By Richard Steven Street
1966–1970
Delano, California Grape Strike
Photographer of the
Or Jon Lewis,
and Social Documentary Work
The Visual Adventure
Delano Diary
But for a twist of fate, escaped holography and remained anonymous. We live into the realm of living photographers of great accomplishment, who, expressing personal artistic achievement, perhaps by shifting our perspective, envisage the unexplored landscapes of long-dead photographers encountering the unpolished landscapes of our approach. Perhaps, it is time to stop recasting a story heavily skewed toward scholars have highlighted the same people. Perhaps, it is time for a new approach. Perhaps, it is time to stop recasting a story heavily skewed toward Edward Weston to mention the most prominent figures. For decades, the iconic farmer figures come to mind—Ansel Adams, Edward Lange, Edeward Mugbridge, Carleton E. Watkins, and many others. When we think about photography in California, we think of Edward Lange, Edeward Mugbridge, Carleton E. Watkins, and many others.

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Photographer of the

John Lewis

and Social Documentary Work

The Visual Adventure

Delano Diary
A social documentary photographer does not set out to create
witness; he or she should tell an audience what is already there, to be seen;
photography should supplement in reality our more intimate carnegy.
Social documentary photographers are concerned with communicating
what is there, despite the indifference of the photos and their use. Here a
camera is too cold and uncivilized with photography's magic power to
speak of the unseen. Terms such as historic and factual have been considered and cast
aside in the struggle for documentary photography. The struggle over what is and is not social
documentary photography. The debate over what is and is not social
photography has never been very comfortable with definitions of social
photography. And there has been so many great names associated with it,
Delano Diary

Wallace would tell him, "I've helped [the strikers] before, Delano. College is always there."

Unfortunately, Wallace ended up being asked to Delano because of the strike. He was looking for a job to support his family. Despite his efforts, he couldn't find one. He ended up working in a department store.

Wallace was born in Delano, California, and was working in a warehouse when he was asked to Delano. He was a part of the Long Beach Naval Weapons Station. He was looking for a job to support his family.

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Most of the Anglos, along with the banks' armory mobile depots' spacecraft, by the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks, Delano was really two towns, about thirty-five miles north of Bakersfield. Neatly split down the middle by the railroad tracks, it was a community of 14,000, made up of mostly Filipinos. The black smoke of the trains billowed into the air, covering the landscape with a thick haze.

Delano was the site of the United States' first major strike by farm workers. The strike was led by the Filipino farm workers who had formed the Delano Farmers' Cooperative, a group that had been active in the area since 1945. The strike was fought against the powerful organizers who worked to suppress the workers' rights and improve their living conditions.

The strike was a significant event in the history of the United States, as it marked the beginning of the farm worker movement. The strike was fought against the powerful organizers who worked to suppress the workers' rights and improve their living conditions.

The movement gained momentum as the strike progressed, and by the end of the summer of 1964, the workers had achieved many of their demands, including higher wages and better working conditions. The strike was a significant event in the history of the United States, as it marked the beginning of the farm worker movement. The strike was fought against the powerful organizers who worked to suppress the workers' rights and improve their living conditions.
Everyone is welcome, 99
introduced him to Lewis. „Check out our movement,” Chavez said.

seconds later, his eyes were closed. He seemed much in charge. Valdez

later in the day, Lewis met Chavez. Lightly dressed in a checked shirt,

soon he was pitching in, uptight for nervous. Drury, Utter

breakfast consisting of strong coffee and tortillas shared with butter

... the first of many restless nights with the union. That morning,

... rolled on his feet on a cold morning. Room,

... sprawled in sleeping bags covering the living room, the room a secure

... known to all as the „pink house.” Stuffed over volunteers and strike-

... could not find a place to hop and headed to a snack Roma Hotel.

... paper, crumpled soda bottles, maps, and stains on the ugliest captions.

... machine’s, doors, oven blocks, cutting. As work came.

... found a nest of plywood partitions, embarrassment.

... Lewis, Valdez, and Gary stepped inside an open lobby forever

... the city dump in the southwest corner of Delano. A simple of dairy

... minutes after arriving in town, Lewis found himself at Napa

... peak harvests, between three thousand and five thousand of them.

... peak harvests, between three thousand and five thousand of them.

... thousands, up to 9,000, comprised of between 70 and 700 for the 89.

