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

REC'D
MAR 7 1983
REGISTERED
SDM DIVISION

March 4, 1983

Mr. Mike Benner
Director, Special Delivery
Messenger Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO
817 - 14th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

ARTICLE	9
SECTION	
SUBJECT	
RATE PROTECTION	

Re: C. Noblett
Hickory, NC 28601
H1C-3P-C 12802

Dear Mr. Benner:

On February 23, 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 raised in this case is whether the grievant was improperly denied salary protection after bidding for and being reassigned to a lower level position.

Our review of the information provided established that the grievant was properly denied salary protection. The grievance file is documented to show that he was offered a position on the same tour, with the same non-scheduled days, and at the same salary level. He declined acceptance in writing. When a second position at the same level but on a different tour became available he did not bid, choosing instead to bid on a lower level assignment. Under the circumstances, we find the grievant's reduction in salary to have been voluntary. Accordingly, the grievance is denied.

Sincerely,

Margaret H. Oliver
Margaret H. Oliver
Labor Relations Department