

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 1997

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Docket No. R97-1

**RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE  
(OCA/USPS-7(f) and (g))**

The United States Postal Service hereby files its responses to the following interrogatories filed by the Office of the Consumer Advocate on July 16, 1997:  
OCA/USPS-7(f) and (g).

The interrogatories are stated verbatim and are followed by the responses.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.  
Chief Counsel, Ratemaking



Michael T. Tidwell

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July 30, 1997

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORIES OF  
THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

OCA/USPS-7.

In reference to the Washington Post article on June 30, 1997, by Bill McAllister, page 11:

- f. Please provide a transcript or other recitation or summary of the remarks of *Deputy Postmaster General Coughlin to a meeting in May and/or June 1997* of commercial mailers.
  
- g. Please provide a copy of the 1872 report of the Postmaster General referenced by Mr. Michael Riley, Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice-President, which notes the drastically reduced postal rates from 25 to 3 cents together with certain management efforts successfully met competition from new technology of the time, the telegraph.

RESPONSE:

- f. A review of the prepared remarks delivered by Mr. Coughlin at the Direct Marketing Association Government Affairs Conference on May 13, 1997, in Washington, DC, and the Catalog Age Conference on June 18, 1997, in San Francisco, reveals that both pertained generally to postal reform legislation. *Copies may be examined through arrangements with Postal Service counsel, Michael Tidwell.* No summaries or recitations of any extemporaneous remarks are available.
  
- g. All annual reports issued by the Postmaster General since 1851, including the 278-page 1872 report, are available for inspection at the USPS Headquarters Library during regular business hours.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with section 12 of the Rules of Practice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael T. Tidwell", written over a horizontal line.

Michael T. Tidwell

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July 30, 1997