The Voice of the Farm Worker
El Malcriado
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Texas Rangers
P. 9-10-11
Luming Imutan

"I CAME TO AMERICA IN 1964 WITH MY HUSBAND AND OUR THREE CHILDREN. MY PARENTS AND MY BROTHER WERE WORKING IN THE FIELDS AT THE TIME, AND I WAS WORRIED ABOUT THEM.

"...A PUSH BUTTON COUNTRY"

"I THOUGHT THAT AMERICA WAS A RICH COUNTRY, AND FROM THE MOVIES I THOUGHT IT WAS A PUSH BUTTON COUNTRY. IN THE NEWSREELS THAT THEY SHOW IN THE PHILIPPINES, EVERYONE IN AMERICA PUSHES BUTTONS. THEY PUSH BUTTONS TO CLEAN THE HOUSE AND IN ALL OF THE FACTORIES, SO I THOUGHT ALL OF THE AMERICANS PUSH BUTTONS. WE HAVE POVERTY IN THE PHILIPPINES BUT I THOUGHT THERE WAS NO POVERTY IN AMERICA. ALL OF OUR FRIENDS THAT WOULD COME AND VISIT US FROM AMERICA DRESSED WELL AND SPENT LOTS OF MONEY. THEY NEVER ADMITTED THE HARDSHIPS THEY HAD IN AMERICA AND THEY ALWAYS TALKED ABOUT WHAT A RICH COUNTRY AMERICA WAS.

"I WAS SHOCKED WHEN I CAME HERE AND SAW MY PARENTS WORKING IN THE FIELDS AND LIVING IN A LABOR CAMP. THEY MOVED IN WITH MY HUSBAND AND OUR THREE CHILDREN, AND MY BROTHER MOVED IN TOO. I STARTED WORKING IN THE FIELDS TIPPING AND TYING VINES. LATER, I WENT BACK TO THE PHILIPPINES AND RETURNED ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1965, TWO DAYS AFTER AWOC STARTED THE STRIKE.

"...IT WAS DECIDED THERE COULD BE NO VIOLENCE"

"IT WAS THE YOUNG FILIPINO BOYS THAT STARTED THE STRIKE IN AWOC. THESE YOUNG BOYS HAVE A LOT OF VIOLENCE INSIDE THEM AND WHEN THEY HAD A PICKET LINE AT A FIELD, ALL OF THE WORKERS LEFT. MOST OF THESE BOYS LEFT WHEN IT WAS DECIDED THAT THERE COULD BE NO VIOLENCE ON THE PICKET LINE. BUT THESE FILIPINO BOYS STARTED THE STRIKE. AND IF IT WASN'T FOR THEM, THOSE OLD MEN WOULD NEVER HAVE LEFT THE FIELDS AND JOINED THE STRIKE.

"MY FATHER WAS ON THE PICKET LINE AND MY MOTHER COOKED IN THE KITCHEN. THEY WERE ON THE FIRST PICKET LINE AT BIANCO. ANDY, MY HUSBAND, AND I DECIDED THAT WE WOULD WORK IN THE STRIKE FULL TIME, AND MY PARENTS COULD WATCH OUR CHILDREN AT HOME. I WORKED IN THE KITCHEN SCRUBBING FLOORS, THEN I WAS ON THE PICKET LINE AND WORKED ON THE NFWA BOYCOTT AND WENT ON THE MARCH TO SACRAMENTO. NOW I WORK FOR THE ACCOUNTING OFFICE.

"...NOTHING TO SHOW FOR THEIR WORK"

"I FELT PITY FOR THE CONDITIONS MY PEOPLE WERE LIVING IN, ESPECIALLY THE OLD MEN WHO HAD COME HERE FROM THE PHILIPPINES WHEN THEY WERE VERY YOUNG. THEY WERE ALL SINGLE BECAUSE THERE WAS A LAW BEFORE WORLD WAR II STATING THAT NO FILIPINO MEN COULD BRING THEIR WIVES INTO THIS COUNTRY AND A LAW IN CALIF. THAT NO FILIPINO MEN COULD MARRY AN AMERICAN WOMAN. THESE MEN HAD BEEN WORKING IN AMERICA FOR 30 OR 40 YEARS, AND HAD NOTHING TO SHOW FOR SO MANY YEARS OF HARD WORK UNDER HORRIBLE CONDITIONS.

"ONE OF THE HARDEST PARTS ABOUT BEING ON STRIKE AND BEING ON PICKET LINES IS TAKING THE INSULTS THAT PEOPLE GIVE YOU. WHEN I WAS IN LOS ANGELES FOR THE FACTORY GATE COLLECTIONS AND THE BOYCOTT LINES FOR S&W, PEOPLE WOULD ASK "WHY SHOULD YOU TELL US WHAT TO BUY?" "WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BEG?" "WHY DON'T YOU GO TO WORK?" THERE WERE MANY PEOPLE WHO CALLED US A "DISGRACE TO THE PUBLIC."
"...FOR ALL FARM WORKERS"

