

UFW

AFL-CIO

## EL MALCRIADO

Voice of the Farm Worker

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# UNREST BREWING AT GALLO

## Workers Angry at Winery-Teamsters Pact



Livingston, Calif.—An undercurrent of worker discontent is being felt on the fields of E & J Gallo Winery as UFW organizers quietly organize campesinos fed up with the sweetheart Teamster contract signed with the company last year.

A UFW strike against Gallo has shaken the company as it has taken to the defensive by scaring its workers, strengthening its corps of security guards, and attempting to stifle organizing efforts by the union.

The company is reeling as state tax figures show Gallo's relative share of the taxable California production of wine had dropped 7 per cent.

UFW organizers are optimistic that what has been a low-key strike up to now will eventually draw a large number of workers from the fields.

UFW members are visiting workers at labor camps and at their homes, and have opened up an office to coordinate strike activities.

Law enforcement agencies, meanwhile, have jumped to the defense of the winery.

The Merced County Sheriff's Department and the Livingston Police Department are maintaining surveillance over the UFW by flooding picket line areas with officers and spending a great deal of their time following organizers in their squad cars.

The Sheriffs are so preoccupied with the strike they found themselves left, at one point, with only two reserve squad cars to take care of things in the rest of the county.

Sheriffs' radios abound with reports on which UFW members to follow, the locations of picket lines, and bulletins on strike activities.

According to an unconfirmed report, 270 people were fired for failing to show up to work on the first day of the strike, Sept. 6.

Eight workers from Mexico decided to go back home after Gallo fired them just because they were seen talking to UFW organizers after the strike began.

Campesinos, currently working for Gallo, say that the winery's employees are satisfied with the Teamsters union.

They said non-English speaking workers are treated especially bad by the Teamsters.

The workers said many of them, because of their dissatisfaction with Gallo and the Teamsters, would leave the winery if they found similar paying jobs. Older workers are particularly disgruntled.

Meanwhile, the UFW is gathering information on the number of "illegal" aliens and pressuring the Immigration and Naturalization Service to clear strikebreaking "illegals" from the struck fields.

Rough estimates indicate that at least 75 to 100 undocumented workers are employed at Gallo vineyards in Livingston out of a total of about 500 workers.

The UFW has learned that as many as 30 undocumented aliens are living at the government-run Planada Migrant Center in Le Grand, about 15 miles south of Livingston.

Merced County sheriffs arrested four UFW members in the first few days of the strike.

Manuel Hernandez has been released after being charged for assault with a deadly weapon on the first day.

Also arrested were Gilberto Rodriguez and Juan Perez, two union organizers, and Saul Bautista, a 17-year old Mexican citizen.

Rodriguez and Perez were released Sept. 10 on their own recognizance, one day after being arrested for assault with a deadly weapon, malicious mischief, and trespassing.

A scab from last year's Gallo strike, riding in a car, hit a woman with a beer can as she was standing at a picket line, Sept. 13.

The San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department hasn't been able to break the spirit of UFW huelguistas. . . Just when it seemed the area's tomato strike was fading, 500 angry huelguistas struck again and were met by the well armed cops. The sheriffs arrested 20 and seriously beat dozens more but their clubs have been unable to defeat the determination of the strikers.



Northern California

## TOMATO KINGS HIT BY UFW

Davis, Calif.—The United Farm Workers of America pushed its unionization campaign when more than 400 tomato workers walked off their harvesting machines Sept. 4 in Yolo, Solano and Sutter counties in northern California.

The strike, which is the first in the area, is being aimed at the four largest tomato growers in the three counties: Nishikawa Brothers, Heidricks Farms, Chew Brothers and Andco.

The walk-out has hit Andco, the largest tomato producer in the world, the hardest when work-

ers halted 13 out of 25 harvesting machines in one field on the first day.

More than 76% of the Andco work force has signed union authorization cards; picket captains say that more and more workers are leaving the fields daily and signing up with the UFW.

Al Rojas, UFW organizer in the area, says that workers want the UFW to negotiate for them and want a contract that calls for a wage increase, job security, health and welfare benefits, and removal of illegal aliens from the fields.

Three strikers were arrested on Sept. 8 in Sutter County for allegedly trespassing on private property and one of them, Ruben Solorzano, suffered a neck injury when he was manhandled by county sheriffs.

Four Solano grower agents were also arrested on Sept. 7 when they attempted to run over some pickets with their pick-ups. They were charged with assault with a deadly weapon and placed in the Solano county jail.

Although the strike has just begun, its effects are already being felt by the growers. Reliab-

sources say that the amount of tomatoes being shipped during this point in the harvest is far below the norm of other years.

Sources also report that Andco tomatoes are being harvested by inexperienced workers brought in from Sacramento in such a slipshod manner that many truck loads have been rejected by government inspectors. The rejected tomatoes, it is reported, are being buried somewhere in the area by Andco.

Every day work is stopped in the fields visited by strikers and as a result some of the smaller

(continued on page 3)

HUELGA IN YUMA ..... P. 2

... AND IN STOCKTON ..... P. 3



## "Strike in the Sun"

# 'HUELGA' HALTS YUMA LEMON HARVEST

San Luis, Arizona — Yuma County is hardly known for its labor battles and is best recognized for its territorial prison and its sweltering 120 degree heat.

