

Chavez Suggests the Possibility Of Nationwide Lettuce Boycott

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 9 — Cesar Chavez, responding to reports the Ku Klux Klan was trying to help lettuce growers involved in a strike with his farm workers' union, threatened today to open a nationwide boycott of lettuce if violence in the struck fields grew.

Mr. Chavez said he was "very concerned" about an offer by Tom Metzger, the grand dragon of the Klan in California, to recruit lettuce pickers and supply security guards and trained attack dogs to the authorities trying to keep peace between growers and striking farmworkers in the Imperial Valley, where 95 percent of the nation's winter lettuce is grown. Mr. Chavez's union, the United Farm Workers of America, is striking for higher wages.

The New York Times

Published: February 11, 1979

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