JAN 31 1977

Mr. Alfred K. May Assistant Secretary-Treasurer National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO 100 Indiana Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001

Re: G. Abernathy
Euless, TX
NC-S-4362/N5-SW-8220

Dear Mr. May:

On January 17, 1977, we met with you to discuss the abovecaptioned 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.

Since eight (8) of twenty-five (25) carriers were out, management only had seventeen (17) carriers to cover seventeen (17) routes. Consequently, some juggling was necessary to cover all routes. To this extent "unanticipated circumstances" existed in accordance with Article XLI, Section 2.D of the National Agreement.

However, it is agreed that an employee need only be "qualified" to carry a route. The T-6 carrier will not be moved off his string solely because he is "better qualified" to carry a particular route. With this clarification, the instant grievance case is considered to be resolved.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

Robert B. Hubbell Labor Relations Department