



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

ARTICLE 7
 SECTION 2
 R I 399

RECEIVED

141

APW	ARTICLE	7
CLERK Div	SECTION	2
	SUBJECT	OPERATION 185

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

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.