



JAN 29 1988

THOMAS K. FREEMAN

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

19
ELM
CHOICE LEAVE
LWOP

Mr. Thomas Freeman, Jr.
Assistant Director
Maintenance Craft Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO
1300 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-4107

JAN 26 1988

Re: Class Action
H4C-1E-C 40690
GMF Boston, MA 02205

Dear Mr. Freeman:

On January 22, 1988, we met to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The question raised in this case is whether the grievant was improperly denied LWOP to cover an absence during the choice vacation period for which he had insufficient annual leave to cover.


We mutually agreed that this grievance does not fairly present a nationally interpretive dispute. The approval of LWOP under the above circumstances is subject to the provisions of Part 514, ELM. The parties recognize that LWOP may be granted to cover an employee's absence when the employee has no leave to cover vacation during choice vacation period. However, approval of such request for LWOP is a matter of administrative discretion based upon the needs of the employees, the needs of service, and the cost to the service.

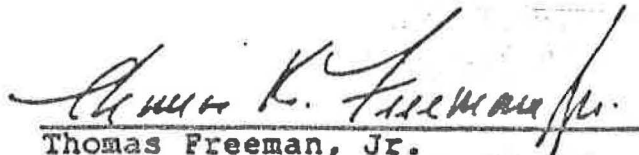
Accordingly, this grievance is remanded to Step 3 where those issues of local concern, such as LMU application, past practices, etc., may be addressed.

Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as your acknowledgment of agreement to remand this case.

Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,


 Samuel M. Pulcrano
 Grievance & Arbitration
 Division


 Thomas Freeman, Jr.
 Assistant Director
 Maintenance Craft Division
 American Postal Workers
 Union, AFL-CIO