FARM UNION OPENS VILLAGE FOR AGED

Project to Provide Homes for 58 Retired Workers

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By Flight Lt. John S. C. Mackenzie

The United Farm Workers of America dedicated the nation's first rural community yesterday in Delano, Calif., for 58 retired workers in this arid corner of the Central Valley. The project, a point of the union's struggle to organize the nation's farm workers, is one of the consequences of the 1974 Arizona conference, at which the union's leaders decided to make the agricultural work force a major target.

"Our deep roots in Delano allow us to make the area a fertile ground for the movement," Cesar Chavez, the union's president, told a crowd of about 200 people. He was accompanied by 110 workers yesterday as he opened the 40-acre headquarters here. He was accompanied by President Carlos Salinas. "But we need the help of the workers who have come to us from the Philippines to help us on this project." He referred to the workers who have come to the United States in the late nineteen-twenties and nineteen-thirties to work on the farms without the immigration law preventing them from remaining here. They have helped to build the United Farm Workers of America and have benefited the workers of California by making the state a more just and humane society.

The $220,000 village has been built on land that was leased by Luther King Jr. Farm Workers Fund, Inc. The fund has raised and spent money collected from growers and participants, the United Farm Workers of America, and the community.

Several hundred people were particularly emotional for the dedication of the village, which will move into the two-story houses, 12 of which have already been built. The work of the Delano Village, as the project is called, has been performed by the workers who have come to the United States in the late nineteen-twenties and nineteen-thirties. The immigration law prevented them from remaining here, but they have helped to build the United Farm Workers of America and have benefited the workers of California by making the state a more just and humane society.

The dedication of the village was the first of the residents of the village, to the workers of California, to the workers of the United Farm Workers of America. At that time, the workers were allowed to work in the state for up to $2.50 an hour. Farm workers' union contracts, which are to be renewed in 1975, are aimed at raising the minimum wage to $2.50 an hour.

Workers Praised

Most of the workers are among the 3,000 members of the Filipino American Nationalist Movement. The committee that was formed to plan the village included representatives of the Filipino American Nationalist Movement, the National Farm Workers Association, the United Farm Workers of America, and the California Council of Labor.

The village, which is located on the outskirts of Delano, is the first of the workers to be built. The United Farm Workers of America, which represents farm workers in the United States, has plans to build a similar village in the future. The village will consist of one-story buildings, with each unit having three bedrooms, a kitchen, a bathroom, and a storage area.

Mr. Sahogun, who was one of the workers in the village, beamed when he said, "We see now that our village has a nice place to go. We are very proud of the union and the workers who have made this possible." Indeed, more than 1,500 volunteers-many of them members of the United Farm Workers of America—have built the village.

The village consists of six interconnected, U-shaped buildings, each with a wooden frame and a porch. The village has a community center, a library, a restaurant, and a kitchen. A second village is planned for the future.

The dedication ceremony will be held on August 15, 1974. The village will be open to the public on that date. The United Farm Workers of America plans to open a community center on that date. The United Farm Workers of America plans to open a community center on that date. The United Farm Workers of America plans to open a community center on that date.