"THE SADDEST PART IS CONVINCING MY COUNTRYMEN, MY OWN PEOPLE THAT THEY SHOULD JOIN THE STRIKE AND SUPPORT IT FOR THEIR OWN GOOD. I WOULD SHOUT AT THEM IN THE FIELDS, AND TELL THEM THAT IF THEY WORKED UNDER A UNION CONTRACT THEY COULD AFFORD TO VISIT THE PHILIPPINES AND SEE THEIR FAMILY; THEY COULDN'T DO THIS UNLESS THEY HAD THEIR PAY RAISED AND UNDER A CONTRACT THEY WOULD GET VACATIONS. THERE WERE A LOT OF OLD FILIPINO MEN SCABBING, AND THEY WOULDN'T WALK OUT ON STRIKE BECAUSE THEY WERE IN MANY OF THE STRIKES DURING THE '30'S AND FELT THAT MOST OF THE STRIKES WERE LED BY CROOKS WHO SOLD OUT TO THE GROWERS. I WOULD TRY TO CONVINCE THEM THAT THE STRIKE WAS FOR THEIR OWN GOOD, NOT JUST FOR THE STRIKERS BUT FOR ALL FARMWORKERS. I WOULD SHOW THEM THAT THE GROWERS HAVE DONE NOTHING FOR THEM AFTER 30 OR 40 YEARS OF WORK, AND THAT THE UNION HAS MANY BENEFITS, INCLUDING FREE INSURANCE AND A RESPECT FOR SENIORITY. BUT THEY WOULD SAY THAT WE WERE LAZY AND DIDN'T WANT TO WORK, AND I WOULD GET MAD. NOW I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY THE PICKETS LOSE THEIR TEMPERS AND I DON'T BLAME THEM."

"...WE DIDN'T GET ANY BILLS PAID"

"IN AWOC, FOR THE FIRST YEAR OF THE STRIKE, EACH PERSON ON STRIKE RECEIVED ABOUT $35 A MONTH. WE DIDN'T GET ANY BILLS PAID, OR THE $5 A WEEK THAT WE GET NOW. THERE WERE SEVERAL FILIPINO FAMILIES ON STRIKE SINCE THE BEGINNING, BUT NOW THERE ARE ONLY A FEW FAMILIES LEFT WHO HAVE BEEN HERE SINCE THE BEGINNING. IT WAS HARDER THEN BECAUSE THE STRIKERS DIDN'T GET THEIR BILLS PAID AND THEY LOST THEIR HOMES, CARS AND FURNITURE. IF THEY HAD $5 A WEEK FROM THE BEGINNING AND THEIR BILLS PAID, THEY WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN FORCED TO RETURN TO WORK, EVERYONE ATE AT FILIPINO HALL THEN BECAUSE WE HAD NO GROCERIES FOR THE FAMILIES, EXCEPT ONCE A MONTH WHEN WE SOME TIMES GOT A DONATION.

"I FEEL THAT THE MERGER BETWEEN AWOC AND THE NFWA WAS THE BEST CHANGE THAT WE'VE HAD SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE STRIKE. BOTH UNIONS HAVE BEEN WORKING TOGETHER, AND WE ARE BOTH WORKING TO SEE ALL FARM WORKERS REALIZE THIS. WE HAVE CONTRACTS AS PROOF THAT WE ARE STRONG AND THE WORKERS HAVE MORE FAITH IN THE UNION BECAUSE WE KNOW THEY WON'T SELL US OUT TO THE GROWERS."

THE COVER

THE STORY OF THE INCREDIBLE, BRUTAL REPRESSION OF THE STRIKERS, GOING ON RIGHT NOW IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS, IS SHOWN IN THIS ISSUE OF EL MALCRIADO ON PAGES 9, 10, 11. DRAWING BY ANDY ZERMENO.
Dear Editor:

In the last meeting that we had with Chavez in Pacific Palisades, he told me that I should write to you asking about those buttons that had the portrait of Emiliano Zapata and if you have them, maybe you could send me a few.

ALFREDO ACOSTA F.
Visalia, California

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: We have not seen the Zapata buttons since some beautiful young girls were selling them on Easter Sunday last year in Sacramento, after the long march by the farm workers. El Malcriado is planning to produce a large poster of Zapata—the same picture which appeared in issue #29 on the cover—which will sell for $1 and can be hung on any wall that is big enough. But we don't have them yet. We don't have the book Huelga in Spanish either, which many people have asked about. We hope to be able to make these things soon, but our newspaper comes first and our time is limited. Anyone who would like to work with us as a volunteer this summer would be very welcome since we have much work to do.

Dear Editor:

For the first time in my life I have just written a letter because of something I read in a newspaper. It is to the U.S. Attorney General:

Dear Sir:

I am neither a lawyer nor a law student, but from what I read in the paper the violation of a person's Constitutional Rights is a violation of the Federal Law.

I am laboring under the impression that the Federal Immigration Act prohibits the admittance of immigrants into an area (geographical or industrial) where the admittance of the immigrant would tend to lower wages or conditions of employment.

If this is correct, then why are commuters (immigrants under the law) allowed to harvest the crops behind the Farm Workers' picket line?

When workers are being displaced and a Federal Judge refuses to hear an injunction relief or denial pleading on the basis that it should go to State Court, what is it but a violation of a person's Federal Rights?

When a State District Judge grants an injunction prohibiting any and all picketing, what is it but a denial of free speech?

When pickets are denied the right to pass back and forth before the entrance of a struck establishment in order to inform the public of their strike, what is it but a violation of their Constitutional Rights?

I would point out to you that the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, is the only union even in Texas to be so restricted.

When local law enforcement officials and the employers are in collusion to the extent that the County Attorney represents one of the growers (Randall Nye represents La Casita as per my information) and through this collusion employees are intimidated, coerced, and discriminated against, what is it but a violation of their Constitutional Rights?

