Public Law Board No. 3794

PARTIES TO DISPUTE: Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees

and

Seaboard System Railroad

STATEMENT OF CLAIM: Appeal from dismissal of Trackman G. Signal, Jr. and claim for reinstatement with seniority and all other rights unimpaired and pay for wage loss suffered.

FINDINGS:

Claimant, a trackman with five years service, was dismissed on October 19, 1983 after having pleaded guilty and been found guilty of sale of marijuana. His sentence of two years was reduced by the Hartnett County, North Carolina Superior Court to two years supervised probation.

The responsibility for entering a guilty plea to a felony charge rests with claimant. There is no indication that Carrier officials influenced his decision in that regard. The sale of marijuana is a serious offense that reflects on the degree of judgment and balance that a railroad has every right to expect of an employee. A valid basis exists for Carrier's decision to dismiss claimant.

· We are unimpressed by Petitioner's contention that

charges were not mailed to claimant within the prescribed ten-day period. There is testimony in the record that they were mailed on the tenth day. Moreover, there is no dispute regarding claimant's guilty plea and conviction; no prejudicial error on Carrier's part is established by the record.

AWARD:

Claim denied.

Adopted at Jacksonville, Florida, May 30, 1985.

Harold M. Weston, Chairman

Carrier Member

Employee Member