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FBI

Date: 8/16/68

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL  
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-444762)

FROM : SAC, SACRAMENTO (100-197)

SUBJECT: UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING  
COMMITTEE AFL - CIO  
Delano, California  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Sacramento airtel to the Bureau, 8/15/68.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are four (4) copies of an LHM and one (1) copy for Los Angeles pertaining to captioned matter.

LED

SACRAMENTO

REC-30 100-444762-156

AT DELANO, CALIFORNIA: Will follow situation involving picketing of Delano Police Department and report any positive results.

ENCLOSURE

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADD. DISSEMINATION.

- 3 - Bureau (encls. 4)(RM)
- 1 - Los Angeles (100-67449)(encl. 1)(RM)
- 2 - Sacramento

CNS/kah  
(6)

AGENCY: CRD, ISO, IIU, RAO, CD, ACSI, OSI

HOW FORW: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE FORW: AUG 20 1968

BY: TEH:DS

Room 836  
9 & D

C. C. Bishop

Approved: JHW  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

54 AUG 28 1968

115



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Sacramento, California

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

August 16, 1968

UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING  
COMMITTEE AFL - CIO  
DELANO, CALIFORNIA

Copies of this memorandum are being distributed to the Army, Navy, Air Force, United States Secret Service, and United States Attorney.

On August 16, 1968, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised as follows:

From about 5 p.m., to 9 p.m., on August 15, 1968, up to 200 United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC) pickets gathered in the vicinity of the Delano Police Department protesting what they claimed is a lack of police protection. Included in the UFWOC picket line on that date were approximately 12 individuals, names unknown, claiming to be "brown berets" from Los Angeles, California. He has heard that Mr. Cesar Chavez, Director, UFWOC, has invited any of the militant groups to participate in this protest. During the morning of August 16, 1968, there were about 50 UFWOC protesters in front of the Delano Police Department.

[REDACTED] stated he intends to send a telegram to Attorney General Ramsey Clark on August 16, 1968, inviting the United States Justice Department to thoroughly investigate any complaints that Mr. Chavez has filed concerning [REDACTED] department or any other law enforcement agencies in the area [REDACTED]

-----  
This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

100-444762-100

116

UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING  
COMMITTEE AFL - CIO  
DELANO, CALIFORNIA

He is sending this telegram because he has heard Mr. Chavez has made numerous recent complaints to the Attorney General regarding police agencies in the Delano, California, area.

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0

FBI

Date: 8/19/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

**TO: Director, FBI**  
**FROM: SAC, Sacramento (100-197) (P)**  
**SUBJECT: UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**  
**AFL - CIO**  
**DELANO, CALIFORNIA**  
**INFORMATION CONCERNING**

[Redacted]

Re Sacramento airtel to Bureau, 8/16/68.

Enclosed herewith are four copies of letterhead memorandum pertaining to captioned matter.

LEAD:

SACRAMENTO DIVISION

At Bakersfield, California:

Will follow this matter with the Delano Police Department.

[Redacted]

~~cc-BAC~~  
cc-LABOR-DESK-MOWER

3-Bureau (Enc. 4)  
2-Sacramento  
CNS:ela  
(5)

EX 110 REC-9

100-447-157

25 AUG 22 1968

cc: CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

ENCLOSURE

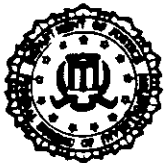
cc: AAG Civil Rights Division  
Form 6-94

183 308 8/26/68  
51 AUG 26 1968

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

118



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Sacramento, California  
August 19, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

**UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**  
**AFL - CIO**  
**DELANO, CALIFORNIA**

Copies of this memorandum are being disseminated to intelligence agencies of the Army, Air Force, And Navy, and to United States Secret Service, Sacramento, California.

The August 15, 1968, issue of the "Delano Record," a local tri-weekly Delano newspaper, reflects an interview with Cesar Chavez, Director, United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC), wherein Chavez stated that "this beating," referring to the altercation between union picket Manuel Rivera and Ignacio Rubio, on August 13, 1968, "is only one of many more incidents which have happened over the past two months. The police, District Attorney, and Sheriff won't move on them. We will stay here till we get action," referring to the picketing of the Delano Police Station.

Mr. Chavez further stated that he had asked Attorney General Ramsey Clark to send Federal Marshals to Delano, "so we can proceed with our union activities with some protection." Mr. Chavez previously stated, on August 13, 1968, that he is asking for a Congressional investigation into the matter. (A one-day meeting of the General Labor Sub-Committee of the House Education and Labor Committee, headed by Congressman John Dent (Democrat-Pennsylvania), was held at the Delano High School on August 15, 1968, to hear testimony on farm labor problems as they related to Federal legislation.)

On August 16, 1968, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised as follows:

COPIES DESTROYED

30 FEB 9 1971

ENCLOSURE

119

RE: UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE  
AFL - CIO, DELANO, CALIFORNIA

[REDACTED] the individual involved in the altercation with Manuel Rivera, who is affiliated with UFWOC, signed a complaint through the Kern County District Attorney's Office, at Bakersfield, California, on August 16, 1968, charging Rivera with battery. A warrant for Rivera's arrest was issued by Judge McNally of the Delano Justice Court on August 16, 1968, and Rivera was apprehended at Delano by the Kern County Sheriff's Office, on the same date.

Rivera was housed temporarily in the Delano Jail, pending transfer to the Kern County Jail, Bakersfield, and was immediately visited by David Averbuck, UFWOC Attorney. Mr. Averbuck told Chief Aisles that the Delano Police Department would "suffer" for Rivera's arrest.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that during the afternoon of August 16, 1968, approximately 25 to 30 pickets were present on the sidewalk in front of the Delano Police Station; however, picketing has been orderly and no arrests have been made. He said there is a vague rumor that Mr. Chavez has sent letters to militant groups throughout the United States, inviting them to join in the picketing at Delano.

[REDACTED] advised on August 17, 1968, that an average of approximately 70 UFWOC pickets were present at the Delano Police Station, and that there were no problems except an occasional jeer by a passing citizen.

On August 19, 1968, [REDACTED] stated that except for a two hour night rally by UFWOC members, there was no activity at the Police Station on August 18, 1968. He said there were about eight UFWOC pickets at the Police Station as of 10:00 A.M., on August 19, 1968.

RE: UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE  
AFL - CIO, DELANO, CALIFORNIA

[REDACTED] advised on August 19, 1968, that

[REDACTED]. He advised that on the night of August 16, 1968, approximately 300 UFWOC pickets assembled in front of the Delano Police Department and became unnecessarily loud and unruly. UFWOC Attorney Averbuck was called in to discuss the matter and was asked to cooperate; however, he was not very receptive to any suggestions on the part of the Delano Police Department. Immediately after Averbuck left the station, the pickets left the sidewalk and gathered at the door of the Police Station. Since they were interfering with the normal operation of the Police Department, they were ordered to leave, and only after all assembled forces were called in did the pickets leave without any further problems.

[REDACTED] stated that to date there have been no arrests in connection with this matter.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

0

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-444752)      DATE: 8/26/68

FROM : SAC, SAN ANTONIO (62-3269) (P\*)

SUBJECT: ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM WORKERS STRIKE  
IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

*John*

OO: SA

In view of no current harvest or union activity in Starr County, Texas, and the recent departure of FROBAN LOZADA, the main agitator in the Valley Community Service, aka Valley Service Committee and Colonias del Valle, of Donna and San Juan, Texas, this matter is being placed in a pending inactive status at San Antonio, Texas.



REC 36

158

2 - Bureau  
2 - San Antonio  
LDW/jsm  
(4)

2 AUG 28 1968

*John*



5010-108-02

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

122

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Q

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 9/10/68

JH

FROM : SAC, SACRAMENTO (100-197)(C)

11

SUBJECT: UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE  
AFL - CIO  
DELANO, CALIFORNIA  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re Sacramento airtel to the Bureau dated 8/19/68.

There has been no picketing or other unusual activity on the part of the above-captioned organization during the past week and none is anticipated in the near future. Consequently, this matter is being placed in a closed status.

*[Handwritten signature]*

EX-100

2 - Bureau (RM)  
1 - Sacramento  
CNS:km  
(3)

REC 82 100-197-100

SEP 12 1968

INT. SEC.

*[Handwritten notes]*

123

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

VIA TELETYPE  
 OCT 25 1968  
 ENCIPHERED

WA 10  
 314 PM URGENT 10-25-68 JLW  
 TO DIRECTOR (CODE)

ATT. DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION  
 FROM NEW YORK 62-NEW IP

[REDACTED]

"ANTI-NIXON VIGIL", SPONSORED BY UNITED FARM WORKERS, AFL-CIO, OCT. TWENTY FIVE, SIXTYEIGHT, NYC; INFORMATION CONCERNING.