You state in the second paragraph of your letter that the maintenance of law and order is mainly the responsibility of local law enforcement agencies and I state to you that in my opinion this responsibility has been lacking and still is since the "huelga" started.

I have been working below what I call the "Mexican-Dixon Line" of Texas for most four years as a union organizer so I speak from first-hand knowledge.

It's your country, too, and...
Dear brothers:

This letter is to say that those who will work for less money are those who say they are farmers in our dear country of Mexico. And then they say "we are going to work for whatever we can get and then we’re going back to Mexico and we don’t give a damn about the union."

Well, I ask, what are we going to do with these scabs? They bring people from places like the Mexican border and bring them to the rancher or the contractor who makes them the crew pusher. And later on, the "little present" for the boss and if possible even a woman.

This is what these liars do. Please publish this in El Malcriado.

JFG de CORTEZ
Kingsburg, California
On May 29, 1967, after many months of anxious waiting, the United Farm Workers Union, AFL-CIO, was recognized for purposes of collective bargaining at the Alta Vista Ranch in Reedley, California. A previously scheduled election for February 12th was called off at the last minute by Cesar Chavez after many irregularities including unfair labor practices by a labor contractor Daniel Lozano and his agents.

The tension and fear generated by this campaign created such a climate of terror and intimidation that it was impossible to conduct a fair election.

An agreement for a "fair" election was then entered into by the Christian Brothers and UFWOC, providing for elections as soon as a representative number of employees would begin working.

But the enemies of the poor are never asleep, and they try to manipulate the workers and use one against the other. After the hiring began workers told union representatives Paul Sanchez and Crescencio Mendoza that workers had been referred to the Christian Brothers ranch by outsiders with instructions to vote against the union and not to sign any authorization cards. They were led to believe that if they associated with the Union they might lose their jobs and not work in the Reedley area again.

When the Christian Brothers became aware that this had taken place, they agreed to a Card Cross Check election. This was finally agreed upon, and the workers chose the Union overwhelmingly.

The farm workers of Christian Brothers have now taken their place at the negotiation table with the workers from Napa who won recognition in an election last March.

The contract for the Napa ranch is near completion in what the Negotiating Committee believe to be the best farm worker contract in the United States.

When Larry Itliong was called a "communist" in the John Birch Society book a year ago, they didn't know that it might cost them $2 million dollars.

Larry, assistant director of the United Farm Workers, said, "I am not now nor ever have been a Communist and "American Opinion" (The Birch book) labeled me that out of ill will and hatred..."

The hate magazine, published on the east coast, had published a long article about the strike in Delano. The article was published as part of a propaganda campaign by the political group. They printed Larry's picture and said he had been denied entrance to the Philippines from the U.S. because he had been a communist.

The lawsuit was filed in San Francisco last week by Larry.

The Birch Society, enemies of the people, are publishers of the Opinion magazine in the Eastern United States. They seek to gain political power by accusing innocent leaders of being Communists. Led by their president Robert Welch, they wave the American flag in front of them to obscure their attempts to bring about the downfall of the American system of freedom and justice.
There are coyotes in Arizona, such as Juan Aguilar and others who are very cruelly abusing those who work in the onions. Aguilar is the third link in the grand chain of exploitation by contractors, where the first contractor provides work for the second, and the second gives it to a third man. This is how Aguilar gets the surplus scum off the top of the dirty money which the other contractors give to themselves. In order to get a bigger piece of the pie, he plans with his workers, signing up men and discharging them at will, and they cannot defend themselves because they aren't organized.

In Guadalupe, Arizona, the workers have to arise at four in the morning in order to be in the fields at six. The onions are small and they work on a piece rate and they are paid only 25¢ a bag. After picking the onions, the workers lose time because they have to sort them according to quality—even though the ranchers have sorting machines.

The only solution to these bad working conditions is a UNION CONTRACT; the only solution to the labor contractor problem is the HIRING HALL.

Schenley Is Proud of the Union

UFWOC has a booth at the Union Label Show now being held in Phoenix, Arizona. This show is held to tell the public which products are made by union labor and to ask people to buy only those products.

This is the first year that the farm workers have had a booth. Never before have farm workers had a union or contracts with their employers. Now that they do, they are asking people to buy only those products which come from ranches that have signed a union contract. An example of this is Schenley. Now that they have signed a contract with the farm workers, their products are handled entirely by union members.

Schenley products, made and handled entirely by union labor.
On Tuesday, May 30, two husky men pried the front door of Filipino Hall open. Mike Kratko, a striker and one of the unarmed security guards used to protect union property, heard some noises, came out to inspect and was attacked by the two men. They ordered him to open the door to the accounting office. He refused and asked the two men to leave. One of the men pulled a .25 automatic pistol and made Mike stand against the wall. At that point George Ebb, the other security guard assigned to the Filipino Community Center walked in to the scene. They made George stand up to the wall and took his keys. One of the men walked into the office and ransacked the place. The two men took $100 and an old AWOC file. Just before they left they told Mike, "If you know what's good for you you'll watch it. You know what we did to your guy up north with the broomstick." (referring to the treacherous attack on DeWitt Tannehill)

In a special interview granted to two El Malcriado reporters Captain Gilbert of the Delano Police Department said that though his department was working on this case, they so far had failed to come up with any leads. He asked that if anyone had any knowledge of the suspects to go to him with the information.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: These two men are just like Perelli-Minetti, Jack Pandol, Giumarra, the Texas Rangers and others who realize that farm workers are going to win. They have to use pistols and violence and cowardly acts to inflict harm on farm workers. But all these bestial acts mean nothing because guns and robberies and violence can't stop farm workers from gaining their union.

