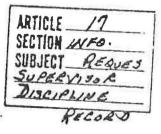


## UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, DC 20250

September 7, 1983

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



Re: K. Benner

Des Moines, IA 50900

H1C-4K-C 17971

Dear Mr. Wilson:

n July 26, 1983, we met to discuss the above-captioned case the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

This grievance concerns local management's refusal to furnish access to certain documents requested by the local union steward pursuant to Article 17. It is local management's position that the documents were not relevant.

We mutually agreed that it was not the intent of the parties, when negotiating Article 17, that local stewards engage in time-wasting fishing expeditions. Information requested must, indeed, be relevant to the pursuit of the grievance or problem being investigated. On the other hand, a union steward's efforts to establish an affirmative defense in a disciplinary case must not be taken lightly; particularly, if the requested information is for specific, current periods of time and readily retrievable from existing records.

Under the particular fact circumstances of this grievance, the steward may review the requested information pursuant to the terms of Article 17, Section 4.