



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
 Labor Relations Department
 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
 Washington, DC 20260-4100

SEP 13 1988

Mr. Lawrence G. Hutchins
 Vice President
 National Association of
 Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO
 100 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
 Washington, DC 20001-2197


Dear Mr. Hutchins:

We recently held prearbitration discussions involving case no. W4N-5C-C 41287.


During our discussion we agreed that the provisions of Article 17.4 do not apply to the facts of this case. In addition, we agreed that where a letter carrier who is also a steward is working overtime and a representation situation arises, a steward's request to perform the function of a steward will not be denied solely because the steward is in an overtime status.

Notwithstanding this principle, the facts in this case are unclear. Accordingly, we agreed to remand this case to the regional level for further processing, including arbitration if necessary consistent with the above understanding.

Sincerely,


 William J. Downes
 Director, Office of
 Contract Administration

DATE 9-8-88


 Lawrence G. Hutchins
 Vice President
 National Association of
 Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO

DATE 9/13/88