The marriage of Agustin Lira, 22, and Kerry Ohta, 20, was held on the new land of the farm workers union near Delano, on Saturday, June 10. Lira is one of the leaders of the Teatro Campesino. He is a singer, actor, and farm worker, originally from Torreon, Coahuila, Mexico. Kerry, originally from San Francisco, joined the strike a year ago, working with a children's childcare center and children's art classes, at first and later as a reporter for El Malcriado.

The marriage ceremony, performed by Rev. Jim Drake, was the first activity on the new land of the union. Lira commented, "Many people are married in a church. But I wanted to be married on this land which symbolizes the struggle of the farm workers. That is my church."

WORKERS ARE NOW NEEDED AT THE DI GIORGIO RANCH IN ARVIN FOR PLUM PICKING AND GRAPE GIRDLING. UNION CONTRACT GUARANTEES $1.65 AN HOUR MINIMUM WAGE, PIECE RATE ON GIRDLING. MEN AND WOMEN REGISTER IMMEDIATELY AT UFWOC HIRING HALLS: 102 ALBANY, DELANO, AND 10913 MAIN STREET, LAMONT.
Dear Fran:

It was good to hear from you and to receive news from Delano. We feel kind of isolated here in Texas although there is so much happening here that you don't get bored. I talked with Andy this morning and he said that Caesar Chavez was meeting with the Teamsters and Ferrelli-Longetti and that Jerry Cohen was coming down here soon. That is good news. We have a lawyer that has just joined us, but I'm sure that he can use Jerry's help here, especially with the Ranglers causing so many problems.

Last Thursday they beat up two of our guys. I was in jail in Edinburg at the time and received news of it the next morning when I telephoned to find out when they were going to get us out. The Rangers had approached Gilbert and Bill Chandler Thursday night and asked where Magdelano's kids could be. Actually they asked where the S.O.B. was and cooked their shotguns. According to Ellis and Eddie who were also there and everyone who saw them that night, they had been drinking. Gilbert sent Bill out to warn Magdelano and found them at Benny Rangel's house. Five minutes after he arrived Magdelano said that he had looked outside and thought the Rangers were outside. Then he checked the back and said that the house was surrounded. Bill was arrested after they forcefully broke the lock off the door. Kathy Baker had ducked into the kitchen and heard the whole beating. Magdelano and Benny had put their hands in the air when they saw the guns, and were ordered to lower them; they didn't want to. They thought the Ranger—especially Capt. A.T. Allen—was drunk. They then were told to lay on the floor, they were cursing the whole time saying that they were going to kill the bastards. Then they proceeded to kick Magdelano and smashed the back of his head with the shot gun barrel. He is in the hospital in critical condition with a broken rib, concussion, blood clot near the spine. Benny got away somehow with only a broken finger and a pretty bad gash on the side of his head. They arrested them. The whole scene was ugly. They charged Benny and Bill with assisting in the resisting of arrest of another. They charged Magdelano with shouting Viva La Raza! and displaying weapon in a threatening manner. He and Benny had gone hunting in the late afternoon for palomos. They claim that he had waved his gun at Ray Rochester, Manager of La Casita.

The Rangers are pigs. If we can get them out of here, Texas will have the chance of making it. I have been in jail three times. Twice roughed up by the Rangers and the third time a State Senator was present and they were pretty cool about the whole thing. Everyone who is arrested is beaten, have their arms twisted and thrown against walls and cars. The time I was in jail that the above incident occurred, we were picketing a train of melons. We were only going to picket if the Senator showed up. At the last minute he did and we went out to stand at the four corners of the crossing. I had been the first to leave to check to see if it was Sen. Bernal in the car, and then motioned to the rest of them to come. I didn't have a sign when I was arrested and was standing two feet away from Bernal who was really outraged at the fact that I was being charged with the secondary picketing when I didn't even have a sign in my hand. He has referred to the whole thing as being a police state. That's an understatement. Our bail was $500 cash bond. Mine was reduced from $750 because I was an outsider and had no stake in the state of Texas. Problem is we have to put up the entire amount in cash.

It's hot here. The weather drains all your strength. The water is bad and the scorpions drive me buggy. They have quite a few of them here as well as rattlesnakes and rats. This evening Ishmael came with his little kid who had been bitten by a rat. Tamar Nelson was hit by a scorpion yesterday. There are no county facilities in the surrounding three counties. To be hospitalized requires a deposit of $150. Poor people just don't receive medical attention. One of the most valuable things we could do here would be to set up a medical clinic here.

Give my best to all. Next time you see O'Loney pass on a good word. Say a prayer for all of us here...it's like being somewhere and you have nowhere to appeal. Even the judge stands by while you're being pushed around. Once in jail you're liable to be beaten by the jailkeeper. Perfect place for a people's war. But we're non-violent and we all believe it because we would have all been dead by now any other way.
RANGER VIOLENCE:

MISSION, TEXAS. During the last two weeks the Texas Rangers have made over 60 arrests, beaten, kicked, and shoved people, and proved to the whole world that they are little more than a bunch of thugs and criminals. Some of the most shocking acts of the Rangers have occurred along the Missouri-Pacific Railroad. A train leaves Rio Grande City every day with 10 to 20 freight cars of melons. Farm workers wanted to tell the train engineers about the strike; so they set up "informational pickets" with signs telling the trainmen about the strike in Rio Grande. The growers and Rangers were furious, since the picket lines in Mission, Alamo, La Feria, Harlingen, and Corpus Christi, were proving to the whole state that these Mexican-American farm workers are not afraid of the Rangers.

