

TAPE ARC - 66; TC 00:00:00

SAC STATE 2

PICKETER:

00:00:02 There are some people here right now walking on the picket line who feel that maybe this is the way. Other people are preparing for other activities.

CESAR CHAVEZ talks to press at contract signing:

00:02:16 With the signing of the Delano uh, growers, and where we have signed in Coachella and in Arvin, we estimate that we have uh, a little over 50% of the acreage signed up. We have a large group of growers that have not signed up in the northern Tulare County area and the southeastern Fresno County area, a few growers in Madera Country, and then we have some growers in San Joaquin County, which is around the Lodi area, and I would say that that makes up anywhere from 25 to 35% of the grapes.

00:02:57 REPORTER: And the boycott will continue...

00:02:58 Definitely.

CESAR CHAVEZ talks to reporter:

00:03:12 REPORTER: First of all Mr. Chavez, congratulations for a great victory.

00:03:15 CHAVEZ: Thank you very much, sir.

00:03:16 REPORTER: What happens now now that Delano has uh, succumbed and organized, where do you go from here?

JOHNNY GIUMARRA talks at contract signing:

00:03:50 ...and I supposed overjoyed that peace will come to this valley. It has been a long, long drawn out problem. But in our minds we view this, not that anyone has prevailed, or that anyone has lost necessarily, but it's really a mutual victory for both of us. A mutual victory in this respect. That the farm workers in this area will be having higher wages and perhaps better working conditions under the terms of this contract. In the past this area has attempted to do the best to it's ability, and in fact, as you know has been a leader in the United States, in agriculture. So in that respect, in that respect, you have prevailed. And in our, from our standpoint, you recognize that we have serious problems in agriculture.... 10,000 miles begins with a single step. You've taken that single step. I wish you luck on the balance of the trip and I hope that with this foundation you can move on to greater things and we'll prosper and so will you.

[is handed UNION LABEL banner, and holds it up]

00:11:30 GIUMARRA: ...that's what Cesar tells me anyway. And it's a relationship that's going to be an important one, because our businesses and your jobs depend on it. And so when I say "that you've known and loved" I didn't really mean that too kiddingly, because we have to work together and we have to

respect one another, and we have to do everything we can to make sure that we go from this day forward on to a better life for everyone.

00:12:05 BISHOP DONNELLY: ...historic occasion, I am happy in the name of the Bishop's Committee on Farm Labor, to congratulate both sides on this settlement. It brings to a happy conclusion five years of strife and turmoil in the fields of this rich and verdant valley of abundance. When the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops established this committee, it charged the committee with seeking facts in the dispute, and with making recommendations which would bring the parties together. This has been our sole intent since our first visits to California in February of this year. We have always felt that given good will on the part of the growers and the union, a just settlement could be reached, insuring continued prosperity for the table grape industry, and just wages and proper conditions for the workers of the industry. We are happy to report that in our visits and talks with union officials, and in our talks with 70 growers both large and small. we have found that good will. In the need to achieve this objective, our only interest has been to promote that good will...

00:13:25 CHAVEZ: Thank you, thank you very much. Thank you very much, uh, thank you Bishop Donnelly, Mr. Giumarra and uh, delegation of growers and members and officers of the union, and our friends. Uh, today, when we see so much violence in our country and in our midst, this event here truly justifies the beliefs of millions of people that through non-violent action, in this nation and across the world, that social justice can be gotten, and we are proving this here every day. Without the help of those of millions upon millions of people who believe as we do that non-violence is the way to struggle, without that help, I'm sure that we wouldn't be here today. We in the Farm Workers Union movement

sent our thanks to all of the people around the world who have been with us for almost five years. The boycott, the strike, has been a costly thing, not only to us, but also to the employers, and it's something they will not be able to regain, the things we lost we won't be able to make up, at least in worldly possessions. But I think that because, even though however unfortunate the experience might have been, in the struggle on both sides, that because of that experience, we have created the foundations of what I think is going to be a very good working relationship with the grower community in Delano. We started negotiations about two weeks ago, and we were very surprised when the growers came in to see us, they did not have horns. And I think that they were equally surprised to see that we did not have tails. It was at this first meeting that we began to gradually slowly, gradually develop a kind of respect for one another that developed and began to continue to develop on through the negotiations. And I can say here truly that we expected these negotiations to be the most bitter experience for us. It turned out to be the most pleasant experience, there were no bitterness involved. I think that the employers ought to be congratulated for their approach to the negotiations. They certainly are people to be congratulated for the way they comported themselves. The boycott is not over yet. We have a certain percentage of growers that have not signed and the boycott is going to continue until all of them sign. We hope that this will happen very soon. And we have pledged to the grape growers that as soon as the last grower signs a contract that we will endeavor, we will turn around the boycott machinery all over the world to try to make the grapes, all of the grapes, sweet grapes again....

