

**TAPE ARC - 2, TC 2:00:00**

CESAR CHAVEZ, interviewed by news reporter:

2:00:01 CHAVEZ: It is a labor situation, but see you must understand that, uh, we have strong feelings that the reason that farm workers, farm workers have been excluded from most of the major legislation. First of all, you have to understand that when you speak of farm workers you are speaking essentially of minority people. And so, uh, we feel that if uh, the majority of the workers that this day and age, that they were Anglos, that they would have gotten this legislation. 2:00:23

Mr. HENNINGER (?), at news conference:

2:00:25 HENNINGER: It is a civil rights movement, in fact a lot of the people who have generated this Delano situation have come out of the south. And on top of this, it's not a question of economics, uh, as far as the workers are concerned in the Delano situation, because these people are receiving a substantial piece work wage, uh, earning approximately \$1.75 per hour, and uh, it gets to be civil rights with us because of the church intervention, and other do-gooders that have come into the program.

2:01:01 Do you object to this?

2:01:02 HENNINGER: Yes, I object to this, strongly.

CESAR CHAVEZ, interviewed by news reporter:

2:01:15 CHAVEZ: ...that uh, we are in fact workers, and that we want and demand protection under some of the federal laws that now protect industrial workers. I'm going to, uh, also propose that if the, especially, if the coverage of the Industrial Labor Relations Act is not forthcoming from Congress, then there ought to be, there must be another way to help, alleviate the suffering of the farm workers throughout the country. 2:01:41

HENNINGER, interviewed by news reporter:

2:01:42 What do you intend on saying when you testify before the committee?

2:01:50 HENNINGER: Well, Bob, they're coming out here, more or less trying to generate public opinion in regards to five bills, one's on child labor, minimum wages, and uh, consequently we feel that these bills have already been brought forth in our California legislation and our agricultural workers are completely covered under this type program. So consequently we're gonna be in opposition to the five bills that will be presented uh, before the hearing by the subcommittee coming into Sacramento.

2:02:26 From what we can determine today, the farmers are going to ask for some kind of federal legislation to put them into the National Labor Relations Act,

and they're also going to ask for federal financial assistance. What do you think of that?

2:02:39 HENNINGER: Well, they have the poverty program into effect now, and uh, this money is being used to help out spots where there is some poverty in California. I know of none myself, uh...

CESAR CHAVEZ, testifying at hearing:

2:03:08 CHAVEZ: ...all that these bills do is to say that people who work on farms should have the same human rights as people who work on construction crews or in factories or in the offices. All these bills do is to overcome the farm lobby the Franklin Delano Roosevelt administration was subjected to in the thirties. It forces them to decide if farm workers are somehow different. [PIC ROLL OFF]

Congressional subcommittee hearing:

2:03:31 ...find out how the basic legislation covering industrial workers can be extended to farm employees. How in fact farm employees can be brought into the mainstream of American economic life. We are seeking testimony and information bearing on legislation now before the Congress to bring farm employees under the existing minimum wage, collective bargaining and child labor laws and to provide better methods of recruiting farm workers as part of the legislative fact finding process. We will explore farm labor - management relationships, living, housing, working conditions, and related social and cultural problems.

HARRY BRIDGES testifying before senators:

2:04:26 SENATOR H - W: ...some of the most highly organized areas of industry are in highly seasonal businesses. I don't know any that are, uh, more comprehensively covering their industry than the garment industry for example. And uh, perhaps not in men's clothes, but certainly in women's clothes, if there's anything seasonal it's the uh, garment for the gal, it's a short period, and yet, I can't remember a strike in the ladies garment industry.

2:05:09 SENATOR H - W (off screen): ...well I did mention Hawaii was one area where unions were recognized in agriculture...

2:05:14 BRIDGES: Oh, yeah, that's different.

2:05:15 SENATOR H - W (off screen): ...and as I understood there was uh, [PAN RIGHT TO SENATOR] industrial harmony in the labor - management relationship out there...

2:05:20 BRIDGES (off screen): I wouldn't go that far. (laughter)

2:05:26 SENATOR S - W: My point was, [PAN LEFT TO BRIDGES] have you had a strike in pineapples for example, recently?

2:05:33 BRIDGES: Not for some time...

