Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM 1970

In the Matter of:

MAGNESEUM CASTING COMPANY,

Petitioner,

vs.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD,
Respondent.

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Supreme Court, U. S.

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Docket No. 370

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SUPREME COURT, U.S.
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Place Washington, D. C.

Date January 19, 1971

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Petitioner

Respondent

OCTOBER TERM, 1970

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: No. 370

Washington, D.C.

Tuesday, January 19, 1971

The above entitled matter came on for argument at 10:00 o'cloak, a;m.

BEFORE:

MAGNESIUM CASTING COMPANY,

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

WARREN E. BURGER, Chief Justice
HUGO L. BLACK, Associate Justice
WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS, Associate Justice
JOHN M. HARLAN, Associate Justice
WILLIAM J. BRENNAN, JR., Associate Justice
POTTER STEWART, Associate Justice
THURGOOD MARSHALL, Associate Justice
BYRON, R. WHITE, Associate Justice
HENRY BLACKMUN, Associate Justice

100	APPEARANCES:	
2	LOUIS CHANDLER, ESQ.	
3	Boston, Massachusetts On behalf of Petitioner	
4		
5	NORTON J. COME, ESQ.	
6	Assistant General Coundel National Labor Relations	
7	Washington, D,C, On behalf of Respondent	
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PROCEEDINGS

(Resumed)

MR. CHIEF JUSCICE BURGER: We'll resume arguments in No. 370, Magnisuin Casting Company against the National Labor Relations Board.Mr. Chandler, I think you were still at work when we---

CONTUNUATION OF ARGUMENT BY

LOUIS CHANDLER, ESQ.

ON BEHALF OF PETITIONER

MR. LOUIS CHANDLER: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it please the Court.

White, I would like to quote Judge Kaufman in the Pepsi Cola decision as to the requirements of the Courts consideration of the record and the Boards findings under Section 10.

He states in an unfair practice proceeding: "The Board cannot completely abdicate its responsibility to a a regional director, a functionary whose appointment is not even subject to consideration by the Senate, as are those of Board members. Moreover, the Boards experience is particularly relevant and desirable in deciding complex issues relating to the appropriate bargaining unit before the petent sanctions arising from the finding of an unfair labor practice are invoked. There the choice is between two fairly conflicting views the Court must defer to the Boards decision, but here the Board has not actual-

ly considered the questions of fact and law; the Board has merely rubber stamped its decision and thus the Regional Directs decision was perpetuated even though it may have been in fact wrong, and we, too, would be blindly endorsing the questionable result. Such defference to the Regional Director was not intended by Congress.

It decided that the Board itself must rule whether the litigant has committed an unfair labor practice, we see no basis for thus mutilating the legislative scheme."

And Judge Butzer, in Clement White, said, in a case which also involved the use of summary judgement, that the use of summary judgement in deciding whether an employer had committed an unfair labor practice does not exempt the Board from complying with the Administrative Procedure Act. And the Boards earlier consideration of the companies request for review of the Regional Directors decision does not supply the deficiency for then the Board, as in the Magnesium case, simply denied the request with the, and that was my interpolation, simply denied the request with the observation that it raised no substantial issues, warranting review.

The Board is charged with the duty of stating the reasons why the Board concluded thattthe facts showed a violation of law, no statutory exception to this rule exists because critical elements of the contriversy were determined preliminarily by the Regional Director in the representation procedings,

8 the Board, not the Regional Director, has the responsibility of 2 deciding complaints of unfair labor practices. 3 HOw much of your case, Mr. Chandler, depends upon theexamination by this Court of your newly discovered ev-4 3 idence claimed in its context? 6 A I think a substantial portion of it would because the Regional Director based his decision substantially on the 7 8 evidence testimony given by the witness who subsequently stated, admitted---Would you agree that it would ordinarily take 10 a very strong showing on an issue of that kind which is pro-11 tection of the newly discovered evidence claim to engage the 12 attention of this Court? 13 I think the fact that he admitted that he had 14 witheld information at the hearing before the Regional Director 15 would be that kind of strong evidence. 16 Now Judge Kaufman---17 Q Mr. Chandler, if we bring you back to the quest-18 ion I asked as we closed last night, I didn't sense an answer 19 to it in the material that you read at length just now. Is it 20 your position that when the Board does not formally review the 21 Regional Directors determination that review is forever lost? 22 In the Court of Appeals, for example? 23 Yes, in this sense, Mr. Justice Blackmunm the re-24

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view must, under Section 10E as it reads, and as I interpret it,

include a review of the poard findings as well as making a determination based upon substantial evidence on the record, and the Board findings are set forth as required in Section 10 C, requiring a preponderance of evidence that be used by the Board in making its determination so that they must be read together.