... federal poverty level of $3,700 and could expect

... 42 7% for their seasonal work. Eager to contain workers families earned an

... $13 7% on one hundred—minimum wage for conditions under

... wage pickers living on

... many annual after regions in Mexico (e.g. Guadalajara, Sonora). Along

... Mexican cities, worker homes, barrios, cantinas, cantinas, and

... half dozen Zanamontes. To the west sprawled the dusty labor camps, a

... names were Pando, Padilla, Camacho, Culianova, and Zanamontes—

... immigrants whose relatives had arrived in the area in the 1930s and then

... located east of the highway. This was the last of the mostly Mexican

... schools, hospital, and the Lions, Elks, and Rotary Clubs

DELAO DIARY
As he discussed to the town, Lewis thought things over. Joining the

Southern California Quarterly
Photos are courtesy of Jon Leon.


The photograph in the last week on the picket line in January 1966.

(Aready considering not returning to San Francisco State University.)
became the first official Neva photographer. He photographed from his days at San Jose State University. With that he self-portrait from his days at San Jose State University. He used a press pass and passed to a newspaper shop in Berkeley. He typed up a press pass and passed it to a photo-

replica shops in Berkeley, Lew’s established an account of sorts with a photo-

Luminous photographic paper boxes. Because he did not trust the photo-

light, and a tiny desk where he stored prints. He liked his work in en-

motion, where he went thin. His only luxuries were a small portable radio, a reading

bed. Beneath his clothes rack, a long, narrow sheet served as a drying cap-

with an enlarger and drying rack at the far end. Between the door and his

installe clothes rack at the other end, and using jumper and materials

"I approached the wash room of the garage of the City House. It was only six

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA QUARTERLY
A week later, Lewis was at the head of the line. In his hand was a camera, a camera which he had not seen since he had been in the States. The camera was a beautiful thing, and Lewis had always been fascinated by it. He had decided to use it to make a good picture of the light in the room. He was determined to make a good picture of the light in the room. The camera was a beautiful thing, and Lewis had always been fascinated by it. He had decided to use it to make a good picture of the light in the room. He was determined to make a good picture of the light in the room.
...
The only postcard shot I took of Cesar. I don't know when the picket signs were doing around the office. I just threw away my act. FDPRT.
At the first ranch we hadCheers! we would see up at the entrance and water behind our pickup and head for a location scored the previous day. We would load up a car then form a caveman again for days. We would load up five or six. Then we would drive back to the ranch where we place on the pickup another winch and you would not see them. We would work a trail north that might be the last you would see of the Willows. You would be at a Zapata ranch and you were not driven in the car. If you put your pickup in a Zapata ranch and you were right when it got warm, we would all stop of our pickets and sits and know "Zapata" and the "Willows." You had to pay attention which car you on the donation coming in. There would usually be two caravans—the one where the parades pass by each other, one still had a touch on the table from his younger days as a "People's Bar" gave us one of the pool tables—where else to hang out? Cheers!
cultural environment, anyway that worked everywhere failed. Picking had
detail by countless hours of laborer operations—there in the different agri-
and went off without the Medals. such as they were; because the pick
wineyard and then stood around. he recalled. it was the old happy-up
early, worked down a drawder, hunched up to the doors, headed out to a
immediate outcome remained him of his time in the Maritimes. you no up
foster care against the sky. He did the same with picker lines. the
leaves began coming images at twilight, reducing the primes to all-
showing through buildings a midday made for undramatic images; so
soon he began to exhaust the compositional possibilities. Strike leaders
the picker line in an unlawful assembly and ordered everyone to disperse.
capture arises passing through the picker lines and when people decayed
corner every possible angle. the photographed combinations when pickers
were covered, moved in and out of this line. the pickers, picking
there were removed. they showed back insults—repeating to the former in
few pickers felt intimidated by heavy loaders and former, most
sensitive to wear by someone with a purpled mid-
unmentionable term's, often accompanied by gales with pinafored mid-
heavy curtains, looking for substitutes, sometimes within the 30,000
A typical day began at 6 am, when Lewis would pick at 6 am, when Lewis would pick at

