

Memo To Boycott Centers from Jim Drake/Mike Miller – January 5, 1966

National Farm Workers Association Boycott Office, Box 894, Delano,
California
Phone 725-0751

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Re: Developments, strike and boycott

To: Boycott centers

From: Drake and Miller, boycott coordinators

- 1) Delano strike activity: Picketing has been streamlined, thanks to five radios installed in field offices and in picket-captain automobiles. (These radios have been provided by many organizations through contributions, but thanks go primarily to SNCC, Core and ADA. NFWA fields 60 pickets each day...AWOC a few less. Roving pickets bring an average of 10 strikebreakers out of the fields each day. Recruitment of scabs from Mexico and Texas as well as major cities in California has been intensified. DiGiorgio has advertisement in Juarez, Mex. paper for scabs. NFWA now has agents in L.A., Sacramento, San Francisco, El Paso and Bakersfield, to advertise the strike to potential strikebreakers. PRUNING IS BEING DONE WHILE MANY GRAPES STILL HANG ON THE VINES.
- 2) Boycott of Schenleys: NYC reports good success through mass picket lines. Other cities report that many chain liquor stores are willing to remove Schenley once they understand the principle. Work on SOURCES (i.e. distributors, etc.). California progress is notable: Safeway and Purity Chains report support of boycott.
Re: Schenley news releases against the boycott: Schenley is not 100% unionized. They own 2000 acres of grapes here in Delano and pickers are not under contract. Statements to the contrary constitute false advertisement and should be attacked as much. James E. Woolsey, V.P. of Schenley (on West Coast) claims payroll figures prove \$2.73/hour average wage for male grape pickers on Schenley ranches. This simply does not prove factual in light of wages paid those who struck Schenleys. Woolsey claims no union represents Schenley employees; refute this by reference to NFWA certified Trade Dispute 65-3989a. This certification comes through investigation by California Department of Employment officials.
- 3) Boycott of Delano grapes: Though liquor bottles represent good visual targets, NFWA and AWOC have certified trade disputes with 27 other growers that Schenley. All of these, including DiGiorgio, sell table grapes. This means we must stop sale of these grapes to be effective. Enclosed is a list of struck labels which will be found on each box of grapes unpacked for display in your local stores. Use your imagination to discover chain stores carrying Delano grapes. (Try Retail Clerks Union or Teamsters as a starting place for inside information.)

- 4) Picket Instructions: See enclosure. If your name appears on the enclosed list of boycott centers, you must follow the picket instructions to protect NFWA from suit.
- 5) If addresses should be added to enclosed list of boycott center please let us know quickly.
- 6) Communications: So far we have heard from six out-of-state boycott centers. Perhaps you have not known the address to write. However, if you receive our memos, it is crucial to let us know what you are doing. If you are doing nothing let us know so that we do not assume that you are actively working for the boycott. Thus we can know whether to resort to another contact for boycott coordination in your city.
- 7) Finances: We are up against it here in Delano. We are supporting 105 people and paying transportation around the nation for five. Therefore, it is a matter of survival to us that you include on leaflets you hand out to consumers the following:
SUPPORT STRIKING GRAPE WORKERS: MAIL CONTRIBUTIONS TO
NFWA, BOX 894, DELANO, CALIF.
Furthermore, any financial assistance you can cultivate in your cities will be most appreciated.

VIVA LA CAUSA!