify the symbols.

**C.** Explain the message of the cartoon.

**D.** What special interest groups would agree/disagree with the cartoon's message? Why?