And in an analysis by the Bureau of National Affairs, made of the Administrative Prodedure Act, in 1946, they have a specific reference to the exceptions to the APA, under a comment in Section 5 which talks about the division of powers between the functionaries like the Regional Director and the Board members, even on the exceptions.

And one exception, if you recall, was that relating to the certification of employee representatives, and in the analysis the BNA says, with respect to the excepted matters, the Senate Judiciary Committee emphasizes that administrative agencies should not apply the exemption to such cases as tend to be accusatory in form, and involve sharply controverted factual issues, since the preserabed exceptions are not to be interpreted as precluding the statutory procedure under APA, where it is required.

And I submit, sir, that Congress did not intend the delays inherent in the Boards refusal independently to review the evidence in an unfair labor practice case, so the parties would feel compelled to take the cases to a circuit court, to secure their first review of all the evidence presented at the

Regional Director level on a substantial rather than a prepon-9 derance of evidence test, as the statute provides. 2 My question, I come back to it, is directed to 3 whether the issue is reviewable in the Court of Appeals. 4 Not on a basis that the law provided for. Con-5 gress provided that a preponderance of evidence test could be 6 applied by the Board, that's in Section 10 C. 7 The Court reviews it on the basis of substantial 8 evidence, and they're not reviewing the Boards finding, so that 9 the parties, I submit, are being deprived of their rights under 10 the Act, and also, of course, under the provisions of the An-11 ministrative Act. 12 And Judge Kaufman, in relying ---13 Apparently, though, you agree that the Court of 94 Appeals will review the Regional Directors determination in 15 terms of the substantial evidence test? 16 Yes, I agree withthat. I believe that ---17 Because the Court did expressly that in this 18 case. 19 Expressly, and this is what I quarrel with, be-20 cuase when Judge Kaufman states that a difficult question was 21 involved and that he was relying on the expertise of the Re-22 gional Director, which is set forth in Record Appendix page 23

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205, and states at the last page of his decision that perhaps

the Board ruled that it had determined in its own mind that it

was not a fifficult question, I don't believe that parties should have to rely on a judges speculation as to the reason for the Boards action.

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Q Was his statement that he was relying on the expertise of the Regional Director?

A On page 205 of the Record Appendix. He so indicated, because there was no expertise of the Board involved based upon all of the evidence because they refused to look at the evidence. And the Pittsburgh Plate Glass, which is the only case upon which the Board relys, was decided in 1941.

And in that case, the Board made its own findings on the representation case, after the Board members reviewed the evidence and decided it 5 years before the enactment of the Administrative Procedure Act.

And as a matter of fact, in 1961, the Board attempted, by means of the Reorganization Plan Number 5, to get permission to delegate unfair labor practice cases. And Congress rejected this proposal, and the Board should not now be permitted to accomplish administratively what it could not persuade Congress to do.

A desire to expedite does not give the Board the tight to legislate, in a sense, the rights of the parties, or to refuse to consider pertinent and vital newly discovered evidence. The Boards so-called ruleagainst ligigation, when ap-

plied in this mateer, is directly contrary to Section 10 C of the Act, and in violation of the Administrative Procedure Act.

I would like to call this honorable Courts attention to the case of Electronis Alloys in 183, NLRB 4D, which was also an unfair labor practice case that arose from a refusal to bargain.

After the Board refused to review the Regional Directors decision on an appropriate——. And the Board stated in that unfair labor practice case, on a motion for summary judgement, in Respondents response to the notice to show cause, the Respondent contends that the Board has never independently reviewed the record to determine whether the Regional Director was correct in concluding that the unit is appropriate for sollective bargaining purposes. We have examined the decision and direction of election in that case, we have made an independent review of the record in that case and hold that the Regional Directors findings and conclusions are correct."

