

Award No. 1649
Docket No. 1549
2-GC&SF-CM-'53

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
SECOND DIVISION

The Second Division consisted of the regular members and in addition Referee Edward F. Carter when award was rendered.

PARTIES TO DISPUTE:

SYSTEM FEDERATION NO. 97, RAILWAY EMPLOYEES'
DEPARTMENT, A. F. of L. (Carmen)

GULF, COLORADO AND SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY

DISPUTE: CLAIM OF EMPLOYEES: 1. That under the current agreement Carman A. M. Hodges and Carmen Helpers M. M. Ham, E. W. Rutledge and C. H. Helton were improperly assigned to a work week Wednesday through Sunday with rest days of Monday and Tuesday.

2. That accordingly the Carrier be ordered to:

- a) Assign these employes to a proper work week of Monday through Friday with rest days of Saturday and Sunday.
- b) Make these employes whole by compensating them additionally at the applicable overtime rates instead of straight time for service which they were assigned to perform on each Saturday and each Sunday, retroactive 60 days from October 7, 1950.
- c) Make these employes whole by compensating them additionally in the amount of eight (8) hours at the applicable rate of pay for each Monday and each Tuesday retroactive 60 days from October 7, 1950 because they were laid off to equalize the time due to the assignment to work their proper rest days.

EMPLOYEES' STATEMENT OF FACTS: Prior to September 1, 1949, Carman A. M. Hodges and Carmen Helpers M. M. Ham, E. W. Rutledge and C. H. Helton, hereinafter referred to as the claimants, worked regularly an assignment of six days per week, Monday through Saturday, first shift hours 7:00 A. M. to 12:00 Noon and 1:00 P. M. to 4:00 P. M. on the car department repair track at Brownwood, Texas.

On or subsequent to September 1, 1949, these claimants were arbitrarily assigned by the carrier to positions as car repairer and helpers on the first and only shift 7:00 A. M. to 12:00 Noon and 1:00 P. M. to 4:00 P. M., Wednesday through Sunday with rest days of Monday and Tuesday at Brownwood, Texas.

There is no assignment of carmen (car repairers) and helpers on either the second or third shift at Brownwood car repair department, relief or otherwise.

(3) That the letter of October 6, 1950, signed by Mr. J. P. Morris, general manager, mechanical department is controlling:

A careful reading of the letter-understanding dated October 6, 1950, clearly indicates that it applied only to staggering car repair forces on a Monday-Friday and Tuesday-Saturday basis, and that it had no application whatsoever to the staggering of car repair forces in seven-day service as contemplated by the provisions of Rule 1, paragraph (h) of the supplemental agreement dated May 13, 1949, which reads:

“(h) On positions which have been filled seven days per week any two consecutive days may be the rest days with the presumption in favor of Saturday and Sunday.”

The employees have not at any time in their handling of this dispute on the carrier's property submitted any argument or evidence to show that the carrier had no operational need for Saturday and Sunday service at Brownwood. They have simply denied that such need existed without offering any evidence or argument in support of that denial. They have merely taken the position that the staggering of work weeks of car repair forces engaged in running repair work was a violation of the “Forty Hour Work Week Agreement” and the letter-understanding dated October 6, 1950, which by their actions had been repudiated.

(4) That the assignment should be Monday through Friday.

The carrier's position in this respect is the same as that set forth in similar claims now on file, or in the process of being prepared for filing, with the Board and is fully explained in the carrier's submission in the case covering an identical claim from Fort Worth, Texas, involving Carman D. R. Sanders and Carman Helper H. P. Cox, Docket No. 1540. What was said in that case applies with equal force and effect to this case and the carrier will not attempt to burden the Board with a repetition.

FINDINGS: The Second Division of the Adjustment Board, upon the whole record and all the evidence, finds that:

The carrier or carriers and the employee or employees involved in this dispute are respectively carrier and employee within the meaning of the Railway Labor Act as approved June 21, 1934.

This Division of the Adjustment Board has jurisdiction over the dispute involved herein.

The parties to said dispute were given due notice of hearing thereon.

Claimants were assigned on or about September 1, 1949, to positions at Brownwood, Texas, of car repairer and helpers Wednesday through Sunday with rest days of Monday and Tuesday. They contend they should have been assigned Monday through Friday with rest days of Saturday and Sunday. Claim is made for wage losses sustained because of the alleged improper assignment.

The controlling rules are the same as those involved in Award 1644, and the interpretations there made are incorporated herein by reference. The burden is upon the employees to show that the carrier misapplied the agreement in establishing seven-day positions at Brownwood for the employees assigned to the work of making running repairs on cars coming into that point. This they have failed to do by the greater weight of the evidence. The result is therefore controlled by the reasoning of Award 1644, and a denial award is in order.

AWARD

Claim denied.

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
By Order of Second Division

ATTEST: Harry J. Sassaman
Executive Secretary

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 19th day of March, 1953.

LABOR MEMBERS' DISSENT TO AWARDS Nos. 1644 to 1655, inclusive.

Prior to September 1, 1949, the "regular bulletined hours" for car department repair track forces were Monday through Saturday (six days a week) in conformity with Rule 2 of the Agreement effective August 1, 1945. The "regular bulletined hours" of these forces did not include Holidays.

The agreement as amended September 1, 1949 did not change the "regular bulletined hours" of the repair track forces and did not authorize the inclusion of Sundays or Holidays in the weekly five days assignment of these forces. (See Second Division Awards 1432, 1443, 1444).

The Letter Agreement of October 6, 1950 constitutes a mutual settlement of the dispute regarding staggered work weeks for repair track forces. Since the instant repair track force is not employed at one of the points where a staggered work week is authorized, the majority erroneously excluded such point from the application of the aforementioned Letter Agreement. The claims should have been sustained retroactive to and including October 16, 1950.

Edward W. Wiesner

R. W. Blake

A. C. Bowen

T. E. Losey

George Wright