

# **ARREST TOLL IS 1,700 FOR CHAVEZ PICKETS**

FRESNO, Calif., July 21 (UPI) —Mass arrests of Cesar Chavez's defiant United Farm Workers Union pickets reached 1,700 today. Some jails were so jammed that six persons at a time were crammed into two-man cells. Most of the arrested pickets slept on the floor.

With cries of "Huelga" (Strike) and the refrain of "We shall overcome," the pickets lined up peacefully to board city buses used by sheriff's deputies to transport the prisoners away from the struck ranches.

The arrests began on Wednesday when Mr. Chavez directed his followers to defy court orders limiting pickets to one or two every 100 feet. He said the orders were unfair and unconstitutional. Busloads of longshoremen and A.F.L.-C.I.O. members gathered at Delano, the birthplace of Mr. Chavez's small union, for a rally to protest the police action.

Mr. Chavez's group is engaged in bitter competition with the teamsters union, which is generally favored by the employers, over the right to represent California farm laborers.

**The New York Times**

Published: July 22, 1973

Copyright © The New York Times