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**NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
THIRD DIVISION**

Award No. 37254
Docket No. SG-38106
04-3-03-3-534

The Third Division consisted of the regular members and in addition Referee Francis X. Quinn when award was rendered.

PARTIES TO DISPUTE: (Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen
(The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company)

STATEMENT OF CLAIM:

“Claim on behalf of the General Committee of the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen on the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF):

Claim on behalf of J. R. Skorpak for reinstatement and payment of all time lost and benefits, and for all reference to this matter be removed from his personal record, account Carrier violated the current Signalmen's Agreement, particularly Rule 54, when it failed to provide the Claimant with a fair and impartial investigation and imposed harsh and excessive discipline of dismissal on the Claimant in connection with an investigation conducted at 9:00 a.m., on September 18, 2002, in the Claimant's absence. Carrier's File No. 35 03 0011. General Chairman's File No. 02-116-BNSF-154-TC. BRS File Case No. 12729-BNSF.”

FINDINGS:

The Third 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.

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

Parties to said dispute were given due notice of hearing thereon.

The record indicates that the Carrier issued explicit instructions via telephone to the Claimant on August 28, 2002, regarding medical forms required to extend a leave of absence. A certified letter repeated these instructions. The Claimant made no attempt to provide the requested information and failed to return to work when his leave of absence expired. The Claimant was properly dismissed.

AWARD

Claim denied.

ORDER

This Board, after consideration of the dispute identified above, hereby orders that an Award favorable to the Claimant(s) not be made.

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
By Order of Third Division

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 27th day of October 2004.