[REDACTED]

13  
 14

A SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, ADVISED THIS DATE THAT THE UNITED FARM WORKERS, AFL-CIO, WOULD HOLD AN "ANTI-NIXON VIGIL", ON TEN TWENTY FIVE INSTANT, AT NIXON'S MANHATTAN CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS FROM FOUR TO SEVEN PM.

*[Handwritten initials]*

THE VIGIL IS TO PROTEST NIXON'S SUPPORT OF THE GRAPE GROWERS IN DISPUTE WITH THE UNITED FARM WORKERS.

ADMINISTRATIVE

EX-100

REC-38 *[Handwritten file number]*

RE NEW YORK TEL TEN TWENTY FOUR LAST, CAPTIONED "PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY - NEW YORK". SOURCE UTILIZED IS

15 OCT 28 1968

[REDACTED] SECRET SERVICE, NEW YORK, AND BSS, NYCPD, ADVISED. NYO WILL FOLLOW AND SUTEL RESULTS.

END

VXC

FBI WASH DC  
 59 OCT 30 1968

*[Handwritten "F77"]*

*[Handwritten "5-12"]*

*[Handwritten "124"]*

VIA TELETYPE  
OCT 25 1968  
ENCIPHERED

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WA... 21

FBI NEW YORK

URGENT 8-35PM 10-25-68 WPK

TO DIRECTOR (PLAINTEXT)

ATTENTION DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

FROM NEW YORK 62-NEW 1P

"ANTI-NIXON VIGIL", SPONSORED BY UNITED FARM WORKERS,  
AFL-CIO, TEN TWENTY FIVE, SIXTY EIGHT, NYC; INFORMATION  
CONCERNING.

ADVISED THIS DATE THAT

THE UNITED FARM WORKERS, AFL-CIO, HELD A VIGIL AT RICHARD  
M. NIXON'S CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS AT FIFTY SEVENTH STREET  
AND PARK AVENUE, NYC ON TEN TWENTY FIVE INSTANT.

APPROXIMATELY FORTY PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN THE VIGIL  
INCLUDING CITY COUNCILMAN ED KOCH.

THE VIGIL BEGAN AT FOUR THIRTY PM AND ENDED AT SEVEN PM.  
THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS OR ARRESTS.

ADMINISTRATIVE

RENYTEL TEN TWENTY FIVE INSTANT. NO LHM BEING SUBMITTED

UACB.

(C)

END

WA....EFH

FBI WASH DC

MCT-18

REC-200 - 449762-

100-449762

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

125

FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 15 1968

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI PITTSBGH

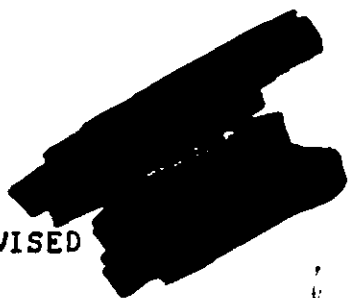
3:40PM URGENT 11/15/68 MCF

TO DIRECTOR  
FROM PITTSBURGH (62-NEW)

DEMONSTRATION MARCH, NOVEMBER TWENTYTHREE, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT, BY UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, PITTSBURGH, PA., INFO CONCERNING.

NATIONAL FARM WORKERS ORGANIZATION

ON NOVEMBER FIFTEEN, INSTANT, A RELIABLE SOURCE ADVISED THAT ALBERT ROJAS OF THE UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (UFWOC) HAD OBTAINED A PERMIT FOR A MARCH ON NOVEMBER TWENTYTHREE, NEXT. THE MARCH WILL BEGIN AT HERRON AND CENTRE STREETS, IN THE NEGRO HILL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH. THE MARCH WILL THEN PROCEED ALONG GRANT ST., AND LIBERTY AVENUE ENDING AT AN AREA IN PITTSBURGH KNOWN AS THE POINT. THE AIM OF THE UFWOA IS TO GAIN UNION RECOGNITION FOR GRAPE PICKERS IN CALIFORNIA AND AS A MEANS TO THAT END, ROJAS HAS BEEN IN PITTSBURGH FOR SOMETIME. HE HAS ORGANIZED A CAMPAIGN TO DISCOURAGE THE USE OF CALIFORNIA GRAPES.



REC-57 102

12 NOV 19 1968

THE SOURCE SAID THAT THERE WERE INDICATIONS CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE WOULD OCCUR DURING THE MARCH.

END PAGE ONE  
NOV 15 1968

126

PAGE TWO

ADMINISTRATIVE:

SOURCE OF INFORMATION IS [REDACTED]

G-TWO, SECRET SERVICE AND USA ADVISED.

LHM FOLLOWS. P.

END

MKA

FBI WASH DC

127

# Memorandum

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-444762)

DATE: 11/18/68

SAC, SAN ANTONIO (62-3269) (P)

SUBJECT:

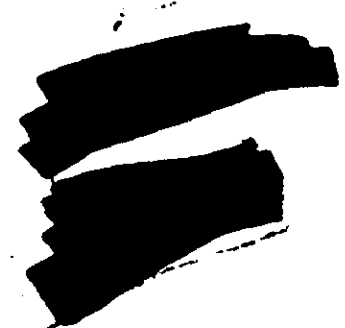
ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Enclosed for the Bureau are ten copies of a LHM concerning the boycott of the Edcouch-Elsa, Texas, High School by a group of students who are allegedly being led by or associated with members of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee and of LaRaza Unida.

This information being furnished for the information of the Bureau.

Only those organizations that can be documented are characterized.

This matter is being followed through the news media and other public information sources but no active investigation is being conducted by San Antonio.



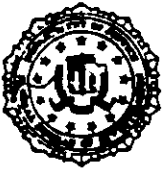
2 - Bureau (Enc. 10)  
2 - San Antonio  
HHC/jsm  
(4)

REC 58

DEC 5 1968

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

128



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

San Antonio, Texas  
November 13, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM WORKERS  
STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

The Monitor, an evening newspaper published at McAllen, Texas, under date of November 13, 1968, contained the following information:

Members and backers of the Mexican-American Youth Organization (MAYO) planned to show up at the Edcouch-Elsa High School tonight to air their grievances but the school board was not expected to be around to hear them.

MAYO drafted 15 "demands" and two "recommendations" to be presented to the trustees charging among other things "blatant discrimination."

Billie Cellum, Board President, said MAYO representatives had requested a special meeting tonight to present their requests. However, Cellum advised the group trustees would "listen to their complaints" at the next regular session at 8:00 p.m. Monday.

The list of demands and recommendations were discussed by the MAYO group and sympathizers at a Monday night session held in the Elsa Community Building, it was reported.

State senator Joe Bernal of San Antonio, and Richard Avena, San Antonio member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, addressed a large group of students and parents at the Monday night meeting.

Bernal said he was asked to come down here like the Texan Rangers were invited. His reference was to old complaints involving rangers who assisted Starr County authorities in labor strife with the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee.

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33 FEB 9 1971

ENCLOSURE

129



5

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE,  
CITY, TEXAS

The Edcouch-Elsa School Board last week passed a new policy resolution which said in part: It has come to the attention of the school board that there are persons who are engaged in activities designed to cause trouble, dissatisfaction and disruption in the school system.

To prevent disruption in the education of the students of this school district, the board hereby directs that any student who participates in a demonstration or walk-out not previously approved by the office of the principal shall be expelled from this school for the remainder of the semester and no credit may be earned during that semester.

The policy went on to state that it was not the board's intentions to discourage the legitimate complaints, but that they must be handled through proper channels.

No student shall be permitted to attempt to recruit or solicit on campus members for any organization which tends to disrupt, interfere with, or create unrest or dissatisfaction among students in the education program, the policy continued.

Maximum penalty for violation of this provision shall be the expulsion for the remainder of the semester.

The Valley Morning Star, a Harlingen, Texas, newspaper on November 15, 1968, carried the following statement:

120

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Action May Be Spreading On

# Edcouch-Elsa Students Continues With Ra

By NOLENE HODGES  
EDCOUCH — Striking Mexican-American students at Edcouch-Elsa High School climaxed a daylong demonstration Thursday night with a rally in front of the campus auditorium.

Xavier Ramirez, a senior who heads the six-member "student committee" leading the revolt, claimed as many as 200 left classes.

The last report from school authorities indicated 136 were absent. There was no official count on how many had been suspended due to the walkout.

The group said it is protesting discrimination and conditions in

(Additional Photos, Pg. A12)

the district as well as the failure of the school board to call a special session to hear student demands.

