7 Farm Union Aides Arrested For Trespassing on Coast Farm

EARTLMART, Calif., Sept. 21 went into effect Aug. 28, pro-
—Seven organizers for the videos that farm workers can
United Farm Workers were ar-
rested yesterday for trespass-
ing at the Marco Zaninovich
ranch here.

Regulations of the state's
Agricultural Labor Relations
Board permit organizers access to
workers in the field for
an hour at lunch, and an hour
before and after work.

Sources at the scene said
the organizers had been at the
ranch during a prescribed time
when they were arrested. A
spokesman for the authorities,
who asked not to be identified,
said that he thought the arrests
had been made in compliance
with the state's trespassing
law.

The access rule has been
a source of great controversy
for the last month during the
first round of secret ballot
union representation elections
held under the state's new farm
labor law—first of its kind
in the nation.

There have been a spate
of lawsuits on the rule, with the
growers holding the upper hand
until this week, when the Cali-
ifornia Supreme Court issued a
stay of a lower court decision
that had thrown out the access
rule.

Jerry Cohen, the union's chief
counsel, said that by continuing
to make arrests local sheriffs in
rural California counties “continue to ignore the law
and serve the growers.” “Thus
far, the mechanisms for enforc-
ing the guarantees of the new
law are almost nonexistent,”
he said.

Tomorrow, United Farm
Workers leaders will meet at
their headquarters in Keene,
about 100 miles south of here,
to discuss ways to attempt
to get the Agricultural Board to
strengthen enforcement of the
access regulation.

Last week, the board issued
the first complaints under the
law in changing two growers
with unfair labor practices.

The farm labor law, which