The Railroad owners were also mad, because this showed that they were carrying scab melons on their trains. So the Railroad bosses, growers, and Rangers worked together to end the picketing and throw all the workers in jail.

On Friday, May 26, a group of strikers went to Mission. Four women were selected to carry "informational" pickets signs, telling the railroad men and the people of Mission about the strike.

The train was not due for two hours. But suddenly the Rangers arrived. They grabbed the four girls, pushing them and twisting their arms. Then they began arresting other people who were standing around, including newsmen. One man, Pancho Medrano, was taking movies. They grabbed his movie camera and hit him in the face with his own camera. He was arrested with the others and his film was later exposed to destroy the evidence. In all, 12 people were arrested and taken to Hidalgo County Jail in Edinburg.

Later several more union members arrived in Mission. But they were not picketing. They had no signs or leaflets. When the train finally came through the Rangers arrested four more people, a minister and his wife and two others standing near the tracks.

Near midnight, when the train approached Harlingen the Rangers grabbed Danny Lucio. Two witnesses saw the Rangers grab Lucio. So the Rangers arrested them too. One is a teacher, the other an Air Force Colonel. The Rangers also shoved and threatened newsmen and told them not to take pictures. At first the people were charged with trespassing. The charge was later changed to "unlawful assembly". Then it was changed again to "secondary picketing." But most of the people did not have picket signs!

Later in the week the Rangers arrested two people near the railroad tracks in Rio Grande City. They...
HOW IT HAPPENED

held them in jail over night without giving any charge or reason. This is illegal under the Constitution. In another incident, they arrested 4 more people in Mission, while Senator Joe Bernal was visiting. Bernal protested that one girl was standing by him, watching, and was not picketing. The Rangers replied by insulting Senator Bernal.

The Rangers had a machine gun which they mounted on a special railroad car which drove in front of the train. Later they put their machine gun in a Ranger car. The Rangers are acting like gangsters and thugs, hired by the growers and railroad to terrorize the poor people. The fight against the Rangers is just one more part of the great struggle to achieve justice for the Mexican-Americans in Texas.

CORRUPT JUDGES AND FRAUDULENT LAWS

RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS-The labor strike in Starr County costs La Casita Farms over a thousand dollars each day. The manager of La Casita, which is the biggest ranch in the country, said so last week. And the ranch called "Trophy Farms" also has been very much affected by the strike. First they tried to stop the strike by arresting all of the huelguistas in one day. They arrested 22 people near Trophy Farms and 12 more near La Casita. But this did not frighten the strikers. Then the workers seized upon an existing fraud law and obtained a court order from Judge Laughlin. (The judge has been formally accused of dishonesty.)

The judge in effect declared the strike illegal and prevented the strikers from picketing in the camps or near the packing sheds. The judge said that no employee of La Casita was a member of the Union. Whatever La Casita worker he asked told him this, because all the members of the Union were on strike or had been fired a year ago for union activities. Many of the union members are ex-employees of La Casita. But the strike will continue until the ranches, the judges, and all the fraudulent laws have been overcome.

THE VICTIM

This is Magdaleno Dimas, before he was brutally beaten by the Texas Rangers. The Rangers accused Dimas of shouting "Viva la Huelga" and this disturbed the peace of a La Casita foreman. Dimas, a member of the Union de Trabajadores Campesinos Unidos is pledged to non-violence. So he did not resist arrest when the Rangers broke down his door and seized him late at night last week. The Rangers then beat him with a shotgun, kicked and slugged him. He is now in the hospital with a brain concussion. Dr. Ramiro Casso, who saved Dimas' life, said "It was the worst beating I have ever seen given by the police. The Rangers are a bunch of thugs."
They Have To

BY EPIFANIO CAMACHO

"We aren't from here; we are from Mexico; the huelga doesn't mean anything to us; we have come here to work only because this is a better climate and later we will go back to Mexico."

So said one of four men who were eating their midday meal in the shade of a tree at the place of their work. Four men: in age ranging from 23 to 38 years, and looked like farm workers.

This was their reply after listening to news about the movement in Delano—something in favor of the farm worker. If I had had more experience in discussing our struggle with people who have different opinions about it, perhaps something more than a simple conversation would have resulted.

But in reality mistaken ideas harm the men who hold them; at the same time they also make evident what kind of men these are—cowards and opportunists; in such cases it adds nothing to say that these men are victims not only of themselves but also of the cruel patron, who uses them for his profit.

I have seen men who also came from Mexico and from many other places, who carried themselves as men in the picket lines of this strike for a long time; later they left the picket lines for reasons beyond their control, without apparently having gained anything.

And still later I have seen them return, and upon seeing them I have been able to do nothing less than grasp their hands firmly in greeting; at the same time they feel content because they find that we have already advanced very far in our struggle; they too are proud because they have been a part of this struggle.

What a contrast to others like the four previously mentioned, and many, many more.