**Cars Line Highway**  
The Thursday night attendance was estimated at more than 1,000 cars and trucks, filled the parking spaces and lined both sides of the divided highway in front of the school.

Adult education classes normally held Thursday nights at the high school were called off, presumably because of the gathering.

Mirtala Villarreal, a member of the student committee, said she had talked by telephone with Sen. Ralph Yarborough concerning the school situation. She said he told her to write him concerning the complaints.

A group of Weslaco students joined in the rally. The spokesman for the Weslaco group identified himself as Milton Hinojosa.

Other speakers included Abel Ochoa, Hidalgo County PASO president who told the students they had the "100 per cent support" of PASO. Ochoa announced earlier in the week it would be PASO's policy to offer legal aid to students expelled for demonstrating.

Ramirez said the demonstrators would be back on the campus at 8 a.m.

Principal M. L. Pipkin called a faculty meeting to discuss overall situation and strategy for today.

"We will continue to have school as much as possible," Pipkin said, "and will check attendance most carefully."

He said the demonstrators generally are from the average and lower section academically and non-participants as far as athletics and extra-curricular activities are concerned.

"Some are trouble makers and some are not," he said.

Pipkin also announced over the loud speaker that students walking out would "unquestionably be expelled" by the school board.

Following the noon hour, he instructed teachers to check carefully for class members who might have returned after being absent for morning sessions. Students in the class boycott at 8 a.m. became more unruly as the day wore on, clapping and chanting as they marched closer and closer to the building, sometimes shouting to those inside.

Hidalgo County Sheriff E. E. Vickers told his deputies to stay away from the area.

The high school is located between the cities of Edcouch and Elsa, and therefore out of the jurisdiction of city police.

However, Police Chief Eloy Zavala of Elsa and Chief Ernesto Olivarez of Edcouch were on the scene most of the time in the event trouble broke out.

State highway patrolmen were in the area frequently during the afternoon.

VISTA workers and Pan American College students began joining and advising the demonstrators Thursday afternoon.

As buses left the school at

Page One  
Valley Morning Star  
Harlingen, Texas

Date: 11/15/68  
Edition: One only  
Author:  
Editor:  
Title:

Character:  
or  
Classification: 62-3269  
Submitting Office:  
 Being Investigated

3

131

Over Valley

ent Revolt  
ally Today

3u

the end of the day, one load of non-striking pupils lowered their heads and covered their faces as the vehicle passed demonstrators in an effective protest of their own.

A group of the students involved in the walkout crawled into a big red stake-bed truck late in the afternoon and headed for Weslaco. It had been rumored the group would demonstrate in Weslaco.

The truck drove around several streets in the downtown area and appeared to be headed for the northside plaza park. Police kept them under surveillance.

Instead of going to the park, the young people stopped at a Kansas Street residence. School officials including one Wednesday night appeared shortly after the Edcouch-Elsa group arrived.

Apparently to determine if Weslaco students were involved.

After the approximately 140 students began the boycott at 8 a.m. Monday, and Thursday. For a series of conferences with the six leaders of the demonstrators and several parents, Pipkin announced all those involved in the walkout would be suspended for three weeks, pending action of the school board.

The conferences took place at the school house door, and later about an hour in a room beside the building.

"We will not yield one iota as long as I am principal," Pipkin declared. "The students will not dictate the policy." An estimated 125 had begun a demonstration as the school rang at 8 a.m., and another walked out at the beginning of the second period.

The demonstrators gathered across the road from the campus while the leaders met with Pipkin. They carried a large banner treating "boycott classes" and one student hoisted the flag and took farm labor strike tag.

Like Foley, Elsa city policeman, kept an eye on the proceedings but for the most part the students were orderly.

Their parents were more militant. At least one parent told school authorities he was keeping his child at home because he didn't want her "endangered" by the walkout.

### Hit Where Hurts

Students involved said the walkout would "hit the school where it hurts," cutting down the average daily attendance on which state funds are allocated.

Union, PASO, VISTA and Texas Council of Churches migrant ministry representatives stayed away from Thursday morning's demonstration.

They have been addressing meetings held by the students in the last two weeks, which the walkout was planned.

Pipkin and Juan B. Tomassini, Spanish teacher, serving as his interpreter, were the only school officials meeting with the walkout participants Thursday.

Ramirez and the other leaders charge "blatant discrimination." They say the student body is approximately 90 per cent Mexican-American. The high school enrollment is believed to be between 600 and 700.

Many of the Mexican-American students remaining in classes told reporters at a break between classes they thought the walkout was a "disgrace."

### Others Watching

Other school district administrators in the area were keeping in close contact on the Edcouch-Elsa development, indicating they felt the movement might spread if firm action were not taken in the first instance.

The student participants remained in a group near the campus. Original plans to spend the day at a stockyard adjoining the school grounds had to be called off when the pens were filled with cattle Thursday morning.

The Edcouch-Elsa school board took action last week in

a special meeting calling for expulsion of students participating in demonstrations or walkouts for the semester. Students, under the same policy, are forbidden to "recruit or solicit on campus members for any organization which tends to disrupt, interfere with, or create unrest or dissension" among the student body.

Ramirez said the demonstration was organized because the school board refused to call a special meeting Wednesday night to hear his group's list of 15 "demands" and two recommendations.

### Meet Monday

Billie Cellum, board president, told the group spokesman trustees would listen to the complaints at a regular meeting set for 8 p.m. Monday. He said a full board could not be present before that time.

School administrators may suspend students for three days, Pipkin explained, with board action necessary for expulsion.

As the demonstration began Pipkin told the students he was "willing to listen to any justified complaint, but as far as being out of class, I will not tolerate it."

Eddy Gonzalez, one of the walkout leaders, told the principal the "school belongs to the parents and the students. The school is supposed to meet every emergency. This is an emergency. Get the board here."

The leaders and several parents requested Pipkin to contact Supt. A. W. Bell. He left the door briefly to do so. When he returned, he said he had talked with the superintendent and was advised that the board would meet at 8 p.m. Monday and "at that time, if you have any statement you wish to present to the board, you may do so."

### Told Go Back

A short time later, Pipkin stated to the group: "The only thing I can tell you right now is to go back to class. If you do not wish to go to class you may walk off."

Luis Chavez, father of three students involved in the demonstration, talked with the principal through an interpreter. He charged the school authorities declined to listen to the student complaints.

"You act like this is not nothing," Gonzalez told the principal. "If you don't think that it is something, look across the street."

Pipkin said he had nothing further to say, except "any student not in school will automatically come under the board policy and will be expelled for the semester."

One of the adults wanted to know "how come high government can call emergency

meetings, but the school board can't?"

Mrs. Rebecca Ramirez who said she had children attending classes, argued at length with both students and adults outside the high school entrance, telling them they were wrong and to return to classes.

Pipkin was asked if he would meet with the demonstrating students and their parents. He said he didn't want a mass meeting, but if the leaders and their parents wanted to discuss "anything officially or unofficially" he was willing to comply.

### Requests, Not Demands

He said he wanted to emphasize he would hear their requests, "but not demands."

He also told the leaders "but I am not going to listen to that group standing over there in defiance," pointing to the main body of the demonstrators across the unpaved, dusty road.

It was then that the six leaders and six or seven adults accompanied Pipkin inside the building for a conference.

Asked following it what he said, Pipkin replied, "I listened."