2:05:34: SENATOR H - W(off screen): ...that was the only point...

2:05:35 BRIDGES: Well, it just means they caved in, and saved us the trouble. (laughter)

2:05:40 SENATOR MURPHY(off screen): ...this is the objective is it, to get them to cave in?

2:05:53 SENATOR MURPHY(off screen): ...in other words you imply that I'm a bad man, is that it?.. BRIDGES: ...no, I never said that. SENATOR: ...well you said I used to be a good man...(laughter) BRIDGES: ...no, all I meant was... SENATOR: ...the implication was there...

2:06:02 BRIDGES: ...I remember the time thirty years ago, nearly, when you and many other Hollywood figures were fighting for the agricultural workers... SENATOR: Not too many... BRIDGES: I'd like to see you get back to the beat, that's all... SENATOR: Well, that's what I'm doing, that's what I'm doing here, we're gonna try to get the facts of the case... [PAN TO SENATOR]

2:06:18 SENATOR MURPHY: ...and as I said earlier to see that they get the best possible working conditions, wages an hour... BRIDGES: ...then we're together, you and I are together... SENATOR: ...and whether we'll have to call on you to try to figure out a way to make the opposition cave in... that's another thing.

2:06:29 SENATOR H - W: ...this committee has no jurisdiction uh, concerning the import of foreign workers. We do have the jurisdiction dealing with domestic workers and we're trying to honor that responsibility. It happens that the uh, the uh, committee on agriculture handles this, what we call the off-

shore program. And it really is presumptuous for me to even consider of public law 78 and the bracero program, and Senator Murphy knows this, this is not our jurisdiction...

2:07:06      SENATOR MURPHY: If you'll forgive me Senator, there may be a slight disagreement between you and me on this one. Because actually there is a great body of migratory labor...[PIC ROLL OFF]

STRIKER interviewed by news reporter [pic over-exposed]:

2:07:17      REPORTER: ...is there plumbing in your place? MAN WITH MUSTACHE: no, sir it ain't, it just, uh, a hot plate over there and that's it.

2:07:25      REPORTER: Are you trying to change the situation, I see you are wearing a button the says "huelga" which means strike?

2:07:30      YOUNG MAN: Yes, sir, it is, I'm on a rent strike on the housing authority. REPORTER: Any success so far? YOUNG MAN: Yes, at least we've got the senators here, and I think that's something we can be proud of.

SENATOR GEORGE MURPHY interviewed by news reporter [pic over-exposed]:

2:07:45 SENATOR MURPHY: ...I'm amazed that it hasn't been changed and rebuilt, and I think it should be, and I think that Senator Williams will agree with me and when we get back to Washington we will do everything we can to see that there are funds made available, and while I'm here I'm going to find out as many of the county people that I can and see if I can't get hold of them to find out why this great county up here shouldn't get in here and do something about this. Also, I'm going to get in touch with the governor and see if he hasn't got some emergency funds because, this is the place, instead of spending thousands, and hundred of thousands of dollars to have research studies made, as to how to help the poor people, I think it's very simple how you help 'em, you come out here and you take down these houses, and rebuild 'em, and put up proper living houses.

ROBERT KENNEDY, interviewed by news reporters:

2:08:47 REPORTER: What are your thoughts on the bill presently presently before congress?

2:08:51 ROBERT KENNEDY: I basically support the legislation that is being considered.

2:08:54 REPORTER: Do you think the farm worker is getting a raw deal presently?

2:09:00      ROBERT KENNEDY: I think that the farm worker here in the United States has not received the, uh, benefits that the rest of our society, that the other workers have.

2:09:12      REPORTER: One of the testifiers here today said that the bill stood almost no chance of being passed this year, would you agree with that?

2:09:17      ROBERT KENNEDY: No I would not. [PIC ROLL OFF]

2:10:32      ROBERT KENNEDY: over-exposed image, second angle of same speech on ARC -1

SENATOR HARRISON WILLIAMS interviewed by news reporter:

2:11:14      SENATOR WILLIAMS: It's been a very moving experience, uh, will say that perhaps our trip might be a little misunderstood. There is a strike in this area. We didn't come out to solve any strike. Uh, it did put a focus and attention on what we've know and have felt for a long time in the sub-committee that uh, agricultural workers should have the same economic opportunities as other workers, uh, minimum wage, protection from the abuses of child labor and the opportunity to join unions, and the right to have an opportunity to bargain collectively.

2:11:58 REPORTER: Do you, now this has civil rights overtones too...

2:12:02 SENATOR WILLIAMS: No, well, uh, I don't uh, quite follow that, uh, the reason for the exemption in agriculture when the Fair Standards Act was passed, when the National Labor Relations Board was created, had nothing to do with civil rights, uh, it was uh, a folklore of the family farm, and they didn't need thirty years ago the same protections that industry needed. I don't see any civil rights overtone.

[COLOR FOOTAGE]

STORE OWNER (?) interviewed by news reporter:

2:15:50 STORE OWNER: ...it won't affect us in any respect, it'll affect the consumer. REPORTER: How? STORE OWNER: Price increase. The cost of the merchandise will go up. It costs more to raise it, it costs more to harvest it and get it to market on account of the unions, naturally the consumer has to pay the tariff.

2:16:09 REPORTER: There's one school of thought that says only the grower will suffer, because they will have to pay more for their labor and that the consumers will not stand for an increase in prices.

2:16:15 STORE OWNER: Well, the consumer stands for an increase in price on steel, through their car manufacturers, why won't they stand for an increase in

price on their food, on their fresh fruits and vegetables? They have to. The grower can't stand the increase. He's just making a living right now. It's uh, somebody had to, it has to be the consumer.

SHOPPERS interviewed by news reporters:

2:17:06 REPORTER: Do you think the prices of grapes will go up now that the farm workers are unionized in the Coachella Valley?

2:17:12 BLOND WOMAN: Well, this would be a factor I would say, but then, grapes are just coming in, and it's been a poor grape year, so those two factors would affect the price of grapes also, as well as the unionization, I would think.

2:17:26 REPORTER: Would you pay more money for grapes if the price went up?

2:16:29 OLDER WOMAN: If I wanted them yes, if I want something to eat I pay for it.

TWO BLACK WOMEN: ...then if I think that my kid was really eaten 'em, I would buy 'em. Yeah, I would buy 'em.... REPORTER: What about you, would you buy 'em if the price went up? SECOND WOMAN: Yeah, I'd buy 'em and give 'em to the kids. REPORTER: You wouldn't eat 'em yourself? SECOND WOMAN: No, they make me drunk as a skunk.

DOLORES HUERTA, testifying:

2:17:59 HUERTA: Well, we have many cases, many affidavits of cases where workers have been uh, poisoned by pesticides, or they have serious illnesses. It's almost like a, an everyday working condition with farm workers. And, also, there are of course many reports of deaths that have been caused by pesticides.

2:18:19 MALE VOICE: Isn't that, just, sort of an occupational hazard? Is there anything that can be done about it?

2:18:23 HUERTA: Well, right now it is an occupational hazard, and we don't think that the poisonings and the deaths should be to the extent, should occur to the extent that are occurring now. We believe that something can be done about this, but of course in order to do this we have to have the cooperation of the employers.

[BLACK AND WHITE]

GOVERNOR PAT BROWN speaking before news reporters:

2:18:43 GOVERNOR BROWN: As I have been informed today, that the panel appointed by Secretary Wirtz, under the chairmanship of Dr. Aaron, will recommend 18,600 braceros for the harvesting of the tomato crop. The investigation of the state agencies indicate that this is, uh, a necessary thing for

California to harvest the tomato crop, and I approve heartily, and I have asked the Secretary to authorize this number of braceros to come into the state, so uh, we have the state and the federal agencies all in agreement now, and I do hope that our farmers will be able to uh, harvest their tomatoes and our canneries will start canning them.

Interviews at strike site:

2:19:51      REPORTER: Why are you here today?

2:19:53      WHITE WOMAN WITH SIGN: Because I don't like the people who are here in our town, they don't belong here, and I wish they all go back to where they came from... I'm talking about the outsiders that have come into this strike and have interfered with our daily workers. Our workers are loyal workers and they work out in the fields and yet they are harassed, they are insulted, these people come out and stand along the road and it just isn't fair, you talk about injustice, this is injustice.

