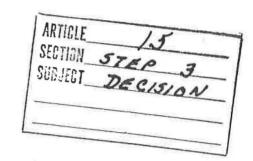


UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE Labor Relations Department 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, DC 20260-4100



Mr. Lawrence G. Hutchins Vice President National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO 100 Indiana Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20001-2197

DEC 7 1988

Re: Branch Midland, TX 79701 H4N-C 5S-46677

> Branch Midland, TX 79701 H4N-C 5S-47172

Dear Mr. Hutchins:

On November 4, 1988, a meeting was held with the Assistant Secretary Treasurer, Halline Overby, to discuss the above-captioned grievances at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

After reviewing this matter, we mutually agreed that no national interpretive issue is fairly presented in these cases. The cases were properly before a region arbitrator, in accordance with Article 15, 4.B. If management determines that a grievance is interpretive at the Step 3 level, it must affirmatively express as such in the decision letter.

Accordingly, we agreed to remand these cases 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 thes cases.