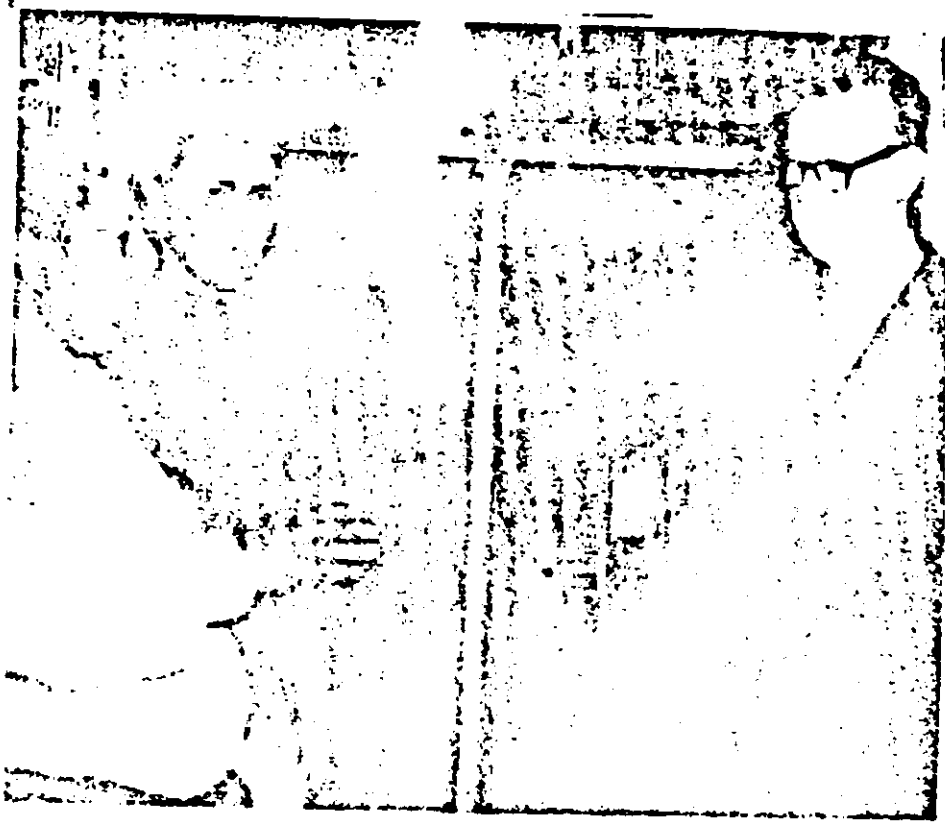
Ramirez and the other boycott leaders denied to reporters earlier and to Pipkin today that they were a part of the Mexican-American Youth Organization (MAYO). They said they hoped to form a MAYO group later.

Earlier, some of the students had described themselves as MAYO members.

The two "recommendations" drafted for presentation to the school board call for either students or townspeople to be hired as school bus drivers instead of teachers and for longer periods of time to be given to get to classes between periods.

They said five minutes would be sufficient, charging they now have three minutes.

133



**STOOD FIRM**—Edcouch-Elsa High School principal M. L. Pipkin, right, stood firm in the face of a student walkout involving approximately 140 Mexican-American students Thursday morning. Pipkin said he could not make the students attend classes, but that those who

didn't would be suspended for three days. Shown with him in front of the high school are, left to right, Luis Chavez, father of three children taking part in the walkout, and Xavier Ramirez, a student leader in the protest.

(Staff Photo)



**SIGNS OF DISCONTENT** — Students in several age groups refused to attend classes Thursday in the Edcouch-Elsa school system. The leaders of the protesting group presented 15 demands upon school authori-

ties. Later in the the day, all students were turned out an because of a bomb scare.

(S)



**STUDENT REVOLT LEADER** — Xavier Ramirez, center, with hands on head, is shown at the moment he reported to his followers in the Edcouch-Elsa High School demonstration Thursday morning that they had been suspended from

classes. He talked to reporters, said his group is not backed by a farm labor union, nor VISTA, but representatives from both groups were seen in the ranks of the students. (Star Photo)

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ned out an hour early

(Star Photo)

12/6

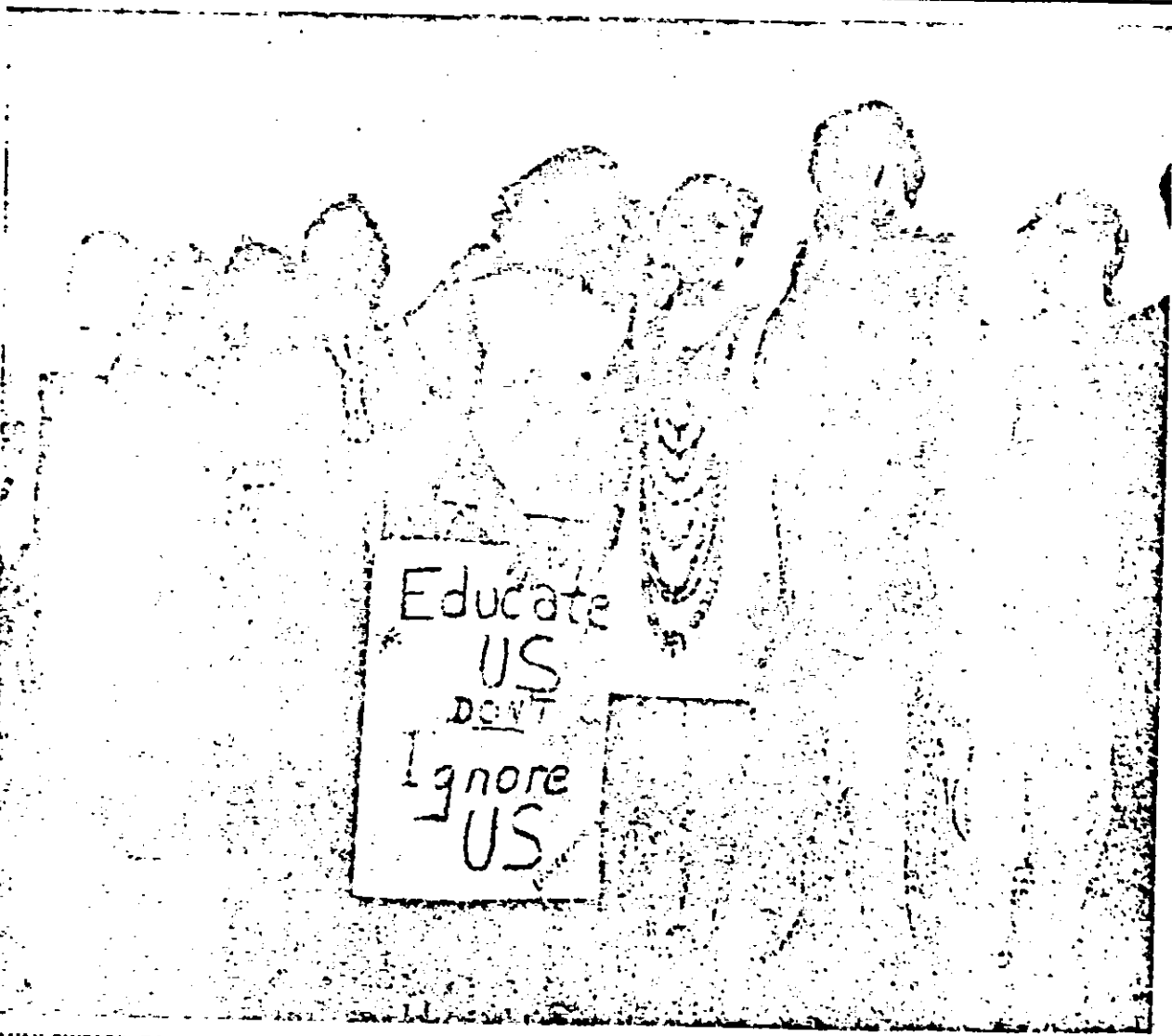


**PROTEST SIGN** — These three Edcouch-Elsa High School seniors show one of the various protest signs observed in the mass student refusal to attend school Thursday

morning. They are, from left, Mirala Villarreal, Martina Gonzalez and Patsy Jacinto.

(Star Photo)





**MINI-SKIRTED DEMONSTRATORS**—Here are some more of the 140 Edcouch-Elsa high school students in the act of refusing to attend classes Thursday morning. The result three-day suspension from class. (Star Photo)

8

138

0



**GAY PARADE**—Demonstrating students staged a short parade in front of the Edcouch-Elsa High School Thursday morning before they learned they had been sus-

pended from classes as a result of the "revolt."

(Star Photo)

5



**UNION FLAG** — The black eagle flag of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee was waved during the Thursday morning student demonstration at the Edcouch-Elso High School. Here a Weslacoan, Jesus Ramos, who was there, holds the flag used by the unsuccessful farm union organizers in the Valley. He was observed speaking to some of the students.  
(Star Photo)

10

140

• ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
• WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS

Accompanying the foregoing article were several photographs taken by staff photographers, one of which was a group picture in which signs pertaining to LaFaza Unida were evident and another photograph of an individual identified as Jesus Ramos of Weslaco, Texas, holding the black eagle flag of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee which he waved during the Thursday morning boycott of the high school by the student group. According to the newspaper, Ramos was also observed speaking to some of the students.

This document contains neither recommendation  
nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property  
of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and  
its contents are not to be distributed outside  
your agency

141

SUBJECT: Cesar Chavez & United Farm Workers et al.

FILE: 100 - 444762

SECTION: 5

146

Date: 11-12-68

To: Director, FBI

(Bufile : )

Attention: NAME CHECK SECTION

From: Legal Attache, Ottawa

(163-544-177 )

*[Handwritten signature]*

Title  <b>UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE</b>	Character <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FPC</b></p> Reference  <p style="text-align: center;">No prior correspondence.</p>
--	---

Remarks:

Note request and advise.