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Driving back to the shop after an day, driving deep up and down the roads, picking up and
back open and the streamions would flow, formation would see, and begin
get worn, you'll get sleepy. There always would be moments when things
and a half of a day or two. Some days you didn't take a single picture. When it
out on to the fields again. Joyce dairy it was just a lot of sweet. You didn't hear
we would often remain on the kitchen for lunch, and then we would go back
There's sometimes we would eat "eggplant" or "fried fish" and "salad."
and we would see a picker line and begin the streamions. When we
we could, we would load up and look for another location to
much as we could do, so we would load up and look for another location to
discern through the picker lines. By mid-morning we had done so
mires of the little or because they had grown up quicker; all many
support of the North or because they had grown up quicker; all many
for the workers to arrive and get them. Sometimes crews wind away in
He was not alone in this double. By early March 1966, NFWA members were broke. Volunteers missed their families. Shinny industries and

continue much longer.

lounge hours and [lay] down on a clean bed. I did not think I could

would not provide them with shelter.

in mind. I just wanted to take a

could not go into people's

never talked to become a

house, the seeds of illness, "we are worn so thin. "All this work, the long hours, the long hours, the long hours, "the seed of illness, "we are worn so thin."

would not provide them with shelter.

I found it hard to photograph properly. When some photographers began

Building on enterprises. He later recalled:

Although Lewis had ample opportunity to explore living conditions

the entrances were located.

where the plant location changed daily and you had no idea where

covered a recess with a thousand entrance gates spread over forty square

journalistic compared picking the entrances around Delano to typing to

United Mine Workers filed an mine entrance as right as a renter. One

United passed the entrance to a mine as easy as the Union could not he operate the same way the United Mine Workers.

little effect. Because there were so many farms so widely spread out, a
The Found inspiration from fled hands who had been sprved with sinistl dars.

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The Found inspiration from fled hands who had been sprved with sinistl dars.
the route of the march in red ink from Delano to Richgrove, our
emerge, and Revolution. He identified some along the way and drew
Mexico, it would supposedly underscore the theme of "Revolution. PI-
unification (the unification). Modeled on the Lenora performance of
Sal March to the Sea in 1933; Chavez returned to the march as La Pe-
worked, creating a meeting to announce their work. On March 17, seventeen years-
converted a meeting on a wall inside one cabin. Late in the afternoon, Chavez
or butcher paper on a wall inside one cabin. Late in the afternoon, Chavez
had no idea where was going on until Néma members read a huge piece
leader of a meeting in the Sierra Nevada Mountains east of Visalia. He
A day later Lewis accompanied Chavez and a small group of NRA
the procession, the kind of phrase that the union and the public to see it
are more effective, and create what amount to a massive field opportunity
and used similar tactics. He thought that he could rekindle interest.
no sooner than Arizona, and he had read all about Chavez and knew that he
after seeing the publicity generated two years earlier by the Freedom March
Around the Protests, he walked with immense dignity and commanded our respect.
"A worker leaving Delano's Sierra Vista ranch on strike. Of a certain age with
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA QUARTERLY
He recalled, 

"As Lewis prepared for the march, United States Senator Harris..."

watched all of the tanks. We were really impressed. We were ready to go..."

"...""Bear Brown Interference in the Strike..."

portions would join them at a rally to demand that Governor Edwards..."

would support the strikers. Thousands of marchers, carrying supplies, a makeshift ambulance, and a mobile fire-aid station

would arrive in the event, whether they realized it or not. A truck

would introduce them in the event, whether they realized it or not. A truck

and other vehicles. By filming on the locals for local shots, the

marchers would address them in an attempt to build support for the strike.

Chavez would address them in an attempt to build support for the strike.

marchers would stop in one of the small farmworker towns along the way.

north to Highway 69, pass through Dacula, Terra Bella, Potrero..."
Sacramento, covering the entire central portion of the city.

Along with Kouns and Ceaseful, he was going to make all the way to

Virginia of quadruple and of various support organizations and unions.

Vieira's first was key in forwarding the understanding barriers of the

vision. Leons keep busy photocopying the understanding barriers of the

agenda with a strong interest in photography and a degree in social art.

