ARTICLE 7
SECTION 2
R I 399

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
Labor Relations Department
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260-4100

RECEIVED

Mr. Cliff J. Guffey
Assistant Director
Clerk Craft Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO
1300 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-4107

APWU
CLERK DIV.

ARTICLE 7
SECTION 2
SUBJECT
OPERATION 185

Re: Class Action
Reading, PA 19603
H7C-2E-C 203

Dear Mr. Guffey:

On January 6, 1989, we met to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance is whether the work in the 185 operation is designated to the appropriate craft in accordance with Regional Instruction 399.

After reviewing this matter, we mutually agreed that no national interpretive issue is fairly presented in this case. During our discussion, we further agreed that the determining factor for craft jurisdiction is the purpose of the operation. The number of separations is not necessarily the determining factor on whether or not an operation is a distribution or separation. If the work being performed primarily distributes the mail at the opening unit for stations, branches, carrier units, AOs, etc., then the craft assigned should be clerks. In addition, the term "further processing" should not be construed as meaning that anytime further processing of the mail takes place in a facility, it automatically means that function is assigned to the mail handler craft.

Accordingly, we agreed to remand this case to the parties at Step 3 for further processing, including arbitration if necessary.

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