Dissemination

- May be made as received
- May be made as indicated by stamp on enclosure

Following offices would be interested in receiving copies of enclosures:

Status with this office:

- RUC
- Pending

2 - Bureau (Enc. 9) *ENCLOSURE*  
 MLI:jhc  
 (2)

**54 DEC 2 - 1968**

Do not write in space below			
		-165	REC- 5F
NOV 22 1968 NOV 24 1968			ST-124
<i>[Handwritten signature]</i>			

1413

C- Q  
VANCOUVER SUN  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
Issue of SEP 4 1938

**'Campbell' Rapped**

Editor, The Sun, Sir — We, the Committee for Social Justice of the City of Seattle, wish to express our disbelief in the alleged conclusion of the investigation of the Delano grape strike by Mayer Campbell of Vancouver.

We give our sincere and total support to these strikers and their objectives and ask our social-minded Canadian brothers to unite with us in this truly Christian effort. We ask that Tony Mendon of the international union be given the opportunity by your newspapers to describe the plight of the farm workers in answer to the findings of Mayer Campbell.

JOHN J. SULLIVAN (Aly.)  
KENT HUDSON  
SUSAN ROBERTS  
NORA HARAZK  
GARMEN MICHELSON  
KATHERINE FAGEN  
CORAL WHITEMAN

Seattle

144

# California agitators fail to gain wide support for grape boycott

## Union dispute in vineyards

By MICHAEL MOORE

John Giunarra was 9 when he came to Canada. His family settled in the Parliament Street area of Toronto and he remembers his older brother Joseph selling fruit from a pushcart on Queen Street.

The Giunarras went to the United States shortly after the First World War and wound up in the fruit-growing country of California. John now is patriarch of 12 related families that ship about 2,000 carloads of grapes—approximately 40,000 tons—all over the world each year.

Marshall Ganz is a former civil rights worker from the U.S. South. He has a long, droopy mustache and the sunken of a man who spends a lot of time outdoors. When he talks, he looks at you like a man who believes.

Mr. Ganz is one of five U.S. organizers from the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, in Canada to promote a boycott of California grapes. They want to force growers like Mr. Giunarra to bargain with the Farm Workers Union (AFU-CIO), which has picked grape country as its focus for organizing.

### Three in Ontario

Three are working in Ontario from headquarters in Toronto, one is in Montreal and one in Vancouver.

The organizers had broad support from unions and provincial labor councils, from Roman Catholic clergy and from radical youth. They have been called everything from Marx to Communists by the grape growers, the Governor of California, and the Mayor of Vancouver.

D. H. W. Henry, director of investigations and research under the Combines Investigation Act, says if they succeed in persuading the chain stores in any city to stop buying California grapes, he will have to launch an investigation on restraint of trade.

Ontario grape growers stand to benefit if buyers in Canada switch from California fruit.

Twelve thousand tons of the Ontario produce were shipped to the United States last year. This surplus production is a top in the barrel compared with imports of California grapes into Canada. More than 30,000 tons of wine grapes and 15,000 tons of eating grapes went to Toronto last year. Shipments to Montreal totalled 7,000 tons.

This year, for the first time, the Ontario marketing board that sells grapes for the retail trade is putting on a push to get into a Toronto market. However, at least one major distributor says his customers do not want Canadian grapes.

This is the second year in a row that committee organizers have tried to promote a grape boycott in Canada. Last year, Marion Moses, a former student at the University of California, tried to persuade grape dealers and chain stores not to sell the product of the Giunarra Bros. Inc. vineyard at Delano, Calif. She did some picketing too, until Pietro Culotta Grapes Ltd. won an injunction prohibiting it. The picketing was ruled illegal because Pietro Culotta did not have any dispute with his employees.

This year, the organizers are going after all California grapes. Mr. Ganz says last year other producers in the rich San Joaquin Valley lost shipping labels to Giunarra, so picketing one brand was useless.

The organizers claim workers are being protected by the growers from joining the union. Organizers and growers disagree on this and most other points.

Mr. Giunarra is typical of the growers. He charges the organizers, led by Mexican-American Cesar Chavez, are trying to force workers and growers into unionization when neither of them wants it.

"They've been struggling for three years to organize the workers, and they've had no success. They can't get the workers to join . . . They've created so much animosity the workers hate the union organizers."

About his workers: "These people would never leave us. If you treat them good, there's no way they'd ever leave."

Mr. Ganz sums up the organizers' answer: "If that's true, why won't they let the pickets vote?"

Farm workers were left out of New Deal legislation passed in 1933 to protect the worker's right to organize, and there is still no way they can secure a certification vote if the grower refuses it.

(In other industries in the United States, a petition signed by 30 per cent of the workers requires a certification vote, and 51 per cent in favor obliges management to negotiate in good faith with the union.)

The organizers say they have won overwhelming victories whenever they have been able to hold secret votes.

Growers use the example of the Di-Giorgio Fruit Corp., where pickets were organized in 1956. Within a year, the entire operation had been sold.

Organizers claim unionization of the workers had little or nothing to do with the breakup of the DiGiorgio operation.

## in Canada

Mr. Ganz says sale of the land resulted from a 15-year-old agreement with the state Government. The company still has 9,000 acres 40 miles away producing fruit, vegetables, and nuts. "They're unionized, and they're thriving."

Fruit farms in San Joaquin are on a scale larger than anything in the Canadian fruit industry. Mr. Giunarra says a family couldn't make a decent living on anything less than 200 acres, and the average is about 400 acres.

### Supporting 12 families

He said he has 5,000 acres of grapes, supporting 12 related families. (Mr. Ganz says the Giunarra families have 12,450 acres of grapes, either owned or rented.)

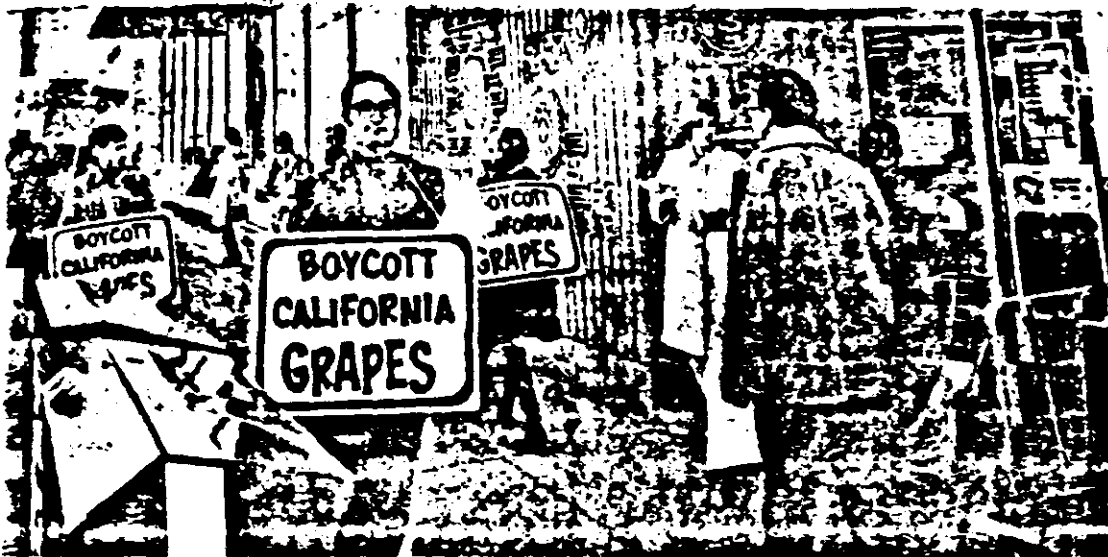
Mr. Giunarra ridicules claims by the organizers that wages are low and working and living conditions substandard. "They're the most affluent farm workers in the United States."

"And they have the highest cost of living," says Mr. Ganz.

Martin Lusinovich of Delano, chairman of the south central growers committee, says the old pattern of migrant workers following the harvest has changed. "Ninety per cent of the seasonal work

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Store on Bloor Street West in Toronto is picketed in attempt to persuade Canadians not to buy California grapes, in support of attempts to unionize workers. Ontario grape growers stand to benefit from any major switch by buyers from U.S. product.

force is made up of local workers. We don't get a bunch of migrants."

Mr. Zaminovich, who hires up to 80 workers for his 800 acres of vineyards, adds that the fact the organizers have gone to a national boycott "proves they have failed to organize the workers."

Boycotts have been organized widely in U.S. cities. The Mayors of New York and Detroit have given their support, causing growers to urge Californians not to buy any products from the two cities.

