

Bankstown, 19 July 1957.

To THE SOVEREIGN APPLIANCES  
Gow St., Bankstown, N.S.W.

Per ref. THE SHEET METAL WORKER'S  
UNION OF AUSTRALIA.

I, DINO GUSTIN, the spray painter with this company, am taking the freedom to draw the attention of the Management to the event that took place yesterday, July the 18th 1957, in the Paint Shop. The writer accepts the fullest responsibility of this statement, and begs the Management for an immediate inquiry, because, apart from exceeding the human endurance of an operator, also brings an incalculable DAMAGE to the Company as well.

Yesterday, like every day, I went into the BAY to spray at 7 am., and after many days of negative trials, I tried to do the job to the best of my abilities, so that the CABINETS could come without DUST. And, as a result all the cabinets were perfect and without polishing. I sprayed until 9,30 am, then I had to discontinue because the Oven temperature went down.

At 10 am John, the Australian, went into the BAY and staid there for about an hour, then after him went Jock, the scotch, who too, remained there one hour, but the cabinets of both of them were full of dust.

At 12,30 pm I went into the Bay again, and sprayed until 2,15 pm, and my cabinets again came perfect without dust. John followed after me, and out of his 30 CABINETS NOT A SINGLE ONE WAS FOUND WITHOUT DUST, and they were all rejected by the Inspector Jim.

As I was on the polishing, Charles Kumpton, our Forman, told me not to tell to anyone when John's cabinets come out. WHY ?

While Jim, the Inspector, was marking the cabinets done by John, Charles was affirming with all furore how it was impossible that my CABINETS were good. He went through many CABINETS, already passed, trying to find some with DUST to demonstrate THAT THOSE DONE BY DINO WERE NOT GOOD. Not only that, but he grabbed a cabinet and pushed it against another one with such a force that it had to be PANEL BEATEN. At this disgusting scene were present the two inspectors and the Chief Inspector, and they can prove that my statement is TRUE.

What is strange here is the fact that Charles, being angry with, and in order to give himself an outlet wanted to punish by saying: "TOMORROW NO MORE OVERTIME FOR YOU AND YOU START AT 8 O'CLOCK".

It could be noted that for the last three month I have always been starting at 7 am, helping John, the charge hand, to mix the paint. Personally I am not concerned about overtime, and it is of little importance whether I have it or not. The fact is that I have been victimized for DOING A GOOD JOB.

Therefore I leave it to the Management to judge whether i deserve PUNISHMENT FOR HAVING DONE A PERFECT WORK.

My work, passed by the Inspector Jim, has been shown to Mr. HARRY LODGE as a proof that it is not good, therefore he too can affirm that my statement is true.

Since I arrived in this country (one year and two months) I have been working in this factory I had to stand many Charles' vexations and malignancies, and only because as a NEW AUSTRALIAN my English is not good enough to answer to his insults.

Among thousands of injustices done to me I will state only two, and if necessary i am ready to prove them with witnesses.

Though I was always directed to the worst jobs I never complained. But what is the most unhuman and contrary to any social principle is the fact:

-That with the help of only one man I had to clean the first bay (PrimaryBAY) in two hours time, and I was always abused when I finished it in 4-5 hours, after a

fast and hard work. This is the minimum required time for this Bay. Meanwhile now for months ( I have been cleaning the second Bay) the first bay has been cleaned by other men in never less then a day, and sometimes in two days time, always by two men and at times even 5-6 ~~xxx~~ like it hapened two weeks ago.

Another fact: I had to clean the ceiling with 30 filters all by myself in two hours time while the others are cleaning it in two taking a full Saturday. Once when I cleaned it all by myself in 5 hours Charles told me all the worst words existing in English vocabulary like if I were an idler and good for nothing.

For months I have been spraying daily for 5-6 hours, and at times even A FULL DAY always on the finishing (SEE TIME SHEETS). A work tiring, particularly on the big cabinets where a lot of eye concentration and attention is required in order to turn a good job. There are about ten other spray painters, who have the same wedges like me, but who do not enter the Bay, not even for minut per day (See the time sheets) which IS NOT RIGHT, I HAVE NEVER COMPLAINED ABOUT THAT EITHER, not even when I could not get time to go to the toilet.

CONCLUSION: This sort of thigs made me hate the work and Australia as well, because I can see the things which are not human, and without any sence, and which ARE AFFECTING THE GOOD WORKERS (in fault for being New Australians), who ~~xxxxxxx~~ have a respectable age, and a thorough experience of work, but unfortunately NOT RESPECTED AT ALL. Meanwhile the operators, with little more then 20 years of age, who are not even worth of what they are getting are respected and taken into the consideration.

Would you, please, order an inquiry about the Paint Shop, and I am ready to prove my statement in front of any Authority. I am an honest man with the sound principles, and I came to Australia to work among the civilized people, who are respecting the men of GOOD WILL, and who are not treating them like prisoners.

Certain that the Company will take the necessary steps about the matter, I remain at the Company's complete desposition for whatever ~~information~~ other information .

Dino Gustin  
32 Conway RD.  
Bankstown, N.S.W.

Faithfully Yours  
Dino Gustin