No man ought to scoff at gaining better wages because others have sacrificed to gain them for him; in such a case, if his cowardice will not permit him to walk like a man, it would be better if he shut his mouth.

Many people have the same ideas as those four men sitting in the shade of a tree eating their midday meal. Others say: Even though there is a strike we have to work, because we are poor, because we are hungry, because we have many debts. And many like things.

Here is where the new law against the strikebreaking green-carders—or, to put it another way, those who come from Mexico solely to

Three Ways to be in the U.S.

1 GREEN CARD
This is good anywhere in the United States and gives the holder all rights except the right to vote. Under a new regulation, green card holders who come to the United States as strikebreakers will be deported.

2 BORDER CROSSING PERMIT
This is not a work permit. It is good for only a small area near the border and it is issued for shopping or visiting. The holder must not stay in the U.S. for more than 24 hours. After crossing the border from Mexico, many permit holders work in the U.S. and return to Mexico at night.
We need food

Today our strike store is empty. It has been without meat, fruit, vegetables and milk for three weeks, when there is nothing in the store families must use their weekly $5 strike benefit for bare food necessities, instead of certain personal necessities.

We have 117 families committed full time to the strike, as well as 75 single men. There is an average of 6 to 8 children per family, which means we feed more than 1,000 men, women and children three meals a day, seven days a week. Many of the children are in school and we must also spend $700 a month for lunch tickets. When there is money in the strike fund, we are able to allot $1,000 a week for food purchases. This is $1 per person, per week. The minimum for good health is $8 per person, per week. The other 7/8 of each individual’s weekly food needs comes from your donations to the strike store.

Our families cannot survive this way. If our people cannot eat, the strike cannot continue. With your help, we have kept the strike going for 21 months. In that time we have won contracts at five ranches, including the Giants Schenley and DiGiorgio. Contract negotiations are in progress with Guerra Farms in Rio Grande City, Texas, Christian Brothers in Napa, and Mosesian & Hourigan in Delano. Election procedures are pending at Paul Masson, Almaden and Gallo.

It is well begun, but there are many battles yet to win. We must not be defeated by hunger.

Only you can help us win against hunger. Once again we ask you to bring food to Delano, or to send checks for food payable to the National Farm Workers Service Center, and mail to Delano Food Fund, P.O. Box 130, Delano, Calif., 93215. (This is a tax-exempt donation.)

The following supplies are needed each week:

- Flour - 600 lbs.
- Coffee - 75 lbs.
- Lard - 100 lbs.
- Canned milk - 3 cases
- Rice - 200 lbs.
- Detergent - 75 boxes
- Bleach - 75 qts.
- Toilet paper - 2 cases
- Soap (bath) - 2 cases
- Sugar - 200 lbs.

We know we can count on you to help us continue the Huelga in Delano and the Farmworker Movement everywhere.

Legally

3 Mexican Passport with U.S. Visa

If a Mexican Passport is stamped by the U.S. Government with a Visa, or entry permit, then the holder of the passport can be in the U.S., subject to the limitations of the visa. For instance, the visa might be given for a student or for a tourist or visitor. If the visa was given for work, then it is just as good as the green card.

Work

break strikes—applies. They are going to have to jeopardize themselves by losing this very same green card, because they are not going to be able to obey the new law; because the hunger and the need which they carry is not going to permit them to obey it, and they are not going to be able to find work in parts other than precisely those places where there are strikes going on.

El Malcriado talked about this law in its last edition (#62, p. 7), but it did not make clear what exactly is meant by those green cards; although many understand which cards were being referred to, many others say that they do not understand. Because one is a green letter, one is a green card, and one is a green pamphlet (a residence passport for the United States) which many use to pass back and forth daily across the border; or every six months they cross the border, coming to the U.S. to work, searching for strikes to break. It would be relevant at this time for El Malcriado to give a small explanation concerning this point (i.e., about the green letters and the green cards).

Break strikes applies. They are going to have to jeopardize themselves by losing this very same green card, because they are not going to be able to obey the new law; because the hunger and the need which they carry is not going to permit them to obey it, and they are not going to be able to find work in parts other than precisely those places where there are strikes going on.
A Shed “Goes Union”

THE DlGIORGIO POTATO PACKING SHED, ONE OF THE LARGEST IN CALIFORNIA, CAME UNDER THE UNION CONTRACT AT THE SAME TIME AS THE WHOLE DIGIORGIO RANCH. UNDER THE UNION BOTH WAGES AND PRODUCTION HAVE INCREASED. THE POTATO SHED IS A MODEL OF WHAT A RANCH OPERATION CAN BE IF WORKERS CARE ENOUGH TO GET CHANGES MADE THROUGH THEIR UNION.

Potato sorters work further up on the machine. Under peak production, a crew of about twenty on the huge machine can produce about a carload of potatoes an hour: sorted, sacked, sewn and loaded into the railroad car.

FARM WORKER SERVICE CENTER

IF YOU ARE AN AMERICAN CITIZEN OR HAVE AN ALIEN REGISTRATION CARD AND THE IMMIGRATION OFFICERS STOP YOU AND MISTREAT OR ABUSE YOU, LET US KNOW AT ONCE. YOU HAVE YOUR RIGHTS.

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR BLUE MEMBERSHIP CARD WITH THE STAMPED EAGLES WHEN YOU COME TO THE SERVICE CENTER. YOU HAVE TO SHOW THIS CARD!

UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 130
Delano, California 93215
Ph. 725-8661

Issued to: ___________________________________________
Type (class): ____________ Local: ____________
Date Issued: ____________ Acct. No.: ____________
By authority of the constitution and bylaws of this union:

[Signatures]
FARM WORKERS
CO-OP GAS STATION

Special Prices
FOR MEMBERS OF ALL UNIONS
REGULAR
29.9
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FOR EVERYONE ELSE
REGULAR
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ETHYL
35.9

Some of the station staff:
Joe Lostaunau, Morris Lovato, and Juan Flores.

10% Off to All Union Members
On Tires and Accessories

Work scheduling can be a major problem in a non-union shed. In a union operation the workers do it themselves, cooperatively. In the photo, Marshall Ganz, leader of the farm workers' Lamont union (with glasses), signs up crews of "sack sewers" and "jiggers" for work on DiGiorgio's two giant potato packing machines. Shown in the picture, among others, are Confeso Ramos, Jose Garcia, Candelario de Jesus, Bill Ketcher and Ramon Gaton.

Ganz looks on while sack-sewer Floyd Etheridge and jigger Floyd Anderson work. By observing work situations and improving efficiency, the workers can increase their piece-rate earnings.
THE MIGRANT FARM LABOR DILEMMA
Series 66-3 — Color

This series of unique illustrations is a sociological study of the problems that effect migrant farm workers throughout the nation.

PART 1. This filmstrip deals with the problems of limited education, inadequate housing, instability of migration, and the effects of automation.

PART 2. This examines the problems of insufficient wages, welfare relief, displacement and the influx to industrial areas. It also points out the personal problems of rejection, the frustration of waiting between harvest periods and the loss of identity.

These filmstrips, by a skillful Southern California artist, who has lived and worked among these people, are characterized by a superb blending of original graphic art and the printed word.

PRODUCED BY ANDREW ZERMENO.

Filmstrip and Teacher's Guide... $12.00, from: D. R. Douglas 527 N. La Cienega Los Angeles 90048

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JUST RELEASED

AND NOW a portfolio of prints from the Huelga

Jon Lewis offers his word and picture impressions of the Strike to finance his Master's thesis — a film made from still photographs taken during the year he spent in Delano. The twelve photographs he considers his best are reproduced as single sheet offset plates, 9" x 12", with cover, in a signed-and-numbered limited edition of 250 copies.

$3 SEND TO: Jon Lewis 2530-A Piedmont Berkeley, Calif.
per set

THEIR HERITAGE...
...springs from dark soil and the red blood of our fathers who from far days know the touch of earth to their hand

OUR FAITH...
...must still breed men of gentle nature for there is also a springtime of soft rains
Caution in Car Buying

To buy a used car without being precautionous is dangerous: so a certain magazine declared. Because a used car is a car which somebody didn't want to keep any longer for some reason: he could not continue paying for it; he exchanged it for another; he had difficulties with it; etc.

Always find out whatever you can about a car before you buy it. This information can't be obtained from the salesman except through careful questioning, using common sense; or in a sophisticated way. Generally whoever wants to buy a used car is searching for economy and other advantages: and when you have such things in mind you'd better be on your guard. For example: There are certain makes and models which require less repairs and cost less than others. Those cars which have been equipped with additional accessories generally cause trouble; if you don't need those accessories it would be better if you don't buy them.

One cautioning note concerns the condition in which you find the cars. For example: Blue smoke from the exhaust pipe and a thin trail of oil are indications of an overconsumption of oil, and the prompt repairing of this is necessary; If the car has parts either abnormal-looking or of a different color, perhaps the automobile was in a serious accident, and besides has other damaged parts although these might not be visible; If the car makes strange noises when the motor is turned on, this indicates that there is something wrong and that it might cost a lot of money. Never put any faith in the amount of miles registered on the odometre, because this is a thing easily changed—in such a case, there are a few observations to be made. For example: Look at the pedals to see whether they are unusually worn or whether they are new; the seats—if they are the original ones that they are not in bad condition; the rugs or mats for the same reason; the spare tire—if it is used check to see that it is neither worn-out nor uneven in appearance. All of these things can give you a clearer idea of the true mileage of the automobile.

Strike Supporters Foiled on Trip to Delano

The May 27th food caravan, organized in the Oakland area, was to have brought a busload of enthusiastic students from Monte Vista High School in Delano. Their trip had been many active weeks in preparation. Three of the students’ groovy teachers were sponsoring the trip: Kathy Keech, Virginia Abascal and Katherine King; and they had even secured permission from the principal to use one of the high school’s buses as the means of transportation.

The students had worked very hard, organizing and collecting food to help replenish the empty shelves of the strike store. And they were certainly looking forward to experiencing the strike by meeting the people who have made it and who are determinedly carrying it on.

But as they tried to get underway on the last Saturday morning in May, the school bus refused them its services—the motor failed.

There was another mishap on one of the caravan's routes to Delano: a group of supporters of workers for the strike from Walnut Creek, Calif., led by Mrs. Joyce McBeth, were stopped in Tracy when their car failed them.

EL MALCRIADO SAYS: We thank you, students, teachers, and Mrs. McBeth. And we thank those of you who "made it." Because we want you to know that the whole Union sincerely appreciates your efforts. And we welcome you to the food caravan which is being organized in the Oakland area for the 24th of June.