In Canada, organizing has been most active in Ontario. Support has been received from major unions, and the larger locals

are organizing boycotts in cities outside Toronto. Committees are already active in St. Catharines, London, Sudbury, Brantford and Windsor, and are being organized in at least six other communities.

Working out of Toronto with Mr. Ganz are full-time organizers Jessica Goven and Rev. Mark Day, a Franciscan priest. Both are from California.

They have been working with labor organizations, churches, and other groups. Several priests have preached on the boycott, and leaflets in Italian have been widely distributed. The Ontario Farmers Union has given its support.

Stores have been asked to refrain from selling California grapes, and a few have been picketed to convince customers not to buy. Mr. Ganz says he has had "lots of sympathy, but no action" from chain stores he has approached.

If the chains agreed to stop selling the grapes, they could be breaking the law.

Combinex investigation director Mr. Henry says if such an agreement kept grapes for one part of the market from the public, he would have to launch an inquiry.

Convincing the public not to buy probably would not run ahead of the act; the consumer would still have a choice.

Mr. Henry cannot remember a consumer boycott ever being effective.

While chain stores are heavy sellers of table grapes, wine grapes are mostly sold by fruit companies.

Pietro Culetta, the company that obtained the injunction last year, and Darrigo's Grape Juice Ltd. say they will both sell California grapes this year. Most of their customers want the kind of grapes grown in California.

Steps similar to those in Ontario are being taken in Montreal, where Tony Abumada, a native of Delano, has been working.

Chain stores have been asked to cooperate, but there has been no answer. Both the Congress of National Trade Unions and the Quebec Federation of Labor have endorsed the program and Mr. Abumada is still trying to get the support of the Roman Catholic Church, the Bishop of Montreal and Mayor Jean Drapeau.

Mr. Abumada says Delano "is the only other place when a union comes in—there's always trouble at first."

Why did the union pick Delano? "The agricultural industry is a lot richer than anywhere else... you have to start somewhere."

GLOBE MAIL  
TORONTO, ONT.

Issue of . DEC 18, 1968 .  
Carding date . DEC 18, 1968 .

87  
The union opened a mobile clinic for workers, a service centre, and a co-operative gas station. "Lots of people in Delano buy at the gas station, though I never saw a grower."

Things are more lively in Vancouver, where Mayor Thomas Campbell was a staunch backer of the boycott at first, but now scoffs at it.

He took part in the initial planning, prepared slogans, and was completely in favor of the protest until he visited Delano.

The stories of what happened differ. The mayor says he went at his own expense so he could form his own opinion. Raymond Haynes, secretary of the B.C. Federation of Labor, says the mayor "took a flip-flop", and then spent a weekend in Delano to justify changing his mind.

The real reason, says Mr. Haynes, was that the food chains refused to co-operate with the boycott. "The mayor was a little naive if he thought they would accept."

Mayor Campbell says he found no strike. "I was shown one picket line, and they said they'd been brought there shortly before. I talked to workers in the fields. They don't want a union."

"These people live in air conditioned buildings. They have fine working conditions." He talked to the union, but officials wouldn't tell him how many members they had.

Mr. Haynes says the mayor spent 15 minutes with the workers, and the rest of the weekend with the growers and Governor Ronald Reagan.

Mayor Campbell says there may be poverty among farm workers elsewhere in California, but not at Delano. "They're better off than farm workers here in B.C."

### *Situation bad*

Mr. Haynes doubts the situation is worse in British Columbia, but it is "pretty bad". He says the mayor "has made politics out of a real social problem."

Tony Mendez, the organizer working in Vancouver, is pushing ahead with the boycott. Students from Simon Fraser University are helping to picket, and the student council of the larger University of British Columbia has also voted support.

A demonstration is planned for the downtown area, and if all else fails there could be a shop-in.

He explains that when a shop-in occurs demonstrators fill shopping carts and then refuse to buy the goods—as a protest against the stores carrying California grapes. This is a last resort if all other pressure fails.

Mr. Haynes says boycotting is illegal under B.C. labor law—the toughest in Canada—"but we do it anyway." So is leaflet distribution, "but we wouldn't mind seeing it challenged."

An offshoot of the Vancouver campaign is being organized in Edmonton by 18-year-old Naomi Rankin, a secondary school student. She heard about the protest when visiting Vancouver and had been trying to approach local chain store managements. She has the help of the local New Democratic Youth.

*First of two articles.*

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# Boycott of scab grapes from California urged

A campaign for a consumer boycott of California grapes was launched in B.C. last week when the B.C. Federation of Labor's executive council decided to give full support to the California grape pickers who appealed to B.C. labor for support.

Support from B.C.'s labor federation came after 24-year-old Tony Mendez, an organizer for the United Farm Workers in California, described the incredible conditions faced by pickers. The grape workers have set up headquarters in Vancouver to promote the consumer boycott and seek support for their fight.

A leaflet being widely distributed in B.C., headed, "Don't buy scab grapes from California," says: "When you eat a grape you approve of families living on \$15 per month, poor education for our children. You believe in slavery. You condemn poor workers."

"California grape farm workers have now been on strike for 34 months for not only wages, but for decent living conditions. Grapes are picked under slave conditions that still exist in the twentieth century."

"A California grape grower makes \$12 million per year on table grapes, yet farm workers earn, for a family of six, only \$2,500 a year, which is below the U.S. poverty level."

"Farm workers have no rights - no laws - no protection from the Federal government - miserable living conditions."

The leaflet concludes with an appeal to the public to support the grape workers in their struggle for justice:

"Don't buy any California grapes. Tell your store manager not to handle these scab grapes. Join our consumer picket lines. Tell your friends and groups not to buy California grapes."

Another leaflet issued by the B.C. Federation of Labor on behalf of the grape workers appeals to the public: "Don't buy scab grapes." It says that justice and equality do not exist for grape workers. It points out

that grape workers are compelled to support a family on \$15 a month, that some have been jailed, for exercising free speech, shot, beaten up, and run down.

The BCFL leaflet points out that grapes sold in Vancouver have been picked by strike breakers.

Under the leadership of Cesar Chavez, the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, waged a valiant struggle to improve the lot of California farm workers against the economically powerful and reactionary big growers. They won partial success in the wine grape industry in California. Now the campaign has turned to the growers of table grapes, and as happened before, the growers have adopted an adamant position.

They have refused to meet with the union, have imported scab labor, union organizers have been harassed and physically attacked. Now the workers have taken their campaign to the people of the U.S. and Canada.

Further information about their struggle and the boycott of California grapes is available by phoning the Vancouver Labor Council, TR 8-3471.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 23 1968

TELETYPE

Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*Wesley*

*[Handwritten initials]*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FBI WASH DC

FBI PITTSBGH

226PM URGENT 11/23/68 RLC

TO DIRECTOR

FROM PITTSBURGH (62-3292) 2P

DEMONSTRATION MARCH, ELEVEN TWENTYTHREE, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT, BY UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, PITTSBURGH, PA., INFORMATION CONCERNING.

ON ELEVEN TWENTYTHREE INSTANT, A RELIABLE SOURCE ADVISED THAT A PARADE OF APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED TWENTYEIGHT INDIVIDUALS MARCHED INSTANT DATE FROM THE HILL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH TO POINT PARK IN DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH. THE MARCHERS HEARD SPEECHES BY INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTING UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO GAIN UNION RECOGNITION FOR CALIFORNIA<sup>A</sup> GRAPE PICKERS. DURING THE DEMONSTRATION, ENVELOPES WERE GIVEN TO PARTICIPANTS WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS THAT THEY MASH A GRAPE AND MAIL IT TO PRESIDENT ELECT NIXON, PIERRE HOTEL, NEW YORK, N. Y. THE ENTIRE DEMONSTRATION WAS ORDERLY AND PEACEFUL.

*16*

REC-47

To White House, Secret Service, CIA, STATE, ACSI, OSI, DIA, by tel 11-2-68

NOV 26 1968

END OF PAGE ONE

*5-6*

NOV 23 1968  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

C - O  
PAGE TWO

PG 62-3292

ADMINISTRATIVE

REMYTEL ELEVEN FIFTEEN LAST.

PITTSBURGH SECRET SERVICE ADVISED.

LHM FOLLOWS. P

END.

MSE

FBI WASH DC

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

O

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-444762)

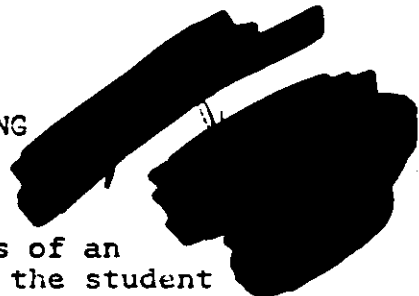
FROM : SAC, SAN ANTONIO (62-3269) (P)

SUBJECT: ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 11/27/68

OO: SA

Enclosed for the Bureau are 10 copies of an LHM reflecting continued newspaper coverage of the student boycott, Edcouch-Elsa, Texas, High School.



