The strike, which is the first in the area, is being aimed at the largest tomato producer in California, with workers at labor camps and at the fields visiting by strikers and members of the UFW....
**Children Farm Workers Strike Black Co-op**

Albany, Georgia — The Black co-operative of pickers of this field of Georgia on August 19th, when 50 Black farm workers, mostly unorganized, went out to strike at New Cooperative, Inc., a farm cooperative in the field.

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

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

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

Wages paid by New Cooperative, Inc. vary from $5.50 to $6.50 per hour, and management pays each worker over their pleas, according to personal preference.

Strikers say they put in some 16 hours a day and a five-hour notice, at ungodly hours because the farm is poorly managed.

The farm's manager, for instance, would accept a large production only in the afternoon and then require people to work overtime, and the order would be filled the next morning.

Management had convinced the workers that they should not expect better pay or hours because 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 voted to demand a UFW contract of the strikers in Georgia.

The workers signed UFW authorization cards (cards which allow the union to act as their bargaining agent of their choice) and voted to demand a UFW contract in order to protect the union's certified cooperative.

The union has already worked in Georgia and some workers were not earning the minimum wage, sometimes amounting to as much as $500.

Through several of this Black cooperative's farm organizations are pressuring Charles Sherrod, the farm's manager, to accept the workers' demands. If the workers strike, he remains unmoving to negotiate.

With no sick leaves or new Sick leave in New Streets, the UFW's first strike in the northeast area (outside of Florida) may also bring the first of many UFW contracts to these fields that were once harvested by slave labor.
Angry Workers
Walkout in Stockton

Every day, 50-75 "mil- gunitos" demonstrate in downtown Stockton, beginning at 6 a.m., where contractors recruit a striking 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.

During the first days of the renewed strike, sheriff's deputies attended the fields where they arrested 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 strikers to join the union struggle.

The strikers are picketing Halauana & Oka #3, Merl Miller, and Nardulli Fields. Pickets confronted Halauana's foreman, who identified himself as Rojas, "None of your business," as security guards and contractors fought off Deputy Moniz of malicious guards. The gaues had already changed their charges against Muina.

WE'RE GOING TO WIN

Lucio Rodriguez, a local strike leader, pulled the flag to the ground over the man's face and the strikers cheered. He cut the bag and the union members were off.

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, though non-violent strikers were fed up with lousy working conditions and want to strike.

LAWYER CAMEOS

Early in the strike, UFW representatives went to a labor camp, Matthews Camp #3, to talk to the residents. However, Hardie Security agents denied entry to the UFW, including union members who are a camp resident.

Melfoico Sanchez, head of the picket camp, was kept out of the strike. He has been the head of his camp member, a member of the picket captains.

After much discussion, the Hardie forces were ejected by local strikers. The workers have this in their tomato-saturated county in the most attractive vein of a summer-long strike to achieve union recognition.

Union officials may ask the UFW organizing efforts are meeting with tremendous success. Noting 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 "insulted" 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 preparing to file a class-action lawsuit on behalf of the strikers. The seven percent drop in Gallo's overall share of the state's wine production is important.

Institutional subscriptions.

ANGRY WORKERS

What's Behind the Strike Wave?

"This is the Harvest of Strikes"

Keeve, Calif. - Officials from the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, stated here last week that the current agricultural strike wave continues and that almost 10,000 workers have walked out already as the strike continues to spread.

"PAPA-LA RAUL- Two hundred and fifty lemon workers have ended a three-week strike after winning more increases and improved working conditions."

"PATTERSON - Some 500 tomato workers have been on strike for better wages and union recognition of the UFW."

"DAVIS - About 300 workers are 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 Imperfect grape fields after failing to UFW pickets and after complaining about low wages."

"MORGAN HILL - Two hundred and sixty farm 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 recognition of the UFW.

TEAMSTERS ATTACK INDEPENDENT TRUCKERS

Davies, Calif.- Teamsters from local 1973 have been picketing fields in the current UFW-led tomato strike near the central coast 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 UFW instead of the Teamsters. Two incidents of violence on the picket lines.

John Callera, 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.

As he drove into the line, several Teamsters jumped on his running board and one of them hit him on the back. He still has a large open wound 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 operating a small but successful week's income of $7,000 and $10,000 a week to keep 35 operatives in the picket line now have increased the number of their own to 100 since the UFW now heading the "Tomato revolution.""
¡A LA OFENSIVA CAMPESINOS!
'huelga' in yuma
huelga en yuma
Washington, D.C.

MEANY REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR UFW

Lashes Out at Teamster-Grower Alliance

"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 slave labor.

"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 allegiance 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 violent attack on the United Farm Workers 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 table grapes and head lettuce, but we in the AFL-CIO are not mere leaders, no, we are 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 John F. Kennedy commented.

"On that record, we say that Fitzsimmons has made the Teamster an agent of the growers - turning his back on the principles that trade unions 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 not destroyed, that the spirit of the workers will be broken. And the workers will be more manageable.

"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 to the patrones.

"The United Farm Workers have pushed the labor contractors 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 patrones don't like it, but this is the 20th century, Farm Workers have human 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.

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

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

"These millions of illegal aliens 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 reestablish 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 Workers.

"Cheap labor is the reason the growers now seek a return of the bracero program. The question, then, is what are we fighting for?

"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 recognize 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 its prominence in recent weeks, but we are going to demand that the law be obeyed.

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

"Additionally, we are 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 some time, 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 UFW 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, but everywhere there must be the commitment to do 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, work hard on the boycott and I am certain that Allen Kierstead and Don Stynes will impress upon the unions the urgency for even greater efforts.

"We have a big job to do to inform every union member, every farm family, every union friend of the terms and to urge 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 five trade unions in other lands and solicit their support for the United Farm Workers.

"We hope the unions of the AFL-CIO that have close ties with unions in other free countries or with a very straight secretariat in the foreign overseas trade union cooperation.

"We must all remember that the success of the boycott is dependent on thousands of millions of individual commitments 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 unions, the members of their families and all other citizens who believe in fairness that we must constantly strive to obtain.

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

"We must not relent - we must not relax.

"For our democracy, justice and democracy in the vineyards and fields ... and, that is a goal we can win - we must win - we shall obtain.