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DIRECTOR, CITY DELIVERY

June 22, 1976

*cc. Dan Jordan*

✓ Mr. Stewart Filbey, President  
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO  
817 14th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Mr. Lester F. Miller, President  
National Rural Letter Carriers' Association  
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Suite 1204  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Mr. Lonnie L. Johnson, National Director  
Mail Handler Division, L.I.U.N.A.  
905 16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Mr. James C. Gildea  
Assistant Postmaster General  
U.S. Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20260

Gentlemen:

I am writing in response to Mr. Johnson's letter dated May 7, 1976 concerning the continuing work of the Committee on Jurisdiction.

As I have previously indicated (see my letter dated January 30, 1976), this Union considers the next step in the work of the Committee on Jurisdiction to be the identification of existing jurisdictional disputes between or among the parties, based on analysis of the statements of claimed jurisdiction submitted to the Committee by the unions in December.

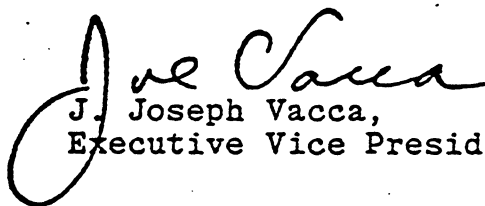
Since the Postal Service has not seen fit to provide the Committee with any description of what it understand the existing craft jurisdictions to be, and since I have received only one affirmative union response to my January 30 letter, it is

JUN 23 1976

my opinion that the next step in the Committee's work now rests with any union wishing to invoke the Committee's processes to resolve a perceived dispute. To that end, we have begun the task of identifying, from the jurisdictional claims submitted, all the areas in which the NALC's claim overlaps a claim made by another union. When that process has been completed, we intend to identify each such overlapping claim as a "dispute" within the meaning of the Memorandum of Understanding by which the Committee on Jurisdiction was created, and to invoke the processes created by that Memorandum to resolve those "disputes."

In this regard, I do not read the Memorandum as Mr. Johnson's May 7, 1976 letter suggests the Mailhandlers' Union does. Specifically, I believe the Memorandum clearly contemplates that the parties have 180 days to resolve disputes after they have been identified, before arbitration may be invoked. I do not believe that time period begins to run until such time as a party identifies a work area as being in dispute, and I do not believe the Committee's January 19, 1976 meeting can fairly be characterized as identifying any such disputes.

Sincerely,

  
J. Joseph Vacca,  
Executive Vice President

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