

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD

THIRD DIVISION

Award Number 24726  
Docket Number MS-24665

George V. Boyle, Referee

(Juanita W. Byrd  
PARTIES TO DISPUTE: (Southern Pacific Transportation Company

STATEMENT OF CLAIM: "This is to **serve** notice, as required by the rules of the National Railroad Adjustment Board, of my intention to file an **ex parte** submission on June 4, 1982 covering an unadjusted dispute between me and Southern Pacific Transportation Company involving the question:

Why was I not allowed under clerks agreement to bump a junior dispatcher clerk, San Antonio District, Houston, Texas, after being displaced by senior employee, who voluntarily left his job as head clerk, P.A.D. Position?"

OPINION OF BOARD: Claimant served notice as required by rules of the National Railroad Adjustment Board, of intent to file an **ex parte** submission relative to a dispute between herself and Carrier. The Carrier filed a submission for consideration by the Board and they argue that this Board lacks jurisdiction to adjudicate the claim since it was not handled on the property in accordance with agreed-upon procedures established under Rule 26 of the current Agreement and as required by the Railway Labor Act.

The relevant portion of Section 2, First and Second of the Act states:

"It shall be the duty of all Carriers, their officers, agents, and employees to exert every reasonable effort . . . to settle all disputes . . ." 45 U.S.C. 5152, First.

"~~All~~ disputes between a carrier or carriers and its or their employees shall be considered, and, if possible, decided, with all expedition, in conference between representatives designated and authorized so to confer, respectively, by the Carrier or carriers and by the employees thereof interested in the dispute." 45 U.S.C. ~~§152~~, Second.

Section 3, First (i) of the Act mandates that all disputes between an **employee** and a carrier, "... be handled in the usual manner up to and including the chief operating officer of the carrier designated to handle such disputes . . ." 45 U.S.C. ~~§153~~, First (i). Section 301.2 (b) of the Rules of Organization and Procedure issued by the National Railroad Adjustment Board as Circular No. 1, October 10, 1934, states:

"(b) No petition shall be considered by any division of the Board unless the subject matter has been handled in accordance with the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, approved June 21, 1934."  
(Emphasis added)

The record before us clearly demonstrates that Claimant failed to bring her claim through the various levels of appeal on the property up to the highest designated Carrier officer. The claim was not **conferenced** with Carrier representatives as required by the Railway Labor Act. This Board lacks jurisdiction to consider the merits of any dispute unless it has been handled in accordance with the above cited sections of the Railway Labor Act and Circular No. 1. Third Division Award No. 19790 (Brent). Thus, we must dismiss the claim.

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 Employees involved in this dispute are respectively Carrier and Employees 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

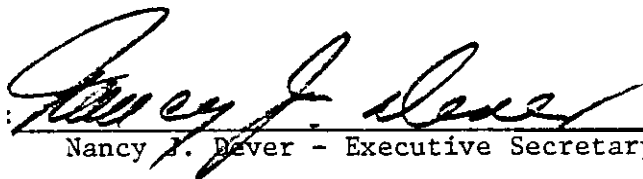
That the claim is barred.

A W A R D

Claim dismissed.

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD  
By Order of Third Division

ATTEST:

  
Nancy J. Dever - Executive Secretary

150 27 1301

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 30th day of March, 1984.