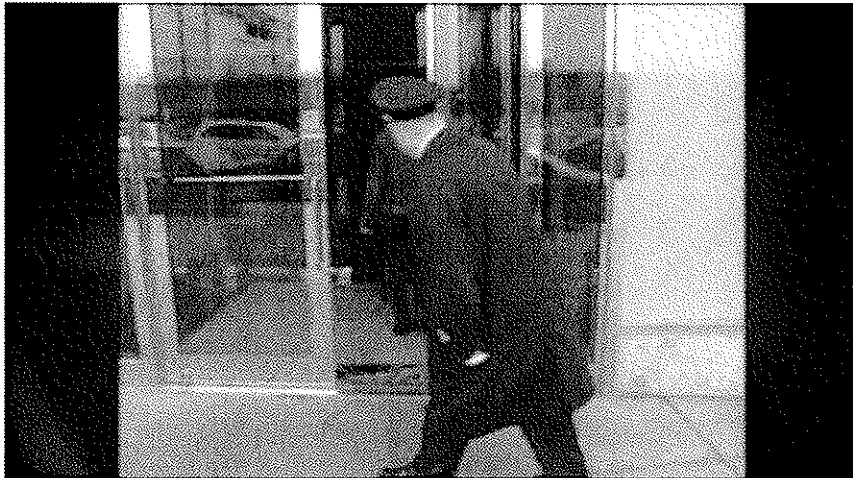




WABC
Deal reached to avoid New York City doormen strike
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NEW YORK (WABC) -- The union representing doormen and other New York City building workers has reached a tentative contract agreement with property owners.

The deal announced Friday by Local 32BJ of the Service Employees Union and the Realty Advisory Board on Labor Relations will provide raises of 11.3 percent over four years.

The contract maintains current pension and health-care benefits.

The contract covers 30,000 doormen, porters, superintendents and handymen in 3,300 apartment buildings. It will go into effect if it is ratified by the members. Votes will be tallied in early May.

The realty board says total wages for a typical doorman or porter will rise from \$44,389 to \$49,402 by the end of the contract.

The current contract expires on April 20.

The last citywide doorman strike was in 1991.