00:17:19 ...So today, all of us, me and you, everyone, feel that today is really truly the beginning of a new day. With this new beginning, with this new experience, we bring upon ourselves tremendous responsibilities. But also we give

hope to millions and millions of farm workers throughout the land who are coming to us every day, almost every day around the clock from all over the world...

00:19:40 ...the struggle has been a difficult struggle. It would have been five years in Septembers. The strikers, and the people involved in the struggle sacrificed a lot, sacrificed all of their worldly possessions. 95% of the strikers lost their homes and their cars. But I think that in losing those worldly possessions they found themselves, and they found that only through dedication, through serving mankind, and in this case, through serving the poor and those who were struggling for justice, only in that way could they really find themselves.

00:20:30 GIUMARRA: ...have a new relationship, we're not going to be looking to the past, we're looking to the future, and from here on is what really tells the tale. ...and so what we anticipate here is a new era in agriculture, when with the power of the unions and the power of the people, and the ability of the men in this valley to grow the finest crops in the world, we can get these products into the marketplace and return a higher return to the farmers, so that they in turn will be able to sit down at some future date and be able to negotiate higher wages for the people, and that's the kind of relationship that we ought to have.

CESAR CHAVEZ interviewed by reporter:

00:21:27 CHAVEZ: ...well we have the rest of Tulare County and uh, most of the Fresno Country growers and some, a few up in Madera County and some up in Lodi that we'd like to talk to and sign up and get the whole boycott over with.

00:21:40 REPORTER: So the boycott will continue until you have 100%?

00:21:42 CHAVEZ: Oh, yes, it will continue to 100%, yes.

00:22:03 CHAVEZ: The union is not filing suit directly but many of our members are filing suit against them for abridging their rights and signing a back door agreement. We must not condemn the whole Teamster organization, I think that this is the shenanigans of a few men, uh, Einer Mone and a few of his co-workers there. But by no means should we condemn all of the Teamsters, because we have been getting into our office an awful lot of calls from members, and particularly Chicano Teamster members, they are very upset and they are telling us they are going to let their locals know that they are upset.

00:22:42 REPORTER: Are you optimistic now, will the UFWOC achieve all your goals, is this the turning point?

00:22:47 CHAVEZ: Well, it's certainly the beginning I guess, it's a turning point in one respect and that's that uh, I think that now there's no dispute that we do have a union, but we do have an awful lot of work to do.

JERRY COHEN, speaking outside the jail in Salinas:

00:27:56 ...the judge then found that the farm workers and Cesar were in violation of the order because we're boycotting, the judge found, Bud Antle's lettuce. And he found two separate violations because of the boycott. And he sentenced Cesar to five days in jail for each violation, so Cesar's been sentenced to ten days in jail. The United Farm Workers have also been fined \$500. for each violation, so we've been fined \$1,000. Now, more importantly than that, there's a

section in the injunction that orders us to tell people not to boycott. And Cesar has been thrown in jail until he complies with that order, that's what the judge did today. And we think it's unconstitutional and we're going to try and appeal it and we hope to win, but Cesar's in jail now, and as it stands now he'll be in jail until he orders the end of the boycott of Bud Antle lettuce.

BISHOP?:

00:29:42 The Antle's indicated that they were as a matter of fact willing to sit down and talk over, to negotiate with all parties concerned, the various aspects of the present dispute.

CESAR CHAVEZ at press conference:

00:30:15 I'm not hinting another Delano in Salinas, I'm informing the employers that this is what, that if they refuse to meet with us that could well bring another Delano, another Salinas. In that case, yes, a strike, a boycott, a very expensive operation for the union, but also a very costly uh, fight for the employers.