German with a three-year-old, a twenty-year-old, with Lewis in Jamar's,

and German Ceaseful, a twenty-three-year-old, and Ceaseful were gathered. Now joined by John Kouns, the former art prof-

nurseries were gathered. He headed over to the Pink and Grey Houses, where the

beer. He headed over to the Pink and Grey Houses, where the

cameras on two onions into polishes hooked in a window. He

stepped back and collected his gaze back on the camera, Lewis having

Rising before dawn on the morning of March 17, Lewis suited his

clothes in the middle of a historic event.

essence of the vision of photography for hour church and annum—up

this body to the center. This was the body that he had come to define. This was the

observer. Instead of a notebook, he wrote back a camera. He would lend

nearly a long period of time. Lewis vowed to become a particular

journals in attending that in order to understand something you must wr

bathing between, processed, and harnessed in Mississippi and wonder at Call-

being about the infamous. He had seen plumes of civil rights marchers

down the street, the plumes that used to grow where it was not about to miss it. He

when others were going to happen, he was not crossing the roles of

problem and excellence. Lewis had by now crossed sixty-five roles of

school at Deans. It had been a strange six weeks. The era between

images appearing on the still-camera. This was electrical, being Kansas

and charged with Navy members. Their evening, watching Kennedy's

for the speeches. Lewis shot on wide roll. He wanted to become a photographer

ranged. Kennedy plunged into the picture line, showing a camera

through Deans and onto the picture line at Dighton's Stimp Viera

pictures and union members, Lewis followed Kennedy and Cheese

Cayley for concluding expression. Photographs silhouette of special

After documenting Kennedy's exonerating Ken County Sheriff Lee Boy

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA QUARTERLY
"César Chávez displays a map of the march on Sacramento."
March 9, 1966.
were all down on their knees with their pipes saying their prayers and
Allen explained to writer John Gregory Dunne a few months later, "They
were all down on their knees to ask us to m"tch to process. "They wanted us to m"tch them." Police Chief James
the Delano City Manager decided to avoid an incident and allowed the
die of the Delano business district. Already wary of unfavorable images,
we were all down on our knees to ask us to m"tch to process. "They wanted us to m"tch them." Police Chief James
would have been a problem. Let everyone go home. All day Saturday and through the mid-
Wednesday's paper, "We have no problem. Let everyone go home. All day Saturday and through the mid-
were certain that Chavez would be back on the streets and make them aware of his
warning the NFWA about where it could and could not walk, and Lewis
embed themselves in the popular imagination. The chief of police was
be the "black hooligan and a media circus surrounding RFK." [Photograph courtesy of Southern California Quarterly]
March 16, 1966.
Decades later, Lewis remembered the moment as if it were yesterday.

What else? It would make them look good if we asserted them with all...
On the Capitol steps, Lewis photographed a ceremony in which
the Capitol's eagle, a symbol of freedom, was unveiled. He recalled, "I was so
thrilled. People were waving American flags. There were cheering
waves and thunderous applause. Everyone was so excited."

The crowd gathered for the ceremony was enormous, and it was
not unusual for such events to draw large numbers of people. The
capitol was a significant landmark, and its history was rich with
events that had shaped the state's development.

In an article, Lewis described how he had
photographed the ceremony:

"I remembered standing on the
Capitol steps, the sun shining bright,
and the eagle in all its glory..."
the job rolls of T1-X black-and-white film that he had shot since late
Back in Delano a few days later, Lewis finished developing the last of

we would later back to again and again.

scale. But really a historic moment in California, certainly a moment that
City, the liberation of Paris in 1944. I knew this was like that, on a smaller
sent to the great triumphant moments in history—V-E Day in New York.

was a great moment, a moment that I keep thinking about those photographs who had been per-

hour after hour in English and Spanish. Over it all, it was a great moment.

more did down. I began to lose interest after the speeches were over and on,

in your memory. Governor Brown mentioned a real smoker. Now, I thought

The whole event was monumental. You just wanted to enjoy it, he is away

he found it difficult to concentrate.

capture people in the crowd. For the first time since arriving in Delano.
podium.Lewis strolled around and used his 135 millimeter portrait lens to

and he completely missed Chavez. Standing himself near the speakers

April 9, 1966.

cover record. A little bit of flair from the crowd. People like him that march forward.

A gallery provided the chance to show the march without that view open sky (see

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around. His daily routine became: "Obtain more film, stay another day."

with the sale, Lewis bought one hundred feet of 35-mm film. He was the only photographer plus 35-millimeter movie stock, their bulk loaded into used TL-X film containers that he had sold. By early May, he was ready to expand his new studio and office. And so the funds from the sale of his new negatives helped him purchase more film for his new project. Looking into the future, he realized he could crack into the national market by pho-

grant to start the California Rural Legal Assistance (CCLA), Lewis saw the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the farmers. With no budget or support, he set out to document the lives of the farmers. Taking time off to do his laundry, he spent a few days in the field, documenting the farmers' stories.

January, then quickly made prints without any contact sheets. Looking for a new perspective and overcome the rural landscape, he traveled to a hillside on the highway off-camera, overlooking the surrounding area. Then, he began shooting from this vantage point, capturing the contrast between the rural and the urban. His images were taken without a filter, including the occasional used filmstrip in his viewfinder.
the campaign to represent workers employed by Daltion's Paving Co. -

don't be in the middle of another crisis—the charged atmosphere of

For the rest of the month, Lewis focused not so much on the hard news

the campaign to represent workers employed by Daltion's Paving Co.

As the boycott of Daltion's grew, Fine Foods and Tessier's Market

portion of the rank and file has risen.

the campaign to represent workers employed by Daltion's Paving Co.

Lewis revealed by going through his print and finding various stories

that included clear images of a half-dozen of the most vicious contreverses.

after spending a lunch break being harassed by Lasser's, Lewis wrote in his

began to eat into profits, the company agreed to a secret ballot union

After the end of June, Lewis sent one hundred photographs, most

39 2 for the crew, but the workers were with us, and most of the crew

back two and three times to LV and get them to vote. We worked on

he observed. We, in our own ways, saw most of the crews vote. We voted these for twelve hours as they brought some of the crews

along both sides of the road to Stetina's. We voted. Winning in this manner,

the campaign for June 4 election heated up, Lewis split his

wage and benefits. The workers were in the middle of another crisis— the charged atmosphere of

the campaign to represent workers employed by Daltion's Paving Co.

don't be in the middle of another crisis—the charged atmosphere of

For the rest of the month, Lewis focused not so much on the hard news

the campaign to represent workers employed by Daltion's Paving Co. -

As the boycott of Daltion's grew, Fine Foods and Tessier's Market
Although he sometimes used a strobe, he preferred to capture scenes in a truly colorful way. He often photographed the tee and the surrounding crowd at Chartwell at Siena. His photographs of Chartwell and its surroundings became the stuff of legend.

The night before the union became the United Farm Workers (UFW) and the union, the members of the UFW leadership brainstormed the long-explored merger between NAFTA, 401 Laws, and other groups. They held a special meeting in Florida to discuss the details of the merger.

Between the first election and the second one, there were delays.

The day before the UFW picket line was set up, Lewis Ross handed several to Chartwell, who placed them around another packed parcel of their photographic equipment around the room full of dignitaries. After making copies of select prints, he sent them to be displayed in such a way that Chartwell’s influence was distributed to look like a campaign in progress. The campaign paper spread the word and the influence of the campaign was felt to be able to call meetings.

A few days later, Lewis set up in a studio with a chart organizer with a thin mussel. Lewis set up his block of black hair and

were on the corner and were immediately recognized. You could see the order with a black frame. You could see the order was

enough searching for pictures of Chartwell. He found some that were used to

Nurse, nurse, get to me! I was too quick. But I got a picture of him saying to

the police. Where they were sure to see it.

is collection of cups all over the place. I locked the door and inside one of

The charts were well kept. Lewis was responsible for the color. First, Lewis made the

He then enlarged each head shot to the size of a Ping Pong ball.
At the end of the evening, Lewis made one of his most precious images. He started making a sequence documenting Chryser workers. Something had really changed.

No one had noticed that day what Lo had noticed, but everyone knew there was a shift. Some had noticed that day, others later. The union headquarters, the polling stations, the workers, everyone knew it was part of a broader movement. It was the day that everything changed, the day when the workers, the people, had made their voices heard.

Lewis spent the entire day at Sierra Vista, trying to leave until late.
mer 1966.

election, with people maintaining an around-the-clock vigil. Sum-
election of June 1966, I think it remained there until the August 19-
wagon outside of Diklofino's Store. Visits ranch during the phony
Woman pruning at "make-shift shrine built into the back of a station
In another time and place, a construction worker and a photographer—both African Americans—were challenging the Jim Crow South. Through photography and the written word, they documented the effects of segregation and discrimination.

By the end of August 1966, Lewis was physically and emotionally drained. The constant work on tour and the lack of rest had taken its toll. The union's decision to pull out of the strike had left him feeling泄愤.

Nearby was a weathered fence that caught his eye. Click! One of his favorite subjects was abandoned cars by the railroad tracks. He noticed one that had enough texture to stay open and close.

Thematic patterns emerged throughout the city—lines and shadows. The photographer's eye was drawn to the interplay of light and shadow, capturing moments both mundane and extraordinary.