Yet last August 26 more than 1,400 lemon workers staged a "strike in the sun" bringing this desert county's 10 million dollar lemon harvest to a halt.

The 'huelguistas,' most of them Chicanos and Mexicanos, are demanding wage increases, a collective bargaining agreement, and recognition of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO.

The strike, which began spontaneously, was sparked when 475 workers walked off their jobs at eight of the largest orchards in this border town 22 miles south of Yuma.

The workers are now in their third week of the strike and are protesting the low wages saying that the \$6 a day is simply not enough to feed their families and maintain their households.

In addition, the workers are demanding union recognition of Cesar Chavez' UFW and union officials have reported that over 90% of the pickers have signed authorization cards.

(Authorization cards are forms signed by workers granting authority to a union to act as their bargaining agent.)

Growers' attorney Steve Shadle denounced the UFW when he said, in apparent reference to the union in a press release, "We feel that many of the people who have come into the area from outside have done so to exploit our local lemon pickers."

Catarino Torres, San Luis UFW Director, however says that the strike is completely spontaneous and that the union came in only after the workers asked for support, for a collective bargaining agreement and union recognition.

Said Torres, "The workers would come to the office five or

six at a time, and would ask if the I was going to organize a strike?

"I would then tell them that I couldn't make the strike by myself but that they were the ones that would make the strike and I could only support them.

"I told them to think about it, to unite and when you are united and you still want to strike, then I will come before you and we will make the strike together if you wish."

Observers say the strike has been very effective noting that the orchards are virtually empty of workers.

In addition, the lemon trees are becoming so heavy with unpicked fruit that entire branches are breaking off from the excess weight.

The upshot is that much of this year's anticipated 20 million dollar bumper harvest may be lost.

The growers, however, have apparently not been standing still and at one point hired a labor contractor from nearby Calexico, California to bring in 200 workers to break the strike.

Gilbert Rodriguez, Calexico UFW Director, got wind of the story and promptly organized a crew to talk to the workers, most of them Mexicanos. The UFW crew quickly surrounded the buses, talking to the workers about the strike and the union and within 30 minutes all the Mexicanos had left the buses.

How long the growers hope to hold out depends, of course, on whether or not they can hire anybody to break the strike.

A decade ago they could have gotten as many workers from across the border in San Luis, Sonora (Mexico) as they could have used. At the same time, the silence of times past has given way to the cries of "Huelga" of the 1970's and there is no doubt that the ghost of the rebellious Geronimo may be lurking somewhere in the hearts of those 1,400 lemon workers in San Luis, Arizona.



UFW organizer Al Rojas speaks to strikers at sundown at the Dixon Migrant camp.

## Chavez Assails Scabbing by 'Illegals'

San Luis, Arizona—UFW President Cesar Chavez narrowed his attacks on "illegals" during an August 29th rally of striking lemon workers in this small town 22 miles south of Yuma.

Chavez, who has come under fire from "leftists" and some Chicano activists for his anti-illegal stance, said that, "We are not necessarily against the 'illegal,' what we are against is the scab."

Said the UFW President, "If an 'illegal' supports our struggle, then let him come and we will more than welcome him."

But, said the farm worker leader, "The scab is the dregs of the working class and there is no forgiveness for the scab."

Chavez concluded his remarks by saying that, "The farm worker is no longer afraid of the growers because now there is a union, direction and fighting spirit."

Carlos Calderon, Editor of EL MALCRIADO, also spoke saying that, "Farm workers here (in Arizona), in Florida, Texas and California are shaking this country as it has never been done before. This struggle is very important in order to gain justice for the farm worker."

Al Catarino Torres, San Luis UFW director, and Mahuci Chavez, UFW strike leader, also spoke during the rally.

### UFW Leader in Patterson

## "People Are Ready To Strike"

Stockton, Calif. — The tomato workers strike against Stockton area growers entered its third month as more than 200 workers joined strike lines in Patterson, a small farming community 40 miles south of here.

The strike began in July and has been hit with restrictive court orders, violence from grower - employed private guards, and discriminatory law enforcement by the San Joaquin Sheriff's Department.

The focus of the 'huelga' is now in Patterson where harvesting ends in late November and where workers are protesting low wages (\$2.25 an hour or less), mistreatment by their employers, and job displacement by 'illegals.'

### Mushrooms and Labor

## MORGAN HILL

Morgan Hill, Calif.—Over 80 mushroom pickers and packers went on strike September 7 protesting low wages, irregular hours and discrimination in a small processing plant here.

The farm workers also are demanding that Steak Mate, Inc., a subsidiary of Purina, recognize the United Farm Workers of America (UFW) as their sole collective bargaining agent.

According to local UFW leaders, the strike in this small agricultural town 15 miles south of San Jose, has every likelihood of victory as Steak Mate profits

Workers have complained of lack of rest periods, hot drinking water and long hours since the work days sometimes last 10 to 12 hours.

Strikers also charge that they don't get paid during the time a machine is broken down, and that some of them have been physically punished for making mistakes on the job.

Although no contracts have been signed yet with the UFW, one grower reportedly wants to negotiate but has been told by the union he must go directly to the workers.

His packing machines were closed down for several days early in the strike.

The tomato strikers moral was apparently boosted when UFW President Cesar Chavez spoke to more than 1,000 people at

a Sept. 2 afternoon rally at Patterson Park.

