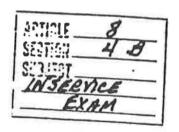


UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'Entant Piaza, SW Washington, DC 20260

JAN 24 1984

Mr. Thomas Freeman, Jr.
Assistant Director
Maintenance Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO
817 14th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3399



Re: J. Edwards

St. Paul BMC, MN 55200

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H1C-4C-C 20961

Dear Mr. Freeman:

On December 6, 1983, we met to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The grievance concerns whether the grievant, a BMC Data Conversion Operator, can be required to pass the O/N 440 clerk examination in order to be eligible to apply for distribution clerk positions. The union also protests the fact that the grievant was required to use annual leave to take the test.

It is the position of the Postal Service that employees applying for distribution clerk assignments must have taken and passed the O/N 440 examination. However, the in-service examination will be conducted on a no loss, no gain basis.

Accordingly, the grievance is denied to the extent that it concerns the propriety of the clerk examination.

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Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Pugene

Labor Relations Department