*We must find  
no dissemination  
necessary  
B*

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 10)
- 7 - San Antonio
  - (1 - 100-10234)
  - (1 - 100-10414)
  - (1 - 100-10427)
  - (1 - 157-658)
  - (1 - 157-654)
  - (2 - 62-3269)

ST-124

REC-32

25 DEC 2 1968

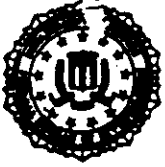
LDW/jsm  
(9)

ENCLOSURE

*1 cc to WAO-151  
12-9-68*  
54 DEC 4 3 1968



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

San Antonio, Texas

November 27, 1968

*In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.*

**ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM WORKERS  
STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING**

The following articles concerning captioned strike appeared in newspapers in the Harlingen, McAllen and Corpus Christi, Texas, newspapers.

ENCLOSURE

152

C

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO  
GRANDE CITY, TEXAS

The following articles appeared in the November 15,  
1968, issue of The Monitor at McAllen, Texas.

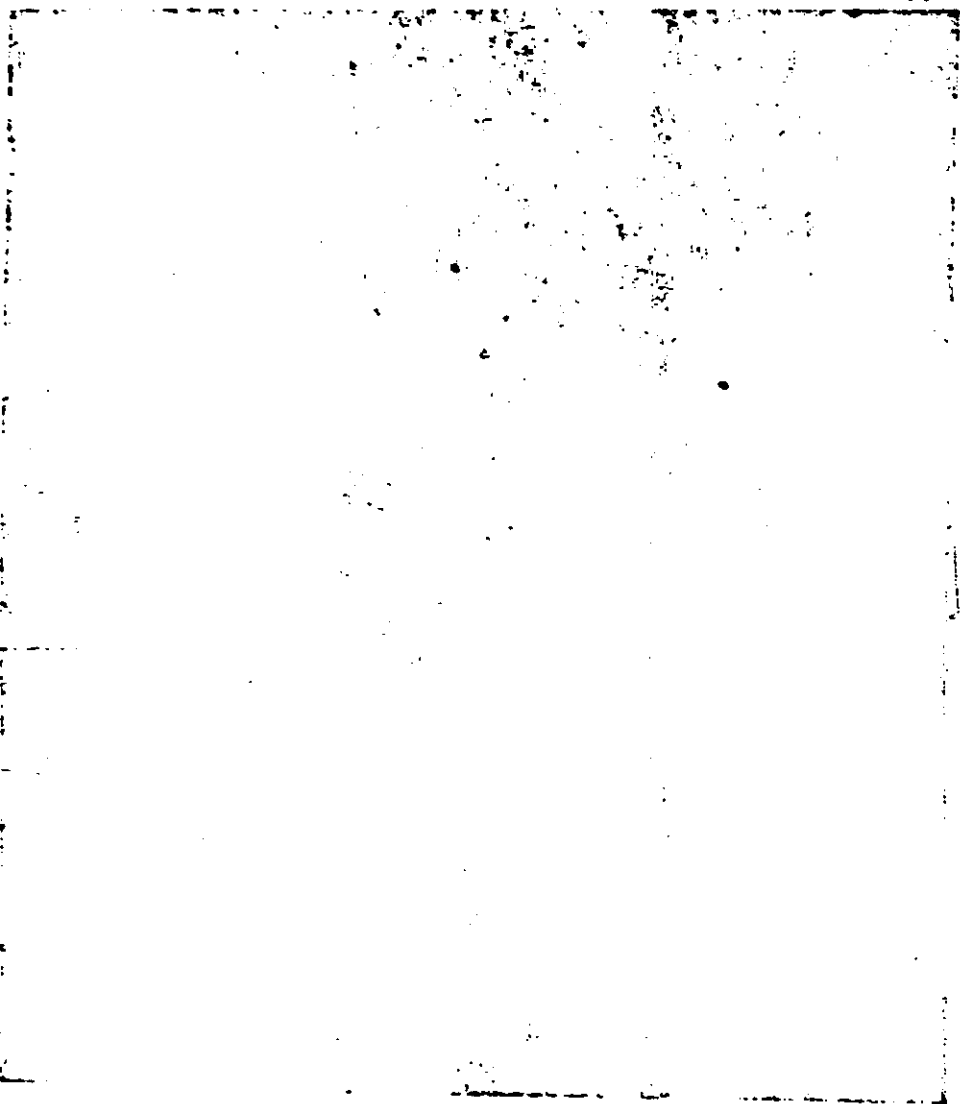


6

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# Action May Be Taken Against E-K Students

\* \* \* \* \*



COUNTY Board of Education High School teachers stand on the front  
step of school building as of students taking part in boycott of classes.  
These students may be suspended for three days pending action by  
the school board. Principal M. L. Pipkin. (A Visitor Photo)

\* \* \* \* \*

...L. N. HODGES... 100 y...  
...School...  
...to Mr. Hodges...  
...Mexican-American...  
...demonstrators on the...  
...high school campus - it there...  
...is a way...  
Principal M. L. Pipkin today...  
listed 100 High School and 50...  
Junior High students as being...  
suspended because of a class...  
boycott, which began Thursday...  
morning.

They stayed inside for about 20 minutes.

Pipkin said the sheriff would "serve the papers," referring to warrants of arrest if they are obtained. Vickers Thursday had instructed his deputies to stay away from the campus.

Earlier, Justice of the Peace Uvaldo Lopez of Edcouch was called to the school as Pipkin attempted to get charges filed. Lopez said he advised the district attorney be called in.

Teachers stood in doorways and at windows attempting to identify the demonstrators, who presumably have to be named before charges are filed. One of the problems being encountered, along with identifying those in the marching, was determining their age.

Only those 17 are expected to be charged, with juveniles to be treated in a different manner.

The red tape involved in getting the boys and girls removed from the campus was a sore spot with officials today.

Five State Highway Patrolmen, headed by Lt. W. J. McLean of Harlingen and Sgt. Smiley Moxley of McAllen, were at the high school. They said their only purpose was to direct traffic.

Also present for a couple of hours was Maj. Thomas Fuller

of the National Guard. He said he was observing to report to his commanding officer. He was driving a National Guard jeep.

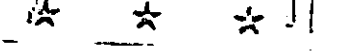
Among other "observers" at the campus this morning was Joe Uriegas, who identified himself as an investigator for the U.S. Civil Rights Commission. He said he had just arrived from Washington, D.C. He talked with parents of the demonstrators. The parents were clustered around the high school grounds and in cars and trucks parked along the highway.

The students refused to go to class Thursday morning, saying they were protesting the failure of the school board to meet with them the night before. They have drafted 15 "demands" and two recommendations, which they said needed immediate attention from trustees.

They say their principal gripe is "discrimination."

Board President Billie Collins said earlier in the week trustees would hear the student complaints at a regular meeting scheduled at 8 p.m. Monday.

(See PROTESTS, Page 3A)



talked with school...  
by telephone... Pipkin was accompanied by Asst. Principal Bill Thompson.  
Shortly before the two departed for Edcouch, they talked with Sheriff E. E. Vickers inside the building. The Sheriff and Deputy Pat Ramsey were cheered by the striking students as they drove up to the front door of the school.

# Protest --

(Continued from Page 1)

Xavier Ramirez, designated as spokesman for the student walkout group, said he and five other student leaders will meet with parents in a closed session tonight.

The demonstrators gathered across the road from the school at 8 a.m. today, then began marching single file up and down the campus about 30 minutes later. They carried a few signs proclaiming "Viva la Revolucion," "Let's Put the School Board Gestapo Down," "Viva la Raza" and "We Will Overcome."

At one point, they marched up to the flag pole for a pledge of allegiance and sang the Star Spangled Banner.

Pipkin said a few of the students who walked out Thursday had attempted to return to school today, "but I told them I was sorry."

The principal said he did not intend to yield in the original decision to suspend all engaging in the walkout for three days, the maximum period. He has warned all will be expelled for the semester and lose credits under a new board policy, adopted last week. The school board must expel the students officially and is expected to do so at the Monday night session.

Pipkin said today the 100 out of High School and 40 walking out of Junior High compare with enrollment of 520 in High School and 330 in Junior High.

A rally was held in front of the campus auditorium Thursday night.

