NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD

THIRD DIVISION

Award Number 22226

Docket Number MW-22265

Nathan Lipson, Referee

(Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes

PARTIES TO DISPUTE: (

(The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company

((Southern Region)

STATEMENT OF **CLAIM**: "Claim of the System **Committee** of the Brotherhood that:

- (1) The dismissal of **Trackman** Robert L. Jacobs because of absences from duty on November 22, December 3 and 8, 1976 was without just and sufficient cause and extremely disproportionate to the offense with which charged /System File MG-1774/C(So)-D-397/.
- (2) The claimant shall be restored to service with seniority, vacation and all other rights unimpaired and he shall be paid for all time lost as a consequence of the aforesaid dismissal."

OPINION OF BOARD: The operative facts in this case are not in dispute. Claimant was admittedly absent from duty without permission on the three (3) cited dates. Claimant had previously been assessed a fifteen (15) day suspension for unauthorized absence. The stated situation which existed in Award No. 14601 of this Division is identical to what we find here. There we found that:

* * The **gravamen** of the claim rests on the premise that the discipline assessed is excessive and too **severe.** There are no allegations of procedural defects nor any denial of Claimant's guilt."

Given this factual situation and in view of our limited function as an appellate forum in which we **may not** substitute our judgment for that of the Carrier where the finding of guilty as charged is supported by substantial evidence, we **must** conclude in this instance that there is **no** justification to **overturn** the discipline as assessed.

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

That the parties waived oral hearing;

That the Carrier **and** the **Employes** involved in this dispute are respectively Carrier and **Employes** within the meaning of the Railway **Labor** Act, as approved June 21, 1934;

That this Division of the Adjustment Board has jurisdiction over the dispute **involved** herein; and

That the Agreement was not violated.

<u>A W A R D</u>

Claim denied.

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
By Order of Third Division

ATTEST: U. W. Paules

Executive-Secretary

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 15th day of November 1978.

