



JUN 1 1983

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

May 31, 1983

Mr. Gerald Anderson
Assistant Director
Clerk Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO
817 - 14th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3399

ARTICLE	7
SECTION	2
SUBJECT	
POUSHING	

Re: R. Matheson
GMF Boston, MA 02205
H1C-1E-C 10091

Dear Mr. Anderson:

On March 8, 1983, we met to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The matters presented by you as well as the applicable contractual provisions have been reviewed and given careful consideration.

The question in this grievance is whether or not management violated the 1981 National Agreement by allowing mail handler employees to "pouch off" on station racks in this local office. Distribution of mail to station racks is part of operation 181, and clerks are identified as the primary craft for this function.

It is the position of the Postal Service that while the clerk craft has primary responsibility for pouch distribution in Operation 181, application for the Mail Processing Work Assignment Guidelines (RI-399) may permit management to assign mail handlers to perform this function under certain conditions. The final decision must be based upon a thorough examination of the history and factual circumstances as they exist at the local level. Further, the parties are in receipt of Arbitrator Gamser's award in AD-NAT 1311, concerning the jurisdictional dispute.