Chavez recalled how he tried to organize in Stockton over 10 years ago but that only four or five people would attend a meeting because people then were afraid of talking.

He said, "It was not yet time, but now people everywhere are ready to strike."

Chavez further declared that although contracts may not be won, workers always benefit from strikes.

Last year, for example, Stockton tomato workers won a raise from 17¢ to 30¢, on each box picked, even though the strike did not result with a UFW contract.

Chavez, however, emphasized that the workers must settle for nothing less than a signed contract from the growers.

## HUELGA

vides no guarantees for work, the workers do not receive days off, and, according to Villalpando, "the workers are treated bad and human relations are not real good between the supervisors and the workers."

The pickets, led by Oracio Esparza, picket captain, have kept out all scabs except one, although the management and office personnel continue to work.

Because of the great losses suffered by Steak Mate, strike leaders believe the company will capitulate in a matter of weeks.

## Children Farm Workers Strike Black Co-op

Albany, Georgia — The black eagle flag first flew over the fields of Georgia on August 19th, when 50 Black farm workers, most of them under 16 years of age, walked out on strike at New Communities, Inc., a farming cooperative near here.

As the strike enters its fourth week, only management and eight workers are gathering the harvest at this 6,000 acre farm.

The strikers walked out for a living wage and humane working conditions.

Not only must they work behind machines spraying lethal pesticides, but there is no definite pay scale.

Wages paid by New Communities vary from 67¢-\$1.63 per hour, and management pays each worker whatever they please, according to personal preference.

Strikers say they must put in unnecessary overtime, on a half-hour's notice, at ungodly hours because the farm is poorly managed.

The farm's manager, for instance, would accept a large produce order late in the afternoon and then require people to work late into the night so that the order would be filled the next morning.

Management had convinced the workers that they should not expect better pay or hours be-

cause the entire cooperative was losing money.

Robert Johnson, one of the employees, finally organized the current strike but was promptly fired.

The day after the strike began, the workers called on the United Farm Workers (UFW) field office in Avon Park, Florida for assistance.

Mack Lyons, Florida field office director and UFW National Executive Board member, met with the strikers in Georgia.

The workers signed UFW authorization cards (cards which name the UFW as the bargaining agent of their choice) and voted to demand a UFW contract with the protections of the union's Coca-Cola contract in Florida.

The union has already won back pay for workers who were not earning the minimum wage, sometimes amounting to as much as \$500.

Through several of this Black cooperative's funding organizations are pressuring Charles Sherrod, the farm's manager, to reach a settlement with the strikers, he remains unwilling to negotiate.

With so few scabs left in New Communities' fields, the UFW's first strike in the southeast area (outside of Florida) may also bring the first of many UFW contracts to these fields that were once harvested by slave labor.





These are some of the 400 tomato workers who have left harvesting machines idle and struck growers in Davis, California. Andco, the largest tomatoes grower in the world, was hardest hit as 13 of 25 machines halted operations in one of the fields on the first day of the strike.



## Angry Workers Walkout in Stockton

Stockton, Calif. — Over 500 angry farm workers walked out of local tomato fields last Sept. 9 and vowed to stay out until this area's growers agree to sign contracts with the United Farm Workers of America (UFW).

San Joaquin County Sheriffs immediately sought to destroy the strike and moved through the picket lines swinging clubs and threatening people with cans of mace.

During the first days of the renewed strike, sheriff's deputies attacked the lines where they arrested close to 20 people, including Gilbert Lopez, strike organizer, and seriously beat dozens more (many of the victims later required medical treatment.)

Despite the violence, strikers returned to the fields each day and encouraged strikebreakers to join the union struggle.

The strikers are picketing Hatanaka & Ota #3, Merl Miller, and Narduchi fields.

Pickets confronted Hatanaka's foreman, who identified himself as Randy "None-of-your-business," as security guards accused striker Demetrio Muniz of malicious mischief. The guards later repeatedly changed their charges against Muniz.

### WE'RE GOING TO WIN

Lucio Rodriguez, a local strike leader pointed out to the foreman the advantages of signing with the UFW and stressed, "We're going to win, that's for sure."

In addition to the violent activities of the deputies and security guards, growers' representatives drove through the picket lines repeatedly carrying baseball bats and cans of mace.

Besides picketing the fields, strikers went to labor camps and labor contractors' busses to take the message of the strike to farm workers.

Every day, 50-75 "huelguistas" demonstrate in downtown Stockton, beginning at 3 a.m. where contractors recruit a strikebreaking force.

Most workers, after listening to UFW organizers, agree to either work in another kind of field or not work in the fields at all.

Maurilio Urias, UFW field office director, aptly summed up the feelings of the strikers when he told those seeking work, "Whoever picks tomatoes today should be ashamed."

### LABOR CAMPS

Early in the strike, UFW representatives went to a labor camp, Matthews Camp #3, to talk to the residents.

However, Hardig Security agents denied entry to the UFW, including union members who are camp residents.

Melicio Sanchez, head of the picket captains, was kept out, even though he lives in Camp number Three.

After much discussion, the Hardig forces were ejected by local sheriffs.

The strike wave in this tomato saturated county is the most recent of a summer-long effort to achieve union recognition.