If you need help or information contact PETE VELASCO, 588 47th St., Oakland, California.
HONORIO AND BILL STONE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE TRUCK OF A LABOR CONTRACTOR, ANTONIO MACHO. TELESFORO AND GORGONIO ARE TWO OF THE FOUR FARM WORKERS THAT MACHO IS TAKING TO COACHELLA TO BREAK A STRIKE. THE CONTRACTOR DISCOVERS THAT HE IS BEING TAILED, AND HE STEPS ON THE GAS TO GET TO HIS DESTINATION, WHERE BLEEDMAN -- THE STRUCK GROWER -- IS WAITING WITH SOME DEPUTY SHERIFFS. THE GROWER AND HIS MEN CARRY SHOTGUNS JUST IN CASE STRIKERS CAUSE TROUBLE. MACHO, CONVINCED THAT HONORIO AND BILL STONE ARE STRIKERS,

ARRIVING IN COACHELLA, OUR FRIENDS FIND THEMSELVES AMONG DATE TREES. DATES ARE ONE OF THE RARE, FINE PRODUCTS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE; BUT THERE IS NOTHING RARE OR FINE ABOUT THE WORKING CONDITIONS FOR THE FARM WORKERS WHO HARVEST THE DATES.

"BILL, LOOK -- THEY'RE TURNING OFF."

"LOOKS LIKE THEY DUCKED INTO THAT DATE TREE ORCHARD, WHAT DO WE DO NOW?"

"I WAS EXPECTING SOMETHING LIKE THIS. THERE'S NO TELLING WHO THIS DATE ORCHARD BELONGS TO. SOMEHOW THEY'VE GOT TO GET FROM HERE TO THE VINEYARDS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN, WE MIGHT JUST HAVE TO FOLLOW THEM INSIDE."

"WHAT KIND OF TREES ARE THESE?"

"THEY'RE DATE TREES. DURING THE HARVEST THE WORKERS HAVE TO CLIMB UP ON THOSE LITTLE LADDERS TO PICK."

"ALL THE WAY UP THERE? LOOKS DANGEROUS."

"BOSS, ARE YOU HERE?"
"AWRIGHT, STOP IN THE NAME OF THE LAW. WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU MEXICANS DOING ON MY PRIVATE PROPERTY?"

"BUT, BOSS! IT'S ME, YOUR CONTRACTOR."

"AND THAT AIN'T ALL NEITHER. THEY FOLLOWED ME ALL THE WAY HERE. THEM'S THE GUYS COMIN' RIGHT THERE."

"WELL, I'LL BE DAMNED. HE AIN'T LYING."

"MY CONTRACTOR, EH? THEN WHERE THE HELL ARE YOUR WORKERS? YOU THINK I'M GOING TO GET MY GRAPE PICKED WITH THESE FOUR BUMS?"

"SORRY, BOSS, IT AIN'T MY FAULT. THEM STRIKERS ATTACKED ME BACK AT THE HOLE IN CALEXICO. I HAD A FULL TRUCKLOAD, BUT THEY CAME AND DRAGGED 'EM OFF. I BARELY ESCAPED WITH THESE FOUR GUYS."

"I'M GONNA GET ME ONE OF THEM 650001 STRIKERS."

"TAKE IT EASY, BOYS, REMEMBER WE'RE DEPUTY SHERIFFS AND WE GOTTA DO THIS RIGHT."
"GET OUT IN THE NAME OF THE LAW, YOU BUMS! OR WE'LL SHOOT!"

"YOU STRIKERS GOT A LOTTA NERVE TRESPASSIN' ON MY PROPERTY, YOU KNOW THAT?"

"BUT I'M NO STRIKER, I'M BILL STONE OF THE CALIFORNIA STAR."

"OH YEAH? WELL, WHO'S THIS MEXICAN WITH YOU?"

"HE'S A REPORTER FROM MEXICO CITY AND HIS NAME IS -- HEY, WHAT IS YOUR NAME ANYWAY?"

"P-P-PEPE PEPE."
“GET UP THERE, YOU PUNK SPY! YOU WANNA REPORT ON THE STRIKE? YOU'RE GONNA HAVE PLENTY TO WRITE ABOUT.”

“IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO YOU GUYS, YOU BLAME THEM COMMIE STRIKERS. WE'RE GONNA GET THESE WORKERS THROUGH THAT PICKET LINE IF WE HAVE TO RAM 'EM THROUGH.”

“HONORIO! HOW DID YOU GET HERE?”

“It's sure good to see you again, pal.”

AND SO OUR FRIENDS ARE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN, RIGHT IN THE HANDS OF THE CROOKS, WHO CAN TELL WHAT NEW DANGERS AWAIT THEM?
Save the only way — the Credit Union Way

Remember April and May

Rain Rain Rain
No work — No money

Save now in your
FARM WORKERS CREDIT UNION
before it is too late

The Credit Union would like to know the addresses or whereabouts of the following persons:

Juan Hernandez  Ismael Morales  Antonio Romo
Felipe Zapata  Carlos Nunez  Antonio Escamilla
Antonio Cervantes  Filemón Marure  Jose M. Hernandez
Alberto Rodríguez  Jose M. Solis  Maximo Hernandez
Manuel Capetillo  Ramon A. Mendoza  Pablo Avalos

If anyone knows their addresses, please contact the Credit Union. It is URGENT!

Farm Workers Credit Union

105 Asti, Delano