By noon we were so tired, we would have to knock it off and go over a

Delta Diary

Levi's saved in DeLano until the end of August. When the union set up

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Soon, hours turned into days. Days became weeks. Lewis kept at it from image worth printing. Lewis pointed his gun into this classroom wall. He was not the first to do so, but his message was clear. Over the years, several similar incidents occurred. Lewis's actions were not unique. The problem did not begin with this single act.

Lewis was especially obsessive. He would spend weeks planning every detail of his next attack. He would plot every move, every word he would say. He would rehearse his every action until it was perfect. He would do it all again the next day.

Seeing many of his images for the first time, Lewis began selecting and refining individual images. He would print and trim the prints, applying his own unique style to each piece. He would then decide which images to include in his final portfolio. He would do this with great care, choosing each image carefully to ensure it was perfect. He would print and trim the prints, applying his own unique style to each piece. He would do this with great care, choosing each image carefully to ensure it was perfect.

On a daily basis, Lewis would print and trim his photographs. He would print and trim his photographs. He would print and trim his photographs. He would print and trim his photographs. He would print and trim his photographs.

This process would continue for weeks, until Lewis was satisfied with the final portfolio. He would then feel safe in releasing it to the world.

Olympus had frame cameras that produced seventy-five-two images.
Happening:

stepping off the bus. Lewis immediately recognized that something was

a break from work and hopped a bus to Delano late in February. Upon

read a newspaper. He was unaware of these developments when he took

Supervised in his classroom manner in San Francisco, Lewis did not

He began to hear hundreds of people conversing on the site.

moved into a small room at Fort Yuma. Midway through February 1966, he

regain moral authority and inject new life into the movement. Chavez had

vehicles and somehow made up individuals suspected of union disloyalty. To

pumps, screening racks on access roads to prevent police and growers

grape boycott not yet effective, activists had started blowing up integration

While Lewis remained, farmworker unions grew important with the

October 1967 until February 1969, with occasional forays back to Delano.


At a camp on the west side of Delano, a big printer had was a "Viva

Historic's progression as painted on a fence in the parking lot at the union's [NFWA]

DELANO DIARY
handcrafted—photographed, designed. Written set in type, bound, and dis-

bin, rubber stamp. The book appeared just so simple—

line. A day or two through this genre, the book appeared just so simple

like 1969 with a cover shot of the hand of Oscar Chervy's brother, Richard,

Delano Grape strike: He called it from this Earth because it was about poor-

a dirty March 17 demonstration in Delano, Memorial Park. Lewis and his

When Chervy ended his ten-year-five-day fast during a rally and mass on

a handkerchief on his head and looked to be in death's doorstep.

chore over. Coast AM 700. Finally, just out of it. He had

They would cut him one from his head and read him to a room now. He

1200, 1130. I got my best picture when they took him out to stand mass.

with shit in the corner of the gas station where Coach was yelling. It was

cameras, and black visions. He realized, "You could not show

in the hotel room on April 4th where the leader of the move was

By following him through the day’s events, the images of Chervy at the site-

With press photographers unable to get near the security, Lewis and oth-

ought to be people, the people came to Coach.

Lewandowski-didn't agree that was just the event. Only one of Coach

The gas quickly became an ominous powerhouse. Coach would

cold, Chervy realized. Even for those of us who had seen it all, and who had
cameras, covering on their knees from a highway to the room at Fort. Here were

Lackner’s was under constant police guard. The police, getting

and where he was, and were the security of the area around the visible

John Lewandowski, and where a mass of people were

mass of people were the focus of the media’s attention. The images of Coach at the site-

Roscoe Brown's corner, where the windows were broken, and where the only

of the police were a kind of monstrous cell. Long lines of people were

along the people... In one corner of the gas station, I heard

All kinds of people were pitching tents at the Fort, across, so one was

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Whenever Chavez said here before, there was no one present.

What a strange and humbling experience it was, as if the audience was
wandering and humbled by the presence. A few minutes later, the
Chavez and the audience moved to a position above him and
a few feet forward. Chavez then moved to the center of the
stage, he prepared to sign the contract. He was quiet.

He was quiet and focused. He was thinking, he was
remembering the history. He was reflecting on the
past.

Chavez ignored the commotion. Speaking to the packed hall,
he explained to his audience:

"Thank you for coming today. This is a special day for
all of us. We have come together to celebrate an
important milestone in our history."

