



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

DEC 17 1987

American Postal Workers Union
AFL-CIO
James W. (Jim) Lingberg

1984 AGREEMENT
ARTICLE 19 SECTION _____
SUBJECT ELM

RETURN TO DUTY

Mr. Jim Lingberg
National Representative-at-Large
Maintenance Craft Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO
1300 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-4107

DEC 16 1987

Re: E. Watkins
North Suburban, IL 60199
E4C-4A-C 34162

E. Dandrea
North Suburban, IL 60199
E4C-4A-C 34163

Dear Mr. Lingberg:

On December 7, 1987, we met to discuss the above-captioned grievances at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in these grievances involves the review of medical certificates submitted by employees who returned to duty following extended absences due to illness.

After reviewing this matter, we mutually agreed that no national interpretive issue is at dispute between the parties.

We agreed to remand these cases to the parties at Step 3 for application of a previous Step 4 settlement, Case No. E1C-4T-C 24220, which stated:

"We mutually agreed to full settlement of this issue as follows:

1. To avoid undue delay in returning an employee to duty, the on-duty medical officer, contract physician, or nurse should review and make a decision based upon the presented medical information the same day it is submitted.

Normally the employees will be returned to work on his/her next workday provided adequate medical documentation is submitted within sufficient time for review.

2. The reasonableness of the Service in delaying an employee's return beyond his/her next workday shall be a proper subject for the grievance procedures on a case-by-case basis."

Accordingly, as agreed, these cases are remanded to Step 3 for further processing, including arbitration if necessary by the parties at that level.

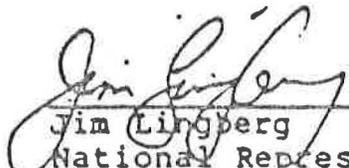
Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as your acknowledgment of agreement to remand these cases.

Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,



Samuel M. Pulcrano
Grievance & Arbitration
Division



Jim Lingberg
National Representative-at-Large
Maintenance Craft Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO