

ARC-44, CBS NEWS

02:00:00

Chavez: ... ponen picketes en esas entradas y los trabajadores no entran los van a correr a ellos del trabajo me comprenden, ellos les estan dando la mano a ustedes (cut) ... a otro sindecato aun miembro en fin, tenemos que cumplirlo, y si no cumplimos esto...

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02:01:04

Chavez supporters chanting Huelga.

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grower?: uh my own experience, I know what the fields are costing me, and it costs about 450 dollars growing cost only to raise an acre of coliflower, brocolli, or lettuc, so whatever fields here are not being harvested you can figure \$450 dollars an acre, for me it means 90 thousand a week.

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reporter: Are there any circumstances under which you would sign a contract with Cesar Chavez or in other words how is this problem going to be resolved eventually?

02:02:07

grower?: uh no I personally have looked the contract over that Chavez signed with Inter Harvest and there is no way that a farmer in the Salinas Valley can operate under that contract.

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reporter: Mr. ??? Let's start with you telling me what you're doing and why?

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grower?: uh here in this field we're ??? lettuce, last week we were not able to cut all of our lettuce, we had to let certain fields go by, this was one that we could not cut because we had a shortage of harvest help last week, uh this week we have a lot more harvest help and I doubt whether we're going to be uh leaving as much lettuce in the field. If you don't harvest lettuce within a 3 to 4 day period when it's ready to harvest, in other words at maturity, it goes over the hill and you just loose it. This field here uh went over the hill and the first thing you do, you roll it like you saw us doing here and then you'll come in here and disc it up, uh it's a complete loss.

02:09:21

reporter: well we're not just talking about lettuce are we?

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grower: Uh no, uh we're talking about all crops raised her in the Salinas Valley, uh for me in particular it means lettuce and coliflour and uh brocolli.

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reporter: are other growers ... (cut) a month or another six months?

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grower: Uh that's going to be hard to uh say uh what will happen, I know we're all losing an awful lot of money, a lot of the good workers have left the area here because of threats uh to themselves and to their families and uh your Mexican people generally uh are easily threatened, and they definitely have been threatened during the strike and a lot of the good help has left the country. Uh our lettuce season has another two half months long here in the valley, we harvest coliflower and brocolli pretty much on a year round basis. Uh I'm worried and most of our energies right now are really going into trying to keep the younger crops uh growing, they have to be fertilized, they have to be irrigated, they have to be thined and hoed and uh we have lost quite a few of our irrigators here in this valley , which surprises me a little bit because you would think uh Chavez would realize that if he took all of our irrigators away from us that there's not going to be any crops to harvest later in the season when this strike is over, if it is over. Local ??? was signed by the boys back in Boston who are just scared to death of a secondary boycott and uh we also know that Salinas Valley only represents two and half percent of Uniteds total sales and they weren't about to jeopardize all their bananas and other crops for their interests here in the Salinas...

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