Union officials say that the UFW organizing efforts are meeting with tremendous successes, citing that each afternoon the field office is flooded with new people signing up with the union.

Despite the violent actions of the sheriff's department, growers and security guards, the "huelguistas" have continually expressed their determination to fight for collective bargaining rights and decent working conditions.

Strikers acknowledge that the strike may be a lengthy one, but they also vow that, in the end, the "huelga" will be victorious.

UFW attorneys announced three weeks ago that they were attempting to force television and radio stations to give the union equal time to match an intensified Gallo advertising campaign.

The seven percent drop in Gallo's relative share of the state's wine production is important.

On a month-to-month comparison Gallo's share of California's production ranges from 22 to 40 per cent, using state figures as a guide.

Ron Taylor of the Modesto Bee has found, "Wine experts point out these figures understate the

### What's Behind the Strike Wave?

## "This is the Harvest of Strikes"

Keene, Calif. — Officials from the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, stated here last week that the current agricultural strike wave continues to sweep across the southwestern United States and that it shows no sign of abating.

Said one UFW bulletin, "Strike fever is burning like flames across a dry plain through the ranches of California and Arizona."

As of Friday, September 13, almost 4,000 workers were or had been on strike in Stockton, Santa Paula, Patterson, Delano, Morgan Hill and Davis, California and Yuma, Arizona.

The strikes are currently affecting tomatoes, grapes, lemons and mushrooms, all of which are valued at over 30 million dollars, according to inside observers.

The Yuma strike alone, for example, has stopped what was expected to be an estimated 20 million dollar bumper crop in lemons.

UFW President Cesar Chavez said that, "The workers are angry at the growers and the Teamsters and want collective bargaining agreements and union recognition."

Continued Chavez, "The workers are fed up with lousy working conditions and want to strike. There's no holding them back."

Several of the strikes have been completely spontaneous and the UFW has come in only after the workers have asked the union for support.

In addition, Jose Gomez, administrative assistant to Chavez, said that tomato workers in Yuba, Yolo, Sutter and Colusa Counties, "are hot, like a firecracker wait-

ing to be lit. The strike will be erupting any minute now."

**\*\*STOCKTON** — The tomato strike has flared up again as the growers' attempt to begin their second harvest. More than 1,000 workers have walked out already as the strike continues to spread.

**\*\*YUMA** — More than 1,400 lemon workers are striking for better wages and recognition of the UFW.

**\*\*SANTA PAULA** — Two hundred and fifty lemon workers have ended a three-week strike after winning wage increases and improved working conditions.

**\*\*PATTERSON** — Some 500 tomato workers have been on strike for better wages and union recognition of the UFW.

## Teamsters Attack Independent Truckers

Davis, Calif. — Teamsters from local 1973 have been picketing fields in the current UFW-led tomato strike in this tri-county area of northern California.

The Teamsters, however, are concentrating their efforts on halting the shipping of tomatoes to the canneries than on organizing farm workers.

They hope that by keeping the tomatoes from the canneries they can force the growers into signing with the IBT instead of the United Farm Workers.

Trucking contractors, however, obtained a restraining order against the Teamsters after two incidents of violence on IBT picket lines.

John Galicia, a driver for James Ward trucking, was injured by rock-throwing Teamsters while he was driving his truck through a picket line two weeks ago.

Though this is the UFW's first attempt at organizing tomato workers in the area, the strike has met with a surprisingly large amount of success according to union officials. Rojas, for example, remarked that the strike is running smoothly and that everything is "falling into place."

Other observers believe that if the strike continues on its smooth course it won't be long before Andco falls and the rest of the growers will follow with pen in hand.

**\*\*DAVIS** — Almost 300 workers are out on strike against tomato growers demanding an end to discrimination, benefits, better wages and recognition of the UFW.

**\*\*DELANO** — Around 70 workers walked out of the Superior grape fields after talking to UFW pickets and after complaining about low wages.

**\*\*MORGAN HILL** — Two hundred and fifty mushroom workers have entered their second week of a strike for better wages and union recognition.

**\*\*LIVINGSTON** — Over 100 workers have struck Gallo vineyards protesting Teamster sweetheart contracts and demanding recognition of the UFW.

As he drove past the line, several Teamsters jumped on his running board and one of them hit him on the back of the head with a metal object causing a large gash which required hospital treatment.

Another independent driver also reported that he came under gunfire while passing through a Teamster picket line.

The Teamsters were said to be spending between \$7,000 and \$10,000 a week to keep 25 organizers in the area but now have increased the number of organizers to 100 since the UFW is now leading the "tomato revolution."

Al Rojas, UFW organizer, says that the farm workers are not spending a quarter of that amount and still the union is maintaining a picket line of not less than 200 strikers.

### GALLO STRIKE

(continued from page 1)

Deputies who saw the incident merely gave the culprit a bawling out but made no arrest.

The strike, combined with the boycott, has sent the company running. The Wall Street Journal and the San Francisco Chronicle reported that sales were off 9 to 10 percent and attributed some of the drop to the boycott.

### Gallo position.

"The company is reported to produce one-third of the gallonage consumed in the United States and up to 45 per cent of that consumed in California. Gallo will neither confirm nor deny the figures."

### DAVIS STRIKE

(continued from page 1)

growers are beginning to make overtones that they want to negotiate.

