

TAPE ARC - 23, TC 14:00:00

KRON - TV, REELS 2 - 4

1968 CESAR CHAVEZ, in wheelchair, press conference [COLOR]:

14:00:16 CHAVEZ: ...of course we don't like the, their, the opposition, not only because of the opposition, we don't like the, the, what we feel is very damaging is that we feel they are in a position politically to be able to suggest a remedy, and to suggest that the boycott is immoral or illegal is no way of, is not suggesting a way of terminating the dispute. ...I think that any public official uh, position should be one of encouraging both sides to get together and through negotiation, uh, get their differences resolved. Uh, the governor Reagan, and now Mr. Nixon have decided to take on the union, and we can just expect what's going to happen if they get elected. Frankly I'm frightened that if he gets elected we're going to have many many problems.

14:01:33 CHAVEZ: Mr. Max Rafferty doesn't believe in the peoples' rights to organize unions, Mr. Max Rafferty doesn't believe in the rights of the minorities to get together to bring about uh, through political action, solutions to their problems, and uh, Mr. Max Rafferty chooses to, to uh, accuse us of being un-American every time he gets a chance. I'd like to remind him, my skin is not as white as his, but uh, he'd have a hell of a time proving to me that I'm not as much an American as he is.

DOLORES HUERTA, speaking at rally at Safeway store [color]:

14:02:56 HUERTA: ...maintain that they are neutral. We pointed out to the Safeway uh, vice-president that on their board of directors for Safeway sits J.G. Boswell who is a cotton grower in Carbon California who has received 4 million dollars in federal subsidies this last year for not growing cotton. This same man J. G. Boswell also owns a grape ranch in Arizona. Several of the other boards of director of Safeway have other interests in agriculture such as the Kern County Land company. ...gave them enough evidence in terms of pesticide poisoning on grapes, in terms of sanitary poisoning on grapes, and we gave them signatures from their customers, we gave them more than ample reason why they should remove the grapes from their shelves and they have refused to do so. We have said to them if they remove the grapes at this point, two months from now they can provide their customers with union-picked grapes. ...they are the direct agents, they are the direct distributors of the grape growers. If they remove the gapes from their shelves, the growers will sit down and negotiate a contract, and you don't need legislation to do that, all you need is good will. They have refused to do this, and we will have to continue, we will have to escalate our boycott, we will have to ask you to get out an collect more signatures, we will have to ask you to get out there and do more picketing. And we've got to get, we've got to make them understand, they are the direct agents of the agri-business complex, they, the chain markets, the supermarkets, distribute 60% of the food of this country, and they are not using their power to help the poor and the under-privileged, but they are using their power to help those that oppress the poor. Viva la causa.

HISPANIC GIRL lights candle on doorstep [B&W]:

14:07:02 This is, this candle I turn on specially to give light to the darkness. I think it's about time that everybody realizes that farm workers are united, and that we are tired of Mr. McGowan saying just awful things to us, and that is the real reason why I am going to turn on this thing, and I turn it on, so that Mr. McGowan will come out of his door, and we wish to hear him say that, that he will support us.

August 1979, CESAR CHAVEZ press conference [color]:

14:08:02 CHAVEZ: ...It is our feeling that the top architects of this conspiracy are Einer Mone, who is the west coast Teamster leader, and Governor Reagan. For all we know they may want to sign up the rest of the farm workers in California in the same back door manner that they did just in Salinas Valley. This conspiracy comes simply because the employ-, the farm workers want the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee and its leadership to represent them, and the employers want the Teamsters to represent their workers. And that's at the root of the conspiracy.

14:08:53 REPORTER: You refer to this as a conspiracy, don't the Teamsters have the same right to organize the workers as you union does?

14:09:02 CHAVEZ: It's not a matter of having right, it's a matter of who represent the workers. We have been organizing in this area on and off since 1962, as we have in all of California, we have signed up the vast majority of the workers in the last three years. We made a demand on the workers, on the employers, the same employers that signed with the Teamsters, we made a demand on them last week to sit down and recognize the union, and they responded by signing a back door agreement with the Teamsters. That's what we're talking about.

14:09:33 REPORTER: Mr. Chavez, you say that you have the workers, the Teamsters have the contract. Are you suggesting that many of the workers involved in many of these agreements aren't going to go to work under these contracts?

14:09:46 CHAVEZ: Uh, in Santa Maria this morning, uh, a strike, because of this conspiracy, a strike started this morning at five o'clock in the morning, and we think it's going to spread to the rest of the industry.

CESAR CHAVEZ speaks at rally [color]:

14:11:07 CHAVEZ: The boycott, the strike has been a costly thing, not only to us, but also to the employers, and it's something that they will not be able to regain, and it's something, the things that we lost we won't be able to make up, at least in worldly possessions. But I think, even though, however unfortunate the experience might have been, in the struggle on both sides, that because of that

experience, we have created the foundation to what I think is going to be a very good working relationship with the grower community in Delano.

14:11:55 CHAVEZ: ...the boycott is going to continue until all of them sign. We hope that this will happen very soon. And we are pledged to the grape growers that as soon, as soon as the last grape grower signs a contract, we will endeavor, we will turn around the boycott machinery all over the world, to try and make the grapes, all of the grapes, sweet grapes again.

