



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

AUG 4 1981

ARTICLE	17
SECTION	
SUBJECT	
RELEASE	
COPY OF INFORM	

Mr. Gerald Anderson  
Executive Aide, Clerk Craft  
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO  
817 - 14th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Class Action  
Valdosta, GA 31601  
H8C-3D-C-21690

Dear Mr. Anderson:

On July 7, 1981, we met with your representative to discuss the above-captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The matters presented 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 XVII of the National Agreement with regard to how much time is to be allotted for investigating and processing a grievance.

Stewards are entitled to reasonable investigative time on-the-clock for handling grievances and such investigative time could conceivably include the mechanics of copying, logging or converting of information from original documents to graphs, forms, notes, etc.

The problem here appears to be one of application rather than interpretation. We cannot determine at this level whether the amount of time for investigation requested by the steward was unreasonable nor can we determine whether the time allotted by local management was unreasonable.

If you agree with the above, we can remand this case back to Step 3 for final disposition at that level.