2:20:21      REPORTER: Are you unhappy at the labor troubles?

2:20:25      WOMAN: We have no labor troubles.

2:20:26      REPORTER: What about the social aspects of it?

2:20:30      WOMAN: I don't see as we have any social problems here.

REUTHER talking in a crowd of strikers:

2:20:35      REUTHER: As you raise your wages, their wages will be raised. (cheers, "huelga!")... they haven't understood yet is that you're fighting their battle, because only if as you win the fight you're in will they be able to get the things they want. And what they ought to do is be over here with you, marching with you and fighting with you because the quicker they join with you, the quicker they will win and the quicker you will win.

REUTHER, talking to news reporter:

2:21:12      REUTHER: Well, I've come here to see first hand the situation of the workers here who are striking for a decent wage, for decent working conditions. And I come also to bring them the words of support of the American Labor Movement. I'm going to make a commitment to them at their strike meeting tonight that my union, the UAW, and the Industrial Union Department, of which I'm also president, we'll pledge \$5,000 a month for these workers for as long as it takes to win their strike. Because all these workers are asking is that they get their share of the good things of life.

2:21:53 REPORTER: Do you see this as the prime area in the country for organizing farm workers?

2:21:57 REUTHER: Well I believe that what happens here will be the beginning for organizing other farm workers. Now we're not talking about workers that work on little family sized farms, these workers work for big industry. They are the factory workers in the fields, and they are entitled to the right to bargain about their wages and their working conditions with their employers just like millions of other workers in America enjoy the benefits of collective bargaining. And this is the fundamental fight. The fundamental fight of whether we have two classes of economic citizenship in America, one for the workers who enjoy collective bargaining, who have decent wages, who have decent working conditions, who have the kind of protection during periods of unemployment, and another class, second class citizens, that's what these people are, and they are fighting to become first class economic citizens. And this is not their fight alone, it is the fight of every organized worker, it is the fight of every American who believes in human decency. And that's why I'm here. 2:23:00

[COLOR FOOTAGE]

From biographical piece on CESAR CHAVEZ, interview with reporter:

2:25:17 REPORTER: You were active in civil rights before you became a union organizer, but you became known to the public more as a union organizer. Where do you stop being a organizer and start being a civil rights advocate?

2:25:30 CHAVEZ: No, it's...it's one and the same. For instance, I once, often made the statement that anywhere in rural America today, if you take on the powers that be, the growers, immediately, immediately, you're part of the whole problem of civil rights and civil liberties. For instance, if we strike an employer and we're not permitted to have pickets, then that's infringing upon our rights, it becomes a civil rights matter. So, and then, in our case, doubly so, because we happen to be a minority group, essentially all of us, whether we're black or brown or in between.

2:26:10 REPORTER: And actually, this has served to unify the minority groups of this country, be they black or brown, or whatever they might be, or even Oriental, possibly Filipino, they're, they're gathering together, unlike any other period in history. What do you attribute this to?

2:26:25 CHAVEZ: This is a beautiful period in history. I attribute this to full participation now of the poor at least in our country. We see it there, in the ghettos, in New York City, where we are very effective, we see it in East Los Angeles, with the large number of Mexican - Americans there, we see it in Watts, in Philadelphia, we see it in Detroit. I think that they've come to realize that, that uh, the most important thing is, the thing that is going to put us together is not that we are a minority group, but that we are poor. We have people from Appalachia working with us. They're white, but they're also poor.

2:27:01 REPORTER: Cesar, nationally politicians have become interested in your movement and want to share your popularity among minority groups. Did you have any idea that you would become so influential when you first started out with your union organizing efforts?

2:27:14      CHAVEZ: No, I don't uh, I'm not that influential. It's a passing thing, where, involving a struggle that has caused a lot of attention, because it's a very just struggle. But, it'll pass and, uh, we'll be left alone pretty soon.

2:27:31      REPORTER: What's your strongest hope for the future?

2:27:33      CHAVEZ: I'd like to see the agricultural industry and the union working together. We're gonna have to do it. It's very sad that we have to go through this adjustment period. When that day comes it'll be a happy day for all of us.

[FOLLOWED BY COLOR FOOTAGE OF CESAR DURING A FAST]