There's a footnote and they point to some findings that they disagree with, that do not affect the correctness of his ultimate conclusion that there is an appropriate unit and said accordingly, as now all issues have been fully litigated and no newly discovered or previously undvailable evidence is offered, no further hearing is required. We shall, therefore,

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grant the general counsels motion for summary judgement.

The Board thus acknowkedges that while review of a Regional Directors decision in a representation case may be discretionary, independent Board review is required should the representation case ripen into an unfair labor practice case.

And the Petitioner here is entitled to no less, if
the law is to be administered fairly and without discrimination.
And Petitioner respectfully urges that the enforcement decree
be vacated.

Thank you very much.

Q Thank you, Mr. Chandler, Mr. Come, you may proceed.

ARGUMENT OF NORTON J. COME, ESQ.

ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT.

MR. NORTON J. COME: May it please the Court, and Mr. Chief Justice.

As this Court is aware, an employer who contests the validity of a representation election conducted under Section 9 of the Act, including the unit determination can obtain Court review of that determination only through an unfair labor practice proceding under Section 10.

That is, he can fefuse to bargain on the grounds that the certification is invalid, thereby triggering off an unfair labor practice complaint, and if the Board ultimately finds a violation of Section 8 A 5, and issues a bargaining order,

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he gets review of the bargaining order and of the underlying certification, the record of which is before the Court of Appeal by virtue of Section 9 D. under Section 10, E and F.

Now since early Wagner Act days, it has been established that absent newly discommend evidence or other circumstances, the employer is not entitled to re-litigate in this Seciton 10 unfair labor practice prodedings, any issues which were or could have been litigated or determined in the prior related representation procedings.

And as this Court explained in the Pittsburgh Plate Glass case, in 1941, this is because the unit proceding and the complaint of unfair labor practice is now really one proceding.

And thus a single trial of the representation issue was enough.

Now intil 1959, the issues in a Secitor 9 representation proceding as wellaas those in a Section 9 unfair labor practice proceding were determined by the Board itself.

Now in that year, Congress amended Section 3 B to permit the Board to delegate to its Regional Directors its powers, namely the Boards powers, under Section 9, including the power to determine the unit appropriate for the purposes of collective bargaining, provided, however, that upon the request of an interested person, the Board, and this is Congress' wonds, may review any action of a Regional Director delegated to him.

Now pursuant to this authorization, the Board has

delegated its powers to determine tepresentation issues to its Regional Directors.

The procedures, in brief, are as follows, and they are set forth in more detail in our brief. When a petition is filed withthe Regional Director, and an investigation shows that it appears to have merit, the Regional Director sets that down for hearing before a Hearing Officer.

On the basis of the record developed at the hearing, and I might say that an examination of the Appendix here shows that there was a very full hearing before the Hearing Officer with plenty of oppositunity on the part of the employer to cross examine the witnesses including Scott on his duties.

And after this record is completed, it goes to the Regional director who determines on the basis of the record, the unit appropriate for purposes of collective bargaining and directs an election or makes other disposition in the matter,

The Boarda rules further provide the Regional Director shall set forth has findings conclusions and order or direction which he has done in this case, indeed, the Court of Appeals found that the Regional Directors decision was as full and complete as any he had reviewed, where the Board itself had written the opinion. It wasavery complete decision by the Regional Director.

The Boards rules provide that the decision of the Regional Director shall be final unless a request for review is

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filed with the Board. Then the rules regarding review set forth a number of grounds upon which review may be granted by the Board or the Regional Director if he thinks that the issue is an important one that should be decided by the Board, he has authority to transfer it forthwith to the Board.

Now where he has not done that, and he did not do that here, a party after the director has decided the case can obtain review if he persuades the Board that his case falls within one of the four categories that are set forth in the Boards rules.

That there was a substantial question of law presented, that procedural error was committed, that there was a departure from Board policy, or, and that's what's involved in this case, that the Regional Directors decision on a factual issue is clearly errongous on the record and such error prejudicially affects the rights of a party.

The Boards rules further provide that any request for a review must be a self-contained document enabling the Board to review on the basis of its contents and that with respect to ground two, which is the factual error ground or any other ground where appropriate, said request must contain a summary of all evidence or all rulings bearing on the issues together with page citationssfrom the transcript and a summary of argument.

