Workers Didn't Wreck GM & Chrysler, Execs, Wall St. Banks & Investors Did!

Obama says Chrysler has no money – but he "forgot" to say why:

- Cerberus, a "strip-and-flip" private equity company bought Chrysler, then went on a borrowing spree, grabbing ten billion dollars in Chrysler's name.
- But Cerberus didn't use the money so Chrysler could develop new vehicles and technologies; it didn't build new plants. The money just "disappeared."
- Cerberus separated out Chrysler's finance company giving the profits from selling cars to the finance company, putting the losses on leases onto the car company.
- It put Chrysler's own headquarters building into still another company and made Chrysler pay rent to occupy its own headquarters!

Obama says GM is deep in debt – once again, he "forgot" to say why:

- GM borrowed billions so GMAC could buy up 20 mortgage companies.
- It borrowed more billions so it could give out 400 million dollars in executive bonuses and eight billion dollars in dividends to "investors" in just seven years.
- It borrowed more billions to buy up Daewoo in South Korea, and to set up companies in India and China, with the aim of exploiting low-wage labor there.
- GM keeps "subsidiaries" in eleven tax havens like the Cayman Islands, where it doesn't make cars. It just uses these tax havens to hide its money.

Yet Obama wants workers to tear up their contracts, pensions, health care – to give still more money to those who wrecked these companies.

Labor costs didn't put these companies in debt – wages, health care, pensions and all other benefits were less than 9% of the cost of a car.

Looting is the problem – and the money to save these companies needs to be taken from those who have been looting the companies for years.

- Present a bill to all the executives, past and present, who drained millions of dollars.
- Demand the return of all those fraudulent payments to banks that do little but collect hundreds of billions in interest payments and dividends from industrial companies.
- Demand repayment from all the hedge funds & private equity companies that put big companies in debt so they could make a quick ten billion or so.

The Big Thieves will keep demanding more concessions, keep stealing more of the nation's wealth – until workers refuse to give up any more.

The attack on auto workers is aimed at every worker.