


MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AND
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS, AFL-CIO

This Memorandum of Understanding represents the parties consensus on clarification of interpretation and issues pending national arbitration regarding letter carrier overtime as set forth herein. In many places in the country there has been continued misunderstanding of the provisions of Article 8 of the National Agreement; particularly as it relates to the proper assignment of overtime to letter carriers. It appears as if some representatives of both labor and management do not understand what types of overtime scheduling situations would constitute contract violations and which situations would not. This Memorandum is designed to eliminate these misunderstandings.

1. If a carrier is not on the Overtime Desired List (ODL) or has not signed up for Work Assignment overtime, management must not assign overtime to that carrier without first fulfilling the obligation outlined in the "letter carrier paragraph" of the Article 8 Memorandum. The Article 8 Memorandum provides that ". . . where management determines that overtime or auxiliary assistance is needed on an employee's route on one of the employee's regularly scheduled days and the employee is not on the overtime desired list, the employer will seek to utilize auxiliary assistance, when available, rather than requiring the employee to work mandatory overtime." Such assistance includes utilizing someone from the ODL when someone from the ODL is available.
2. The determination of whether management must use a carrier from the ODL to provide auxiliary assistance under the letter carrier paragraph must be made on the basis of the rule of reason. For example, it is reasonable to require a letter carrier on the ODL to travel for five minutes in order to provide one hour of auxiliary assistance. Therefore, in such a case, management must use the letter carrier on the ODL to provide auxiliary assistance. However, it would not be reasonable to require a letter carrier on the ODL to travel 20 minutes to provide one hour of auxiliary assistance. Accordingly, in that case, management is not required to use the letter carrier on the ODL to provide auxiliary assistance under the letter carrier paragraph.
3. It is agreed that the letter carrier paragraph does not require management to use a letter carrier on the ODL to provide auxiliary assistance if that letter carrier would be in penalty overtime status.


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4. It is further agreed that the agreement dated July 12, 1976, signed by Assistant Postmaster General James C. Gildea and NALC President James H. Rademacher, is not in effect. In cases where management violates the letter carrier paragraph by failing to utilize an available letter carrier on the ODL to provide auxiliary assistance, the letter carrier on the ODL will receive as a remedy compensation for the lost work opportunity at the overtime rate.
5. There is normally no monetary remedy for a carrier improperly required to work overtime on his own route. However, on a one-time, nonprecedential basis, the Postal Service will pay \$7 for each hour of overtime worked to each carrier who has a timely grievance pending at Step 2 or 3 as of the date of this agreement. In order to recover, the grievant must establish that he/she was not on the ODL or work assignment list and was required to work overtime in violation of the principles set forth above.


 Joseph J. Mahon, Jr.
 Assistant Postmaster General
 Labor Relations Department

DATE

12/16/88


 Vincent R. Sombrotto
 President
 National Association of Letter
 Carriers, AFL-CIO

DATE

12/20/88