



Award No. 18564

Docket No. TD-18870

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD

THIRD DIVISION

David Dolnick, Referee

PARTIES TO DISPUTE:

AMERICAN TRAIN DISPATCHERS ASSOCIATION

ST. LOUIS-SAN FRANCISCO RAILWAY COMPANY

STATEMENT OF CLAIM: Claim of the American Train Dispatchers Association that:

(a) The St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company (hereinafter "the Carrier") violated the effective Agreement between the parties, Article 1 thereof in particular, when on June 3, 1969 it required and/or permitted other than those covered thereby, to perform work covered by said Agreement.

(b) Carrier shall now compensate Train Dispatcher L. L. Chronister one day's compensation at time and one-half the daily rate applicable to Assistant Chief Dispatcher for said violation on the rest day of Claimant.

EMPLOYEES' STATEMENT OF FACTS: There is an Agreement between the parties, copy of which is on file with this Board, and the same is incorporated into this Ex Parte Submission as though fully set out herein.

Article I — Scope is identical in the agreement effective September 1, 1949, revised as of January 1, 1953 and again revised effective October 1, 1965, insofar as the rules material to this dispute are concerned.

For the Board's ready reference, Article I, Scope, of the Agreement is here quoted in full text:

"ARTICLE I

(a) SCOPE

This agreement shall govern the hours of service and working conditions of train dispatchers. The term 'train dispatcher' as hereinafter used, shall include night chief, assistant chief, trick, relief and extra train dispatchers. It is agreed that one chief dispatcher in each dispatching office shall be excepted from the scope and provisions of this agreement.

Note (1): Positions of excepted chief dispatcher will be filled by employees holding seniority under this agreement.

CLAIM 38

This claim was presented on the following reported Statement of Facts:

At 9:10 A.M., June 17, 1969, Mr. C. E. Hurt, Trainmaster, Quanah, Texas, instructed train No. 31 at Snyder, Oklahoma to bring what he has handy to Quanah. If possible bring 10 mty covered hoppers and 2 mty box.

No. 31 did as instructed.

The various reasons given for the declination of this claim are set forth in the Carrier's letter November 19, 1969, copy attached as Carrier's Exhibit No. 38. The trainmaster who is alleged to have committed the violations in Claims 37 and 38 is one of the division officers who, as such, has responsible control over the operation of a division, or a terminal, or of a major activity within an operating division, and when acting in the discharge of his duties and responsibilities, it is not mandatory that a division trainmaster exercise such responsible control only through employees of the train dispatchers' class, nor do the Rules of the Train Dispatchers' Agreement place such a hindrance or limitation upon him.

(Exhibits not reproduced.)

OPINION OF BOARD: Employees allege that on June 3, 1969 a Trainmaster issued the following message of instructions to the Conductor and Engineer of Train No. 36:

"C & E No. 36 — Quanah

Fill on wheat at Eldorado, Creta, Oulstee, Headrick and Snyder.

C. E. H."

Although the Carrier alleges that it has no confirmation of the above message, we shall, for the purpose of discussing the substantive issue, assume that the message was sent and that the train crew did comply with order.

The record shows that the equipment was already at the respective designations. And more important, the train dispatcher knew and had a copy of the message at Quanah. On a copy in his hand writing the train dispatcher wrote:

"This message was read to me when I cleared No. 36 at Quanah on June 3, 1969."

Under these circumstances, it must be concluded that the message was neither a distribution of equipment nor a handling of the train. The movement of the train was actually under the control of the train dispatcher. Rule 1 — Scope — was not violated.

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.

AWARD

Claim denied.

NATIONAL RAILROAD ADJUSTMENT BOARD
By Order of THIRD DIVISION

ATTEST: E. A. Killeen
Executive Secretary

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, this 13th day of May 1971.