John Giumarra at contract signing

14:12:33 If it works well here, if this experiment in social justice as they've called it, or this, as this revolution in agriculture, however you want to characterize it, if it works here, it can work elsewhere, but if it doesn't work here, it won't work anywhere, and so there's a fantastic responsibility on the part of your people and on the part of my people that we work together to make sure that this is a historic moment now, and it will continue to be a historic movement because you will be able to show people in other areas of the country, you did it well here, and you can damn well do it well there.

FLEMING, press conference re Teamster contracts [color]:

14:16:47 FLEMING: We have examined and discussed all aspects of the situation, and we have reached a decision. Our decision is this. We have negotiated proper and legal contracts with the Teamsters Union. They have assured us that they will honor these contracts and we intend to do the same. ...According to the pact that was signed, between the Teamsters and UFWOC, it would be a violation of the pact if UFWOC were to cause any trouble to a grower holding a contract with the Teamsters.

14:17:26 REPORTERS: Mr. Fleming, the United Farm Workers complain that they're not getting proper wages and that working conditions aren't good.

14:17:35 FLEMING: Well I'm glad you asked that question. I can show you payroll records that indicate that the workers in this area uh, and in the state of California are paid higher by far than any other area in the nation. Uh, the working conditions, the stability of the work and the wages paid are way, way above standard.

BILL GRAMMI interview [color]:

14:18:08 Well, we're hoping that this matter can be resolved at a conference table instead of picket lines and boycott activities and what have you.

14:18:16 REPORTER: Well now will you be consulting more with uh, UFWOC and the bishops again, together?

14:18:21 Oh I'm available for those consultations I assume we will be discussing this matter.

CESAR CHAVEZ, on release from Salinas jail [color]:

14:24:14 We hope that in the spirit of the, of this holiday, we are calling on the grower community in Salinas, to meet with us, so we can begin to negotiate contracts, and this way we can end squabbling. Because I'm sure that uh, in the long run, in the long run, no one wins no one wins really this long struggle. And we're not contrary to public opinion, we're not crazy about boycotting and striking, we'd much rather negotiate.

14:25:05 I would not say I consider it a victory for the boycott, but I do consider it a victory for, for uh the whole idea that there is justice... you gotta fight, you gotta fight for it, you gotta work very hard for it... oh, yes the boycott will continue...

UFW ORGANIZER at picket at military base [color]:

14:26:11 ...the purpose is to, is to convince the public, to convince the military, and to convince members of the military, not to eat, and to boycott Antle lettuce.

14:26:24 REPORTER: Mr. Antle has a contract with the Teamsters Union, so the workers are represented.

14:26:30 The position of the uh, of the United Farm Workers is, that the contact with the Teamsters is what's known as a sweetheart contract, and that uh, in fact they do not represent the farm workers.

14:26:47 REPORTER: Then it would be safe to sum up that any contract other than the Cesar Chavez contract would be regarded as a sweetheart contract.

14:26:57 That would be safe.

CESAR CHAVEZ on march to Sacramento, April 1966 [B&W]:

14:28:10 REPORTER: Senor Chavez.

14:28:11 How are you Mr. ...

14:28:13 REPORTER: How's the, how's the march going?

14:28:15 Very well thank you.

14:28:16 REPORTER: Governor Brown today said that he was not going to be able to meet with you today, because he felt that he was not a welcome guest and that he will not be here tomorrow for you rally, what's your reaction to that?

14:28:27 Well, we're very saddened by that report. We walked almost 350 miles to come and see him. Uh, I think that the farm workers particularly, and the Mexican - American community throughout the state in general, and all its supporters are going to feel very hurt that he couldn't spare, what is it, two or three minutes to be with us. We are disappointed that he will not be with us tomorrow.

GOVERNOR EDMUND BROWN interviewed [B&W]:

14:28:53 REPORTER: You are not going to meet with the farm workers then this afternoon?

14:28:57 GOVERNOR BROWN: Oh, I'll try to meet with them this afternoon, but I understand that they passed a resolution unanimously that they didn't want to meet with me, so if they don't want to meet with me, I can't force my presence upon anybody that, that doesn't love me...younger days...

14:29:15 REPORTER: But then, you have absolutely no intention of capitulating on a Sunday meeting with them?

14:29:19 BROWN: No, I think it's the wrong day to have such a meeting. And I was willing to put myself at their convenience. I would have flown up anytime during the week to have seen them. And I'll see them Monday at anytime convenient to them. But no one can arbitrarily say that they're going to see the governor at a particular time and then expect the governor to uh, to abdicate his

own family situation, there's a few things that a governor must have, and this is one of them. I, I, I've looked forward to this day for three or four months, and we've made arrangements for it, and I'm sorry that it can't be done, but it just can't be, that's all.

14:30:03 CHAVEZ: Uh, this is the first time in, in his administration, certainly, and perhaps the first time in the history of the state, that the Mexican - American citizen of the state has made it a special point to come and see the governor, and if he's not there then I think that uh, a good many people are gong to be very hurt.