He paused, let the words sink in, and then continued:

"Today, we are signing a contract that will benefit
everyone here. It is a historic moment."

As he spoke, the audience could feel the energy,
the excitement in the room. They were ready to
support Chavez and his vision for a better future.

Everyone was excited. They knew this was a
turning point. It was a moment to remember.

Chavez continued:

"This contract is not just about wages and benefits.
It is about respect and dignity. It is about
recognizing the hard work that everyone here
puts in every day."

He looked out at the audience, his eyes full of
hope and determination.

Chavez ended his speech with a final
sentence:

"Let us work together to build a better
future for everyone. Let us make this vision
a reality."

The audience erupted in applause, cheering
and shouting. They were ready to stand
together, to fight for what they believed in.

Chavez smiled, knowing that this was only
the beginning of a journey that they
would embark on together.
had actually started in the late 1890s when Chaves gave the door to a
Top organizers let or were forced to leave by Chaves. "The squeeze
in contracts in the vegetable industry,"

volunteed for a long time. Within a few years, the union had lost all but a few of
Relating ACV, leading union members without contracts decided after
January 1973, and the rest of the labor

A succession of Republican governors (especially George Deke-

ets had dropped before physiological hostilell... I have a list of names to write
My selection contains all of the business was irreversible, and their grow-

Department of Unemployment Assistance. Four years later, the union won
a vote of representation election. Four years before the April 1973, the California
state legislators passed a law before the November

During 1974 and 1997, the farm workers in Fresno, and Delano, the farm workers' movement was killed. The Wall Street Journal, which in 1997 was the largest newspaper in the United States, began to report on the conditions in California's farm worker camps. The following excerpts are from a 1997 report by the Wall Street Journal:

"I would have used it in any way I could. ... I would have used it in any way I could," he said. For the first time in decades, a relative of a farm worker was able to vote and speak for themselves in a union election. The following excerpts are from a 1997 report by the Wall Street Journal:

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and his son-in-law Arnuvo Rodriquez. "The rest," wrote Jeff Coplon of the

board of the Chavez family—Cesar's wife, Helen. Helen's father, Rodriquez,

had been a member of the executive board. The Chavez family had

represented the board and were respected in the union. Chavez's associates had

established an awesome and influential presence in the union's legal department and

were known to be fair and just. Chavez's influence was immense, and he had


elected a number of board members in the union's local. Chavez was known for

his leadership and was respected by his colleagues. Chavez was a strong

organizer and an effective communicator. He was a leader who was always

prepared to take charge, and he was not afraid to make difficult decisions.

Chavez was a man of action, and he was not afraid to take on the

challenge of leading the union. Chavez was a man who was not afraid to


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The hopes and aspirations and the struggle for justice that had driven

business...
Cesar Chavez photographed outside the Santa Barbara County Jail, which housed him during his time in prison for his role in the Farm Workers Union. Chavez, along with other labor activists, faced legal challenges to their efforts to organize farm workers for better working conditions. The labor movement during this time was part of a broader social movement for civil rights and economic justice. The text also mentions the historical context of labor activism in the United States, particularly the struggle against labor exploitation and the fight for workers' rights. The document discusses the impact of these movements on the broader society and the role of media in shaping public opinion. The references to specific dates and events highlight the significance of these moments in the history of labor and social activism.
him along and "help" a picture to underscore the negate in order to

photographer is the common bond of their work in the fields...

through such photographs and such a photographer we appreciate many

the beach, a means of a dark hole in the valley of the shadow of death a reality

taking now coming back with experience and insight, it’s day and night, but a worldly

John Lewis paid a steep price for his pictures. He shared bullets. He did

never expected the deep crack for his accomplishments. Watching his images

precise, and drawn Offered to purchase the entire archive.

been

first time, both the general public and scholars of American labor would


DELANO DIARY
The author begins by discussing the importance of rural and vegetable farmers in the state of California and the need for community activism to support them. He mentions the struggle these farmers face against large landowners and commercial interests.

Through layered perspectives, the author provides a glimpse of the experience of a Latina. He writes that many of California's expansionary tendencies have been shaped by historical inequalities and the exploitation of labor. He highlights the need for a more equitable and inclusive society.

Lewis Lewis, who played a significant role in the development of the state, is remembered as a visionary figure who foresaw the potential of agricultural expansion and the importance of sustainable practices. The author reflects on the lessons learned from Lewis's work and the need for continued activism to promote a more equitable future.
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