And Petitioner fully availed itself of its right under this rule to file with the Board a very detailed request

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for review which starts at page 117 of the record and goes to page 127 of the record, setting forth in very specific detail the respects in which the Regional Director erred, with record references as to evidence that he alledgedly overlooked to the duties of Scott as well as the other two individuals whose status whas in question, and also a very detailed legal argument as to the applicable legal principles and controlling Board decisions that the Regional Director allegedly over-ruled. Overlooked.

The Boards rules further provide that the, that an opposition may be filed to a request for review, although it's not reprinted in the record, I find in examining the original record that the petitioning union also filed a document with the Board in opposition to the request for review which again contained a very detailed recital of the record evidence, supporting the Regional Directors ruling.

and the Board had these two documents before it, as well as the decision of the Regional Director, and on the basis of that decided that no issue warranting review was provided.

And that kind of a situation as the Court of Appeals pointed out in its opinion, it cannot be said that the Board, in deciding that no issue was presented, merely rubber stamped the Regional Director. You had as focus a presentation of the issues as you could possibly have had, had the Board reviewed the record de novo.

Q Mr. Come, would your case be different if you had been just a rubber stamp? Are you suggesting that it's essential that the Board at some point review the Regional Director?

A No, I'm not saying that, but I'm just saying that under the procedure that the Board has devised for implementing the 3B delegation, there is a very real opportunity provided to a party requesting review to catch the Boards eye if there is any glaring error on the part of the Regional Director.

Q Well, I don't suppose the Board reviews every case it thinks is wrongly decided.

A Well, if it satisfies one of the vriteria for granting review---

Q Well, again I'll ask you, do you think that there would be error in this case if the Board had never looked at a scrap of what was before---

A No, I do not, because I think 3B permits the Board to delegate the authority to the Regional Director.

However, 3B says that any party, subject to the right of any party to request a Board to review the case, so I think that there has to be an opportunity to request the Board to---

- Q Well, sure, well, that's available---
- A Yes.
- Q But your case really doesn't depend on how much the Board looked at the Regional Directors determination, does

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- No, it does not, but I just want to---
- You might be in trouble if it did. 0

Well, I'm not suggesting that there was a de novo or plenary review. However, I wanted to point out that this petition to review procedure, on the other hand, is a meaningful one, and it's not a mere rubber stamping of the Regional Director.

But to get back to the Boards rules. The Boards rules finally provide that denial of a request for a review shall constitute an affirmance of the Regional Directors action, which shall also preclude re-litigating any such issues in any related subsequent unfair labor practice proceding.

So that the issue that we really come down to, here, is whether or not this procedure is valid and authorized by Section 3B of this statute, or put more specifically, whether the Board may properly apply the settled principle barring re-litigation in a subsequent related unfair labor practice proceding of issues determining the representation proceding where it has delegated this authority to the Regional Director and pursuant to the 3B delegation and as declined to review his determination or whether, as Petitioners contend, and as the Second Circuit held in Pepsi Cola, the Board is required before basing an unfair labor practice finding on this representation determination of the directors to make a new and de nove full review of the record.

I might say that the Second Circuit itself seems to have becked down substantially from Pepsi Cola in two decisions subsequent to Pepsi Cola, which are cited in our brief, Olsen Bodies, and Baliss Trucking, apparently they are now holding that the Pepsi Cola requirement for de novo review applies only to situations where you have, as they put it, a difficult mixed question of law and fact.

So the substantial amount of substance has been taken out of Pepsi Cola by the Second Circuit itself.

Well, our position is basically that both the language of Section 3B and its legislative history support the valididy of the Boards delegation procedure. On its face, 3B, as I have just outlined to the Court indicates a Congressional purpose to endow the Regional Director with all the powers which the Board previously had in the Secion 9 proceding, subject to such review as the Board might provide.

Now since the Boards powers in a Section 9 proceding previously meant that you were, the Board was not required to re-examine in the unfair labor practice proceding issues that were determined in the our case, if you put the Regional Director in the shoes of the Board, it should follow, we submit that there is no right to have a Board re-determination of the issue determined by the Regional Director in the unfair labor practice proceding add some newly discovered evidence.

