



NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20572

December 5, 2003

(202) 692-5000

**VIA FACSIMILE & U.S. MAIL**

Mr. Duane E. Woerth  
President  
Air Line Pilots Association, International  
1625 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036

Mr. John Spanjers  
President and Chief Operating Officer  
Mesaba Airlines  
7501 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue, South  
Minneapolis, MN 55450

**Re: NMB Case No. A-13219**  
**Mesaba Airlines & ALPA**

Gentlemen:

On June 18, 2002, Mesaba Airlines and the Air Line Pilots Association, by its duly authorized representatives, made an application in accordance with the provisions of the Railway Labor Act for the services of the National Mediation Board in the following dispute:

"Rates of pay, hours of service and working conditions.  
Changes in rates of pay, hours of service, working  
conditions and benefits."

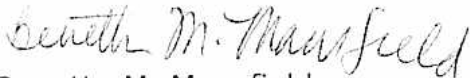
The Mediators report that despite their best efforts to bring about an amicable settlement through mediation the parties have failed to reach agreement disposing of the above-described dispute.

In accordance with Section 5, First, of the Railway Labor Act, the National Mediation Board therefore now requests and urges that you enter into an agreement to submit the controversy to arbitration as provided in Section 8 of the Act.

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Your written reply is requested at your earliest convenience. In the absence of prompt, unconditional acceptance or rejection of the proffer, the Board reserves the right to reevaluate the circumstances surrounding the proffer and the potential benefits of further mediation.

Sincerely,



Benetta M. Mansfield  
Chief of Staff

BMM/ew

cc: Bruce York, Director, Representation, ALPA  
Jane Schraft, Staff Attorney, ALPA  
Marilyn Pearson, Esq., Mesaba  
Ronald Natalie, Esq., Mesaba  
NMB Board Members  
Larry Gibbons, Deputy Chief of Staff, Mediation, NMB  
Patricia Sims, Senior Mediator, NMB  
Richard Frey, Mediator  
Terri Brown, Mediator