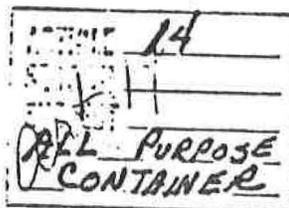




UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

December 2, 1982

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



Re: Class Action
Oklahoma City, OK 73125
H1C-3T-C-8075

Dear Mr. Anderson:

On November 5, 1982, 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 in this grievance is whether or not management violates Article 14 of the National Agreement as it relates to the safety of employees required to handle general purpose containers. The union states that the metal cages are too high for one person to push and that they are loaded in a very unsafe manner. The local union asks that the Postal Service stop using the GPC's before someone is seriously hurt.

It is the position of the Postal Service that the General Purpose Mail Container (GPWC) is designed to replace the various items of rolling stock used to transport mail within and between postal facilities. Its primary function is to reduce the number of mail handlings, accelerate truck loading and unloading, reduce truck turnaround time at docks and increase vehicle cube utilization. It enables work to be done faster, safer, and with less damage to the mails in our opinion.