CBR 82-8 Addendum No. 16
12/2/82

File Under: Article 17.3

17
INTERVIEW
NON POSTAL

Mr. Halline Overby
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
National Association of Letter
Carriers, AFL-CIO
100 Indiana Avenue, N. W.

RE: Branch
Carlsbad, CA. 92008
HIN-5K-C 3355

Dear Mr. Overby:

On several occasions, the most recent being July 27, 1982, we met with you 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 issue raised in this grievance involves management's denial of a steward's request to leave the work area while on-the-clock to interview a non-postal witness.

As final settlement in all matters relating to this dispute, the parties at the national level agree to the following resolution:

> In accordance with Article 17 of the National Agreement, a steward's request to leave his/her work area to investigate a grievance, shall not be unreasonably denied. Subsequent to determining that a non-postal witness possesses relevant information and/or knowledge directly related to the instant dispute under investigation, a steward may be allowed a reasonable amount of time on-the-clock, to interview such witness, even if the interview is conducted away from the postal facility. However, each request to interview witnesses off postal premises must be reasonable and viewed on a case by case basis. For example, it is not unreasonable for a supervisor and/or steward to telephone the prospective witness to ascertain availability and willingness to be interviewed and, if willing, to establish a convenient time and locale.

Please sign the attached copy of this decision as your knowledge of agreement to resolve this case.

Time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,

/s/
Harold R. Carter
Labor Relations Department

/s/
Halline Overby
Assistant Secretary Treasurer
National Association of Letter
Carriers, AFL-CIO

JOHN P. RICHARDS, DIRECTOR, INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, AFL-CIO