



Rejected package



Akala'y bomba, bagoong pala -- A bomb? No, it's bagoong!

GOING POSTAL

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exercise. Bosses do come out and check on you once in a great while. First of the month ambush (checks from welfare, SSI, unemployment, disability, etc). Twelve hour days. Anthrax scares. Etc.

Being a mailman benefits me now and much later. The beginning was really tough for me! But now, I get paid to exercise which is good for a diabetic like me. Sick leave hours accumulate rapidly for those postally needed stress leaves. Vacation hours pile up just as fast. Uniforms and stuff are free! Most of all, retirement will be SWEET!

Oh, yeah, lastly we don't get free stamps! (BUMMER!)

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NAKAGAT NG TAO, PAKAKAGAT SA ASO

by Malu Laico

I went postal (*nasiraan ng ulo*). I remember receiving a flyer in the mail one day that said the US Postal Service was hiring Temporary Casual Carriers -- meaning people to deliver letters for the upcoming holiday season. I thought, why not, seems like an easy job and easy money, right? Have fun reading my story and you tell me if it's a fun job.

Their requirement was a 5 year DMV driving record and to fill out the application form at the Concord Post Office. So very early that Monday morning, I applied for my DMV driving record, which took an hour and a half in line and just 10 minutes for them to process. They asked me if I wanted a 3-year record or a 10-year record. Of course I had to ask if there was a price difference and they said no. So I got the 10-year driving record and proceeded next door to the Post Office. I had to fill out the forms they gave me, and for me that was the very first time I've ever experienced filling out so many job application forms. It's like signing your life away! Usually it's like 1-2 forms only, but I filled out like 6 pages. Then they tell you that you'll receive a call from them. Yeah, right! Like they'd really call.

WORKING FOR THE FEDS

I got their call . . . oh my gosh . . . I could not believe what I was hearing over the phone. I was so excited! I got myself a job working for the Federal Government. I got an assignment in San Ramon, CA after another interview. And on another day, I went to the Main Post Office in Oakland for more forms to be filled out and some finger printing to be done. They scheduled us for a drug test and a physical examination. I started orientation on the 22nd of October. That was a whole day affair but that was all right because you get paid to attend. That was held in another Oakland Post Office. I'd never been to so many post

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Mele Kalikimaka! From left: Gumby, Joel, Kathleen, Marnie, Nini, Dan, and Rick Elizaga (with Hawaiian friends) celebrate the successful completion of yet another issue of Laico Lines at the Old Lahaina Luau in Maui.