202	Q Do you think in the present case, the action of
2	the review passes muster under the Baliss and Olsen Body cases
3	in the Second Circuit?
4	A I don't know whether theSecond Circuit would
5	regard the type of issue that we have here as being the diffi-
6	cult question of mixed law and fact, that would require the
7	Board to review the record de novo.
8	The Court of Appeals in this case had great doubt in
9	knowing how to apply that standard. What you had in Pepsi
10	Cola was the question as to whether or not certain employees
33	were independent contractors or not.
12	The question that you have here
13	Qa question quite like
14	A It's a question quite like
15	Qlike a supervisory question.
16	A It is a question quite like the supervisor quest-
17	ion, and therefore I would be inclined to say that the Second
18	Circuit would regard this case as controlled by Pepsi Cola,
19	rather than by Baliss and Olsen.
20	Q And you would not pass muster under Pepsi Cola.
21	A That is my opinion, that we probably would not.
22	However
23	Q I've had some difficulty trying to read these
24	later cases as ammodification of the Pepsi Cola case, rather
25	than merely a treatment of a different problem, a different king
	16 33

of problem within the framework of Pepsi Cola. I notice that Judges Lombard, Kaufman, and Smith, two of the three of them were on all of the panels.

A Except in Olsen. In Olsen you had a different panel, Judge Smith was the only one common to the, who sat off Pepsi Cola.

You had Judge Friendly and Judge---

- Q Judge Smith and Judge Fienberg.
- A Oh yes, Judge Smith and Judge Fienberg who were not on Pepsi Cola, and judge Friendly in his opinion in Olsen speaking for himself and Judge Fienberg, because Judge Smith specially concurred on that point indicated that he had grave misgivings as to the validity of Pepsi Cola, but then he went on to find Pepsi Cola distinguishable on the ground that the issue there was not as important or as difficult as the one in Pepsi Cola.

But in any event, our position is that neither the language of the statute, nor the legislative history permits, or warrants the kind of distinction that the Second Circuit is now drawing. We think that the, it was Congress' intention to permit the Board to delegate final authority subject to this limited right of review by the Board, of all representation issues, particularly, including those involving a determination of an appropriate unit, whether it be a supervisory question or an independent contractor question or plant clerical question,

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as you had in Olsen Body.

the same

For the simple reason that the basic Congressional objective, as is in enacting 3B delegation as is succinctly pointed out by Senator Goldwater, in a quotation that we have on Page 18 of our brief, who was on the House-Senate Conference Committee, was to expedite final disposition of cases by the Board, by turning over part of its case load to its Regional Directors for final determination.

And then he goes on the say, that they've empowered the Regional Director to act in all respects as the Board itself would act.

Now you don't---

- Q What--how does the Board speak?---in an unfair labor practice?
- A In an unfair labor practice case, if there are exceptions, to the trial examiners findings, the Board will take the case up and review the record itself with respect to those matters that are acceptible to them.
- Q What's the standard that the Board applies to that?
- A It would apply the predominance of the evidence standard.
 - Q Preponderance?
 - A Preponderance.
 - Q Now I gather in this case the trial examiners'

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1	findings included the Regional Directors findings, did it not,
2	on the representation issue?
3	A Yes, sir.
4	Q And what is the difference? I suppose an ex-
5	ception was taken to those findings. In the trial examiners
6	findings in the unfair labor practice case. Now what's the
7	standard that the Board applies to that exception?
8	A Well, the Board did not regardthe trial
9	examiner made no findings here, he
10	Q Well doesn't he incorporate
88	A He granted a motion for summary judgement and
12	since the
13	Q Yes, but when he files his findings in these
14	cases do they not include the findings in the representation
15	cases?
16	A Yes, but the Board does not te-review the
17	Q That's what I wanted to get.
18	A Review the
19	Q So that even though they're in the trial ex-
20	aminers findings, to this extent at least, what you've told
29	us, the application of preposderance of the evidence rules
22	does not apply.
23	A That is correct, but it would not have applied
24	Q Before 3B?
25	A It would not have applied