### EL MALCRIADO

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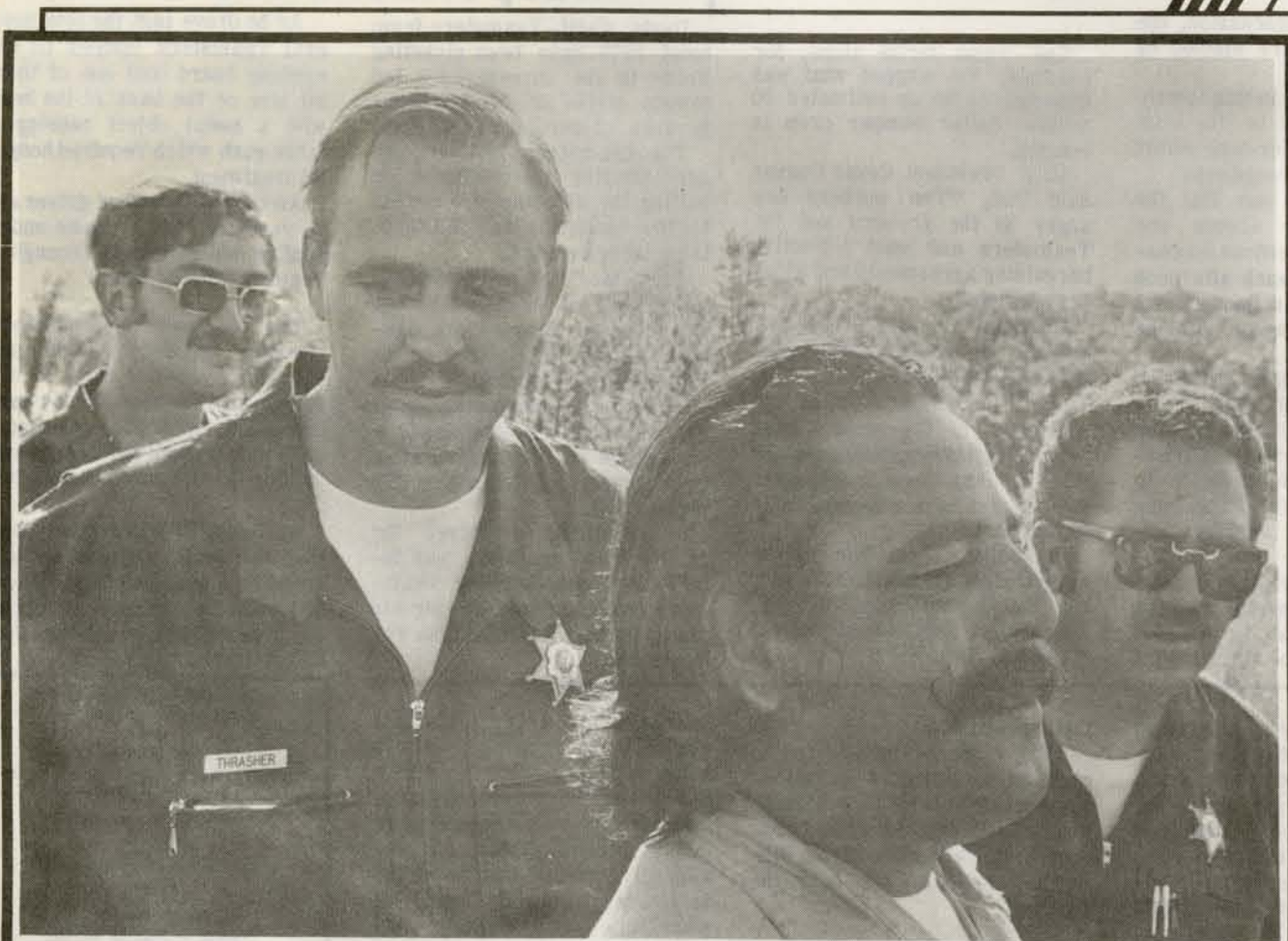
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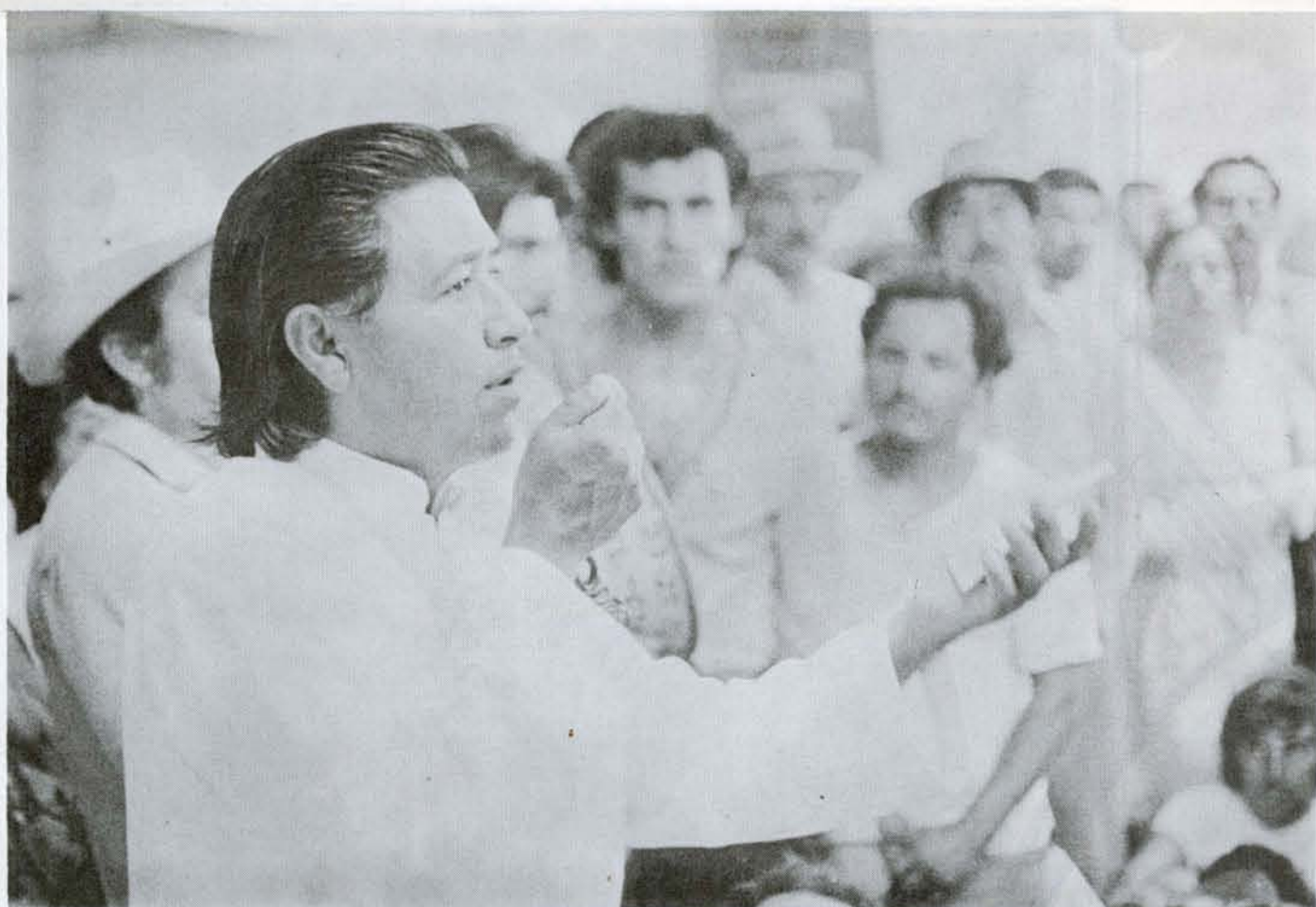
"To the outside world we are making history. To us it is just a hard struggle. The 'huelga' is the result of a lot of effort, frustration, tears, bloodshed, and sweat no one sees." — Cesar Chavez



# ¡A LA OFENSIVA CAMPEÑINOS!



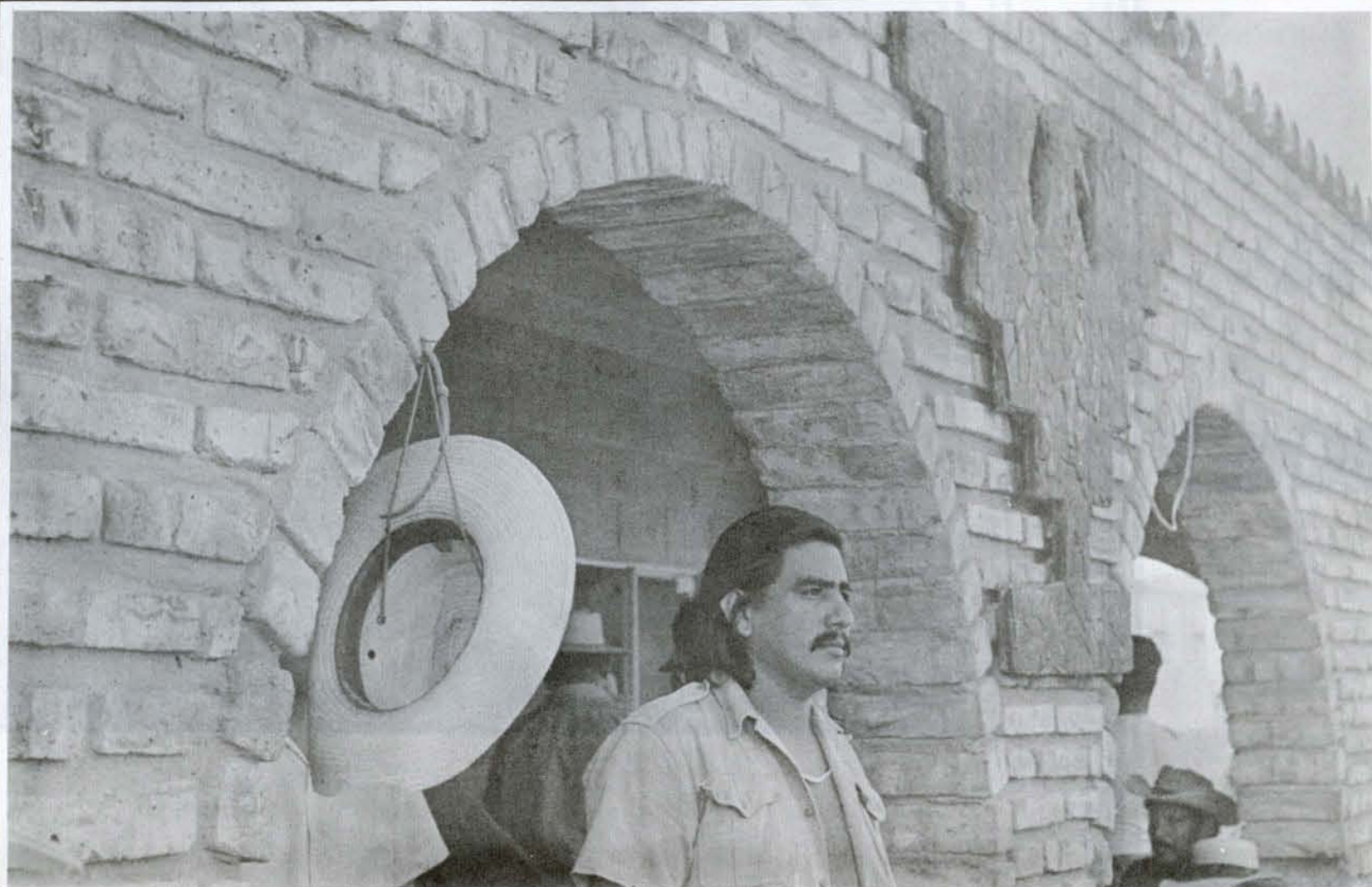




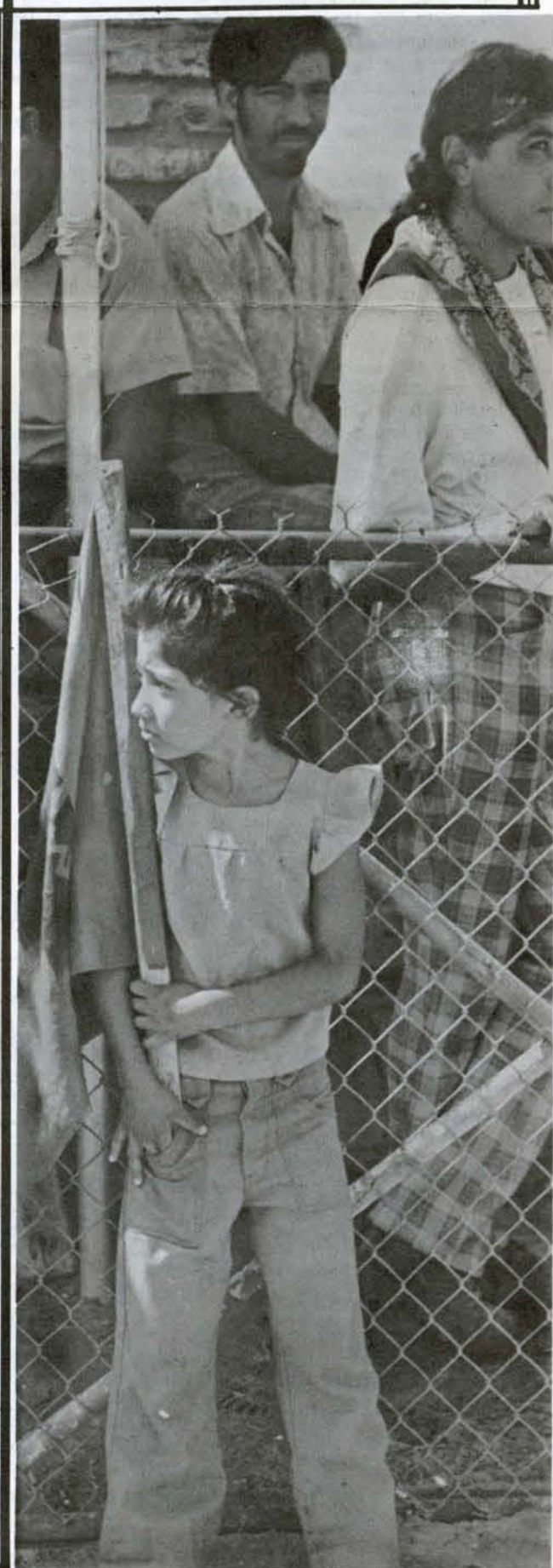
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## ***huelga en yuma***



Washington, D.C.

# MEANY REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR UFW

## Lashes Out at Teamster-Grower Alliance

Noon, Monday, Sept. 9, 1974. The following is a text of an address delivered by AFL-CIO President George Meany at a luncheon today Monday Sept. 9th, honoring the United Farm Workers of America and its President Cesar Chavez. The luncheon was sponsored by In AFL-CIO Greater Washington Central Labor Council at the Shorem-Americana Hotel in Washington, D.C.

"We are here today because it is harvest time in the vineyards of California and they are harvesting the fruit of oppression and it is that oppression and our continuing determined opposition to it that brings each of us here today.

"We are not here just to pay tribute to a small and valiant union. Although we hold this union and its members in the highest esteem, we're not here just to honor Cesar Chavez the leader of that union although we hold him in high regard.

"We are here to do something concrete in the name of decency and justice and right to promote the boycott of table grapes and head lettuce harvested by scabs.

"The cause of the United Farm Workers of America, the cause of Cesar Chavez, the cause of the AFL-CIO, the cause of which we today reaffirm allience is the right of the workers to control their own economic destiny; to be free and equal under the law in the eyes of their fellow men.

