Boycott Development Report #2 from Mike Miller/Jim Drake – c. March 1966

National Boycott Schenley Liquors And Delano Grapes
Memo#2
To: Boycott Centers And Support Organizations
From: Mike Miller/Jim Drake, Boycott Coordinators
Re: Boycott developments

1. Fresno, in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, reports that there will be a joint press conference of Mexican-American Political Association, NAACP, AFL-CIO Central Labor Council, Council for Civic Unity, Friends of SNCC supporting the boycott in Fresno.

2. Many community committees are being formed in California. To name some of the places: San Mateo, Stanford University, San Fernando Valley, San Jose, San Francisco, Marin County, Sacramento, Fresno, Bakersfield, Los Angeles, San Diego, Oakland-Berkeley, Monterey, Santa Cruz, Martinez, Orinda.

3. National CORE is giving a good deal of support to the boycott. CORE chapters around the country received a mailing from CORE’s National office urging them to become involved in the boycott in their home communities. SNCC is also giving a good deal of support to the boycott. Three SNCC workers are now “on loan” to FWA on the boycott. Important boycott response has been received by ministers across the country. Two offices might be particularly helpful to you if you want to find a way to reach church people in your area: California Migrant Ministry; 1411 W. Olympic Blvd.; Suite 501; Los Angeles 90015 (this is the farm worker arm of the National Council of Churches); Lester Hung; Bishop’s Committee for the Spanish Speaking; 1300 So. Wabash; Chicago, Ill. 60605 (this is one of the Catholic organizations working with farm labor problems…another is National Catholic Rural Life Conference; 1312 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.; Washington, D.C. Attn. Father James Vizzard, S.J.). Students for a Democratic Society has sent a special mailing to all chapters urging students to work in the boycott. If there is an SDS chapter in your community, the students ought to be able and willing to help man picket lines, make contacts, and so forth. Finally, an impact is beginning to be made in a number of AFL-CIO unions. The UAW, a number of building trades unions, Retail Workers and others have been very responsive to the strike. THE BOYCOTT IS NOW OFFICIAL ENDORSED BY WALTER REUTHER, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS. This should help you with local unions in your area.’

4. SOME IDEAS FROM BOYCOTT CENTERS: San Jose is printing the names of stores who remove Schenley products/Delano grapes from their shelves on the back of their leaflets and adding. “These stores are cooperating with the strikers in Delano…etc.” THIS IS, ACCORDING TO OUR LAWYERS, ILLEGAL AND IS NOT AUTHORIZED BY THE FARM WORKERS ASSOCIATION. ANY BOYCOTT
CENTERS USING THIS TYPE OF INFORMATION SHOULD STOP DOING SO IMMEDIATELY. The reason for the illegality is that such signs imply that we are threatening stores that do not cooperate with a general consumer boycott. SUCH A BOYCOTT IS A VIOLATION OF THE LAW. WE HAVE ASKED ALL SUPPORT COMMITTEES TO STOP THIS KIND OF ACTIVITY. WE STATE HERE THAT ANY SUCH ACTIVITY IS ENGAGED IN WITHOUT THE PERMISSION AND/OR KNOWLEDGE OF THE NATIONAL FARM WORKERS ASSOCIATION. FOR ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS, REFER TO THE MOVEMENT BOYCOTT SUPPLEMENT WHICH EXPLICITLY SAYS NO FORMS OR COERCION MAY BE USED IN THE BOYCOTT.