

GRAPE S O F W A R

1. U.S. Grape Shipments to South Vietnam

In 1965 and 1966, when the Delano grape strike began, South Vietnam was the 25th largest importer of U.S. fresh grapes, importing under 350,000 pounds or \$40,000 worth of grapes (U.S. Dept. of Commerce figures). California produces over 90% of U.S. fresh table grapes. During this period, UFWOC was striking several major California wine grape growers.

In 1967, the year UFWOC initiated the boycott of Giumarra grapes (the Giumarra Corp. is the worlds largest grape grower). In 1968, with the UFWOC boycott expanded to all California grapes, private shipments to South Vietnam were nearly tripled to \$476,607 (2,855,016). This impoverished nation has become the worlds second largest importer of California grapes.

It should be noted that these export figures are for private, commercial sales and do not include grape shipments to U.S. Armed Forces, to U.S. government employees overseas, or to the Canal Zone. However, in addition to private exports shipments, these U.S. Department of Commerce figures DO NOT INCLUDE shipments under foreign aid under Foreign Assistance Act, for Dept. of Defense Military Assistance Program grants and for agricultural commodities under P.L. 480. Since specific breakdowns of U.S. grape exports under these government programs are not shown in this report, the following questions arise: (1) are non-union California grapes being exported to South Vietnam under U.S. government programs? (2) are California grapes transported to South Vietnam in U.S. government ships and planes? (3) are these grapes imported by South Vietnamese middlemen for resale to U.S. government commissaries and PX's? In short, is the U.S. Government using public programs to break the UFWOC strike and boy tt by providing new markets for struck grape growers?

<u>USE</u>	<u>GRAPE PURCHASES</u>		
	<u>FISCAL YEAR</u>	<u>POUNDS</u>	<u>DOLLARS</u>
1. Total Department of Defense Purchase ¹	1966-67-68 (3 yr. average)	7,500,000	1,200,000
	1969-2 quarters	8,000,000	1,260,000
	1969-estimate	16,000,000	2,500,000
2. Department of Defense Purchase for S. Vietman	1967	468,000	70,200
	1968	555,000	94,350
	1969-2 quarters*	2,047,695	n.a.
	1969-estimate	4,000,000	n.a.
3. Private Commercial Shipments to South Vietnam ²	<u>CALENDAR YEAR</u>		
	1965	244,952	32,438
	1966	331,662	67,533
	1967	1,194,988	214,330
	1968	2,855,016	476,607

Source: 1. U.S. Dept. of Defense fact sheet Dept. of Defense use of table grapes, 2/12/68: Frank Mankiewicz and Tom Braden "Eight Pounds of Grapes Per Man" Fresno Bee 4/25/60.

2. U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Exports, Report ft 410, annual.

*July-December only: n.a., not available

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