Quit. Q Well, before 3B, of course, it was the Board that made it, wasn't it? 2 That is correct. 3 And in that circumstance, of course, you wouldn't 4 expect the Board to go back over it again. 5 That is ---6 But I just wanted to be clear, now. They apply the same rule to the Regional Directors findings that they used 8 to apply to their own which they don't review them at all. 9 That is correct. That is correct. 10 Just from curiosity, did you say the Board, in 13 reviewing the trial examiners findings really makes it a pre-12 ponderance of the evidence determination ---13 A Well, they ---94 Themselves, or is isn't merely an erroneous 15 standard or a substantial evidence test? 16 Well, it's more than substantial evidence. Now 17 as to the difference between clearly erroneous and pre-18 ponderence of the evidence I think we could get into a nice 19 philosophical---20 They actually say to themselves, would we have 21 made the same findings the trial examiner made ---22 Except with regard to credibility. They usually 23 will not disturb a trial examiners credibility determination. 24 I might say that in this case there were no credibility issues 25

because the only important issue on which there was a conflict in the evidence as to whether or not Scott had followed the discipline of an employee, the Regional Director assumed the validity, accepted as true the companies version that he did, on one occasion, threaten to fire this man, but found that that, but even assuming that that were true, that one incident was sporadic and not---so that it did not overcome the other evidence showing a non-supervisory authority.

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Now I just want to, in closing, say one word about this motion to ---newly discovered evidence.

Now the Respondent could have gotten a hearing in the unfair labor practice case if in response to the order to show cause it was able to come forward with evidence that was in fact newly discovered.

Now obviously in view of the ---

- Q Will you stop right there, Mr. Come, please?
- A Yes.
- Q If they had come forward with this, then there would have been a redetermination in the first instance by the trial examiner of the representation case?
- A Had they come forward with newly discovered evidence, the trial examiner would have held a hearing with respect to the issue that was newly discovered, and in the light of that evidence he would have reconsidered the Regional Directors determination and then it would have gone up to the

Board.

Q To the Board.

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A However, what happened here was that Petitioners claim of newly discovered evidence was a bare naked allegation that Scott had allegedly withheld information as to his full supervisory dities with no indication whatsoever as to what it was that he withheld, and then as the trial examiner found, and as Petitioners offer of proof shows, which is in the record, Petitioner, when it listed what it was going to show at this hearing, ticked off factors as to Scotts power to discipline, his power to recommend raised, and so on, a list of 10 items all of which had been gone into very thoroughly in the representation case and which was subject to cross examination by Petitioner.

So that the Trial examiner found that in those circumstances, the claim that there was newly discovered evidence here was merely a sham in an effort to attempt to re-litigate the very same issues that had been gone into extensively in the representation case, and the Court of Appeals sustained that finding.

So we submit that in those circumstances there certainly was no substantial issue that merits attention by this Court on the question of whether there was newly discovered evidence that would have warranted a hearing in this case.

Q Are you suggesting that this case, then, does

not present the issue of the conflice between and among the circuits, Pepsi Cola vis a vis the other cases?

A No, I am not, Your Honor, I am merely suggesting that the conflict has been muted somewhat by the Second Circuit subsequent decisions in---subsequent to Papsi Cola, but I think on the type of issue that we have here, we still have that conflict.

and I submit that the view of the First Circuit which has been adopted by the Tenth Circuit, is the correct one, and the one that is the most consonant with Congress' objective in enacting the amendment 3B, because the practical point of the matter is I think, as Mr. Justice White pointed out yesterday, if you are going to require the Board, when a representation determination ends up in an unfair labor practice proceding, and potentially any certification case can do that because that's the only way the employer can get review, to review the record fully at that stage, you are not making the Regional Directors determinaiton final as Congress intended to do, subject to merely discretionary review by the Board, and you are robbing the Arpege delegation of the timesaving that Congress intended to get from permitting the board to do that, becuase whatever time is saved at the Arpege stage is going to be dissapated at the --- stage, and we have statistics in our brief which show that it's rather dramatic, that under the Arpege delegation, and when the Regional Director is permitted to decide

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these things himself, the time from filing of a petition to direction of election is in the neighborhood of 48 days.

Whereas, if it goes to the Board, it is about 245 days, and you would just be substantially sapping the Arcase delegation of the value that Congress has sought to achieve and it is not necessary, we submit, to protect the fundamental rights of respondents the Board procedings as is amply shown by the record in this case.

Thank you, Your Honor.

Q Thank you, Mr. Come, your time is consumed, Mr. Chandler, the case is submitted.

(Whereupon at 10:55 am, argument in the above matter was concluded.)