"Even if our instincts of straight unionists were not so aroused by the vicious attack on the United Farm Workers we would still be here today for our sensibilities as reasonable and compassionate people would come under support of this cause.

"So make no mistake about it we are here today to rally public support to the United Farm Workers and the boycott of table grapes and head lettuce, but we in the AFL-CIO are not cheer leaders, we do not stand on the side lines and root this side is our side.

"We are involved and we are going to stay involved until the

sour grapes of oppression taste sweet again.

"There is little point in repeating the sordid facts of the Teamsters raid on the Farm Workers. You all know them. We have made everything a matter of public record. We have disclosed every detail of the long negotiations we had with the Teamsters and its president. We have revealed the text of the agreement we had reached with the Teamster and on which President Frank Fitzsimmons reneged.

"On that record, we say that Fitzsimmons has made the Teamster an agent of the growers — turning his back on the principles that trade unionists hold dear.

"The aim of the growers, the Teamster and the farm bureau federation is the destruction of the Farm Workers Union.

"The growers know that if the UFW is destroyed, that the spirit of the workers will be broken. And, the workers will be more "managable".

"The growers don't want to deal with the farm workers as human beings, much less equals at the bargaining table. They prefer the labor contractor system — the patronos.

"The United Farm Workers have pushed the labor contractors out of the fields but the Teamster have brought them back.

"Of course, labor contractors are a throwback to the days of slavery. Instead of buying and selling slaves, today growers can "rent them" through labor contractors and the Teamster.

"The growers may not like it, but this is the 20th century. Farm Workers have human



George Meany

rights, civil rights and equal rights.

"They are not slaves, not chattel. They are people, and, by all that is decent and fair, farm workers are going to be treated like people — if we have anything to say about it.

"Complicating the problem of the UFW is the dismal record of the U.S. government in enforcing the immigration laws.

"More than 600,000 illegal agents were apprehended in 1973 in the Southwest alone, and the estimate of the numbers who remained at large, take jobs away from U.S. workers run into the millions.

"These millions of illegals could be stopped, could be returned to their own country if the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service did what it should be doing — enforcing the law.

"At the same time, they are moved by the Mexican government and the U.S. State Department to reinstitute the bracero program — the importation of Mexicans to work in the fields — to work cheap. Cheap labor is the reason the growers forged an unholy alliance with the Teamster to break the United Farm Worker.

"Cheap labor is the reason the growers now seek a return of the bracero program. The question, then, is what are we going to do about it?

"First, we're not going to let the dream of farm workers for

their own union — the United Farm Workers of America — be shattered. The boycott will continue.

"It will gather momentum. It will not end until the growers recognized the legitimate aspirations of the farm workers to have the union of their choice — the UFW.

"Second, the AFL-CIO will press relentlessly for enforcement of immigration laws. The phrase "law and order" lost it prominence in recent weeks, but we are going to demand that the law be obeyed.

"We urge the new President — clean up the Immigration and Naturalization Service — enforce the law — do not continue human misery for any reason.

"Additionally, we're going to press for new laws that will penalize the growers and other employers for hiring illegal aliens.

"The legislative fight, quite frankly, may take sometime. So, let us talk about immediate action — the boycott. Action that we can take ourselves.

"The reports that are coming into headquarters about the effect of the boycott are heartening — but we are not satisfied. We will not be satisfied until the UFWA is recognized as a legitimate union of Farm Workers.

"In many areas of the country, the boycott and its related activities are progressing very well. In other areas, much more still must be done to assist the farm workers. And right now — harvest time — is the time to do it.

"This means new efforts that will gain public attention and support for the product boycott of the table grapes and the head lettuce not picked by the UFW members.

"The summer vacation season is over, so it should be easier for the state and local central bodies to obtain volunteers. Every program that is now in the planning stage should be implemented without delay.

"Now is also the time for the labor press to redouble its efforts

and I should expect that new materials will be forthcoming from the Union Label and Service Trades Department.

"Our field service people are all ready working hard on the boycott and I am certain that Allen Kiessler and Don Slayman will impress upon them the urgency for even greater efforts.

"We have a big job to do to inform every union member, every union family, every union friend of the issue and to urge of the boycott of table grapes and head lettuce.

"The reports, thus far, as I have said, are good. The boycott is beginning to have its effect on the growers. Those who proudly display the UFW label on their crates are reporting excellent sales, and they should, for the UFW labels stand for fair play and decency.

"Now we must take the boycott message overseas. We must reach free trade unionists in other lands and solicit their support for the United Farm Workers.

"I hope the unions of the AFL-CIO that have close ties with unions in other free countries or with a very straight secretariats will take action to secure overseas trade union cooperation.

"We must all remember that the success of the boycott is dependent upon thousands of millions of individuals decisions not to buy the product. People with good intentions sometimes forget and have to be reminded and reminded again.

"It is individual commitment on the part of trade unionists, the members of their families and all other citizens who believe in fairness that we must constantly strive to obtain.

"Individual commitments against the oppression of a minority, individual commitments against union busting individual commitments for the United Farm Workers of America.

"We must not relent — we must not relent.

"Our goal is decency, justice and democracy in the vineyards and fields . . . and, that is a goal we can win — we must win — we shall obtain.

