

Teamsters End a Truce With Chavez's United Farm Workers

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BURLINGAME, Calif., Dec. 14—The teamsters union ended a truce today with the United Farm Workers union of Cesar Chavez in a long-simmering dispute over control of organized labor in agriculture.

Einar O. Mohn, director of the Western Conference of Teamsters, announced that his union had decided to "renegotiate" the contract it has with some 170 growers.

In a series of agreements dating to 1967, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the farm workers had

agreed not to compete with each other for representation of field workers.

Neither side ever appeared fully committed to the agreement, and some teamsters were angered when the farm workers declared a nationwide boycott against lettuce, some of it produced by teamster-represented farm workers earlier this year.

Mr. Mohn said that the teamsters represented about 30,000 agricultural workers. If the agreement with the farm union had been carried out, many of these who are field

workers would eventually have gone over to representation by the Chavez union, which says it represents nearly 60,000 United States farm workers.

The farm union is currently attempting to renegotiate its original contracts signed with growers in California.

Mr. Mohn said the decision by the teamsters to keep its jurisdiction over the farm workers it represents had been reached yesterday after a meeting with a committee of Roman Catholic bishops.

The committee, headed by the Most Rev. Joseph Donnelly,

Bishop of Hartford, Conn., had been instrumental in working out the truce between the two unions.

"Bishop Donnelly emphasized the clergymen's interest in reaching a peaceful solution and in this, all teamsters agreed," Mr. Mohn said. "The Bishop also stressed that his committee was strictly non-partisan — not partial to any one union but rather basically interested in the welfare of farm workers."

A teamster official said that the immediate result of the union's decision would be the

assignment of more union representatives to enforce the current agreements covering farm workers. Any major recruiting effort by the teamsters is at least a year away, he said.

A farm union spokesman, Mrs. Dolores Huerta, said that the decision by the teamsters had been expected because earlier this week the union's president, Frank E. Fitzsimmons, addressing the California Farm Bureau Federation, had called the farm union a "revolutionary movement which is perpetrating a fraud on the American public."

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