The Thursday night attendance was estimated at more than 1,000. Cars and trucks filled the campus parking spaces and lined both sides of the divided highway in front of the school.

Mirtala Villarreal, a member of the student committee, said she had talked by telephone with Sen. Ralph Yarborough concerning the school situation. She said he told her to write him concerning the complaints.

A group of Westlaco students joined in the rally. The spokesman for the Westlaco group identified himself as Milton Hinojosa.

Other speakers included Abel Ochoa, Hidalgo County PASO president who told the students they had the "100 per cent support" of PASO.

... on ...  
... as they marched ...  
... and closer to the ...  
... building, sometimes shouting to ...  
... those inside.

The high school ...  
... between the cities of ...  
... and Elsa, and therefore out of ...  
... the jurisdiction of city police.

However, Police Chief Eloy ...  
... Zavala of Elsa and Chief Er- ...  
... nesto Olivarez of Education were ...  
... on the scene most of the time ...  
... in the event trouble broke out.

VISTA workers and Pan ...  
... American College students ...  
... began joining and advising the ...  
... demonstrators Thursday af- ...  
... ternoon.

# On Edcouch-Elst. Developments

School officials in districts throughout the Lower Rio Grande Valley watched nervously Thursday as a student upheaval disrupted classroom routine.

None interviewed minimized the possibility that it could happen in their own back yards, and most, presumably, were closely examining the list of demands drafted by the militant student group, which has been spurred in its dissent by the Mexican-American Youth Organization (MAYO), of San Antonio.

"We feel sure it's going to

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## E-E Gridders Not Involved

EDCOUCH — Edcouch-Elsa varsity football coach and athletic director, Ken Kachalik, said this morning that no varsity players are involved in the student protest. "We're solid," he said. "All of our boys will make the trip to play Falfurrias tonight. There's not one varsity player involved in the trouble here. In fact, there is only one footballer taking part, and he's a B - teamer who has been out only a couple of weeks. Out of all of our teams (junior high, B - team and varsity) that player is the only one involved."

to us sooner or later," said Dick Henon, superintendent of the West school district. "There are rumors it may happen. We know some of our students have attended these meetings, but what can we do?"

### Expulsion Policy

Henson said the school board, in an effort to head off anticipated trouble, has drafted an expulsion policy similar to the one in effect at beleaguered Edcouch-Elsa High School, and he joined with Edcouch-Elsa Superintendent A. W. Bell in blaming "outside agitators" for the trouble.

In Edinburg, Superintendent Thomas Pickens said no indications of student unrest had yet surfaced, but that "we all live in the same area, and it is a fact of sociology that what happens in one district can happen in another."

Pickens said he would be happy to meet with any students

who wanted to voice complaints, but that "in taking it as a point of fact that they won't use disruptive methods here."

### Some Good Things

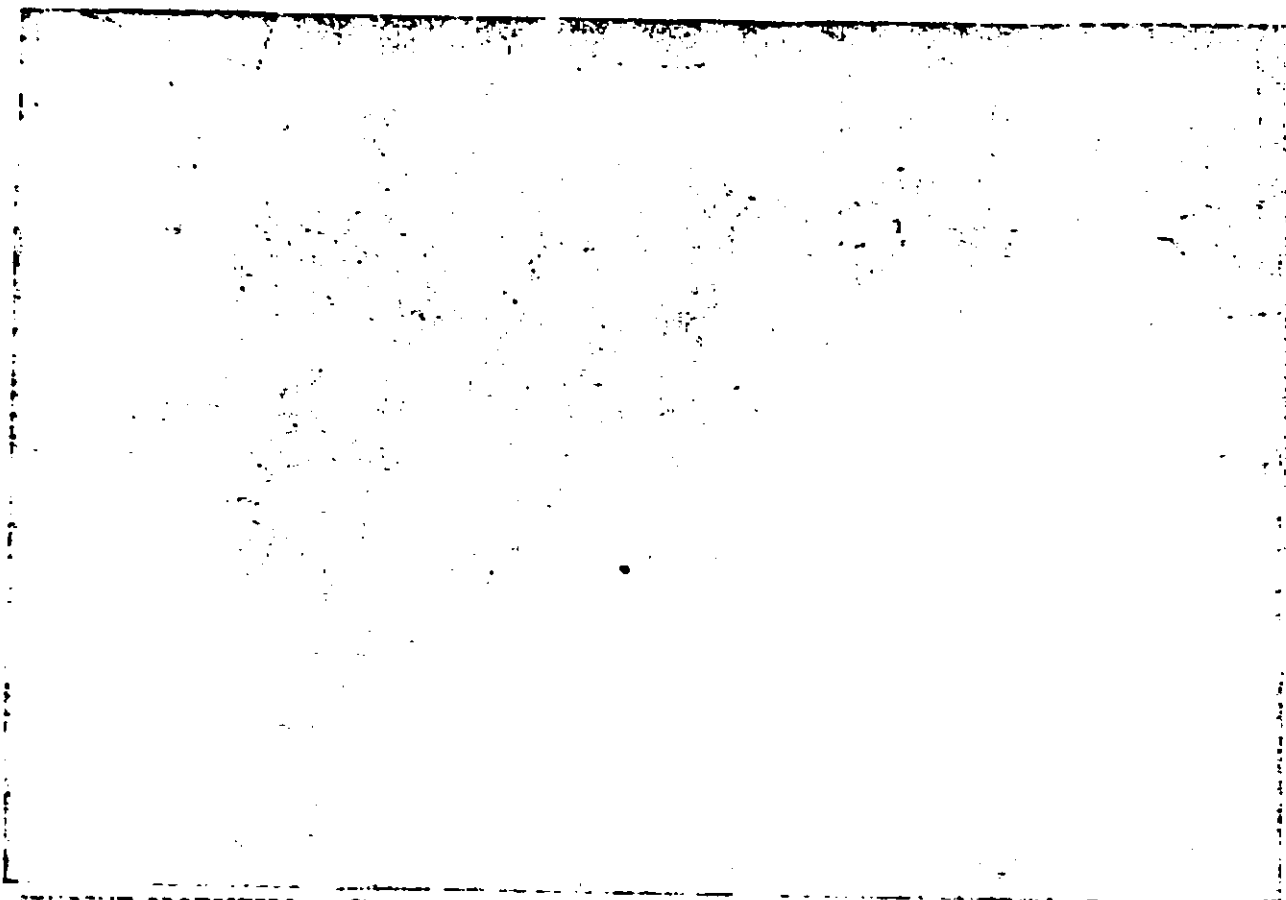
Pickens said he could see considerable evidence that the dissident students "are interested in some good things," and he said he disagreed completely only with the method being used at Edcouch-Elsa to promote them.

"There are some signs of searching going on among our students," he said, "and I think there must be some now among the adults."

Horner J. Morris, assistant superintendent of the McAllen district, said the possibility of a student demonstration has been considered by school officials, but that no specific policy for dealing with one has been worked because "I don't think this sort of thing ever has been anticipated before."

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**STUDENT PROTESTERS** — Shown are a group of Eacouch-Elsa High School students this morning as they continued to boycott classes over what they charge "blatant discrimination." In the background

is a State Highway Patrol car. Patrolmen showed up at the school this morning "to direct traffic." (Monitor Photo)

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM WORKERS  
STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the November 16,  
1968, edition of Valley Morning Star at Harlingen, Texas.

# Here Are The 'Demands'

## Of The Striking E-E Students

EDCOUCH — The demands being made by striking students in the Edcouch-Elsa High School total 15. They are reproduced here.

The 15 "Demands" are set out in petition form, with the heading: "We, the student body of Edcouch-Elsa Junior and Senior High School, demand of the officials and administrators."

The demands are:

1. That no disciplinary action be taken against any student or teacher that has taken part in this movement and that all suspended students and teachers be reinstated to their previous post or office and that any mention of such action be omitted from school records.

2. That no threats, intimidation or penalties be made against any student by teachers or administrators for membership or attendance of meetings of any club or organization outside of school.

3. That the students be allowed to select their own candidates for student council—it should be the students' student council.

4. That excessive and unfair penalties and punishments stop being given students for minor infractions of completely ridiculous reasons, for example: student suspended three days for failure to keep appointment with teacher after school.

5. That no teacher or administrator shall use profanity or abusive language in presence of students and in no case shall any teacher or administrator lay a hand on a student.

6. That, in the case of tardy or absent students, the students be allowed to enter class and no points taken off until his excuse is verified or not. Students should not be kept out of class till parents call school.

7. That either the price of the cafeteria lunch be lowered to a more reasonable price or that more and better foods be served.

8. That, as Chicano students, we be allowed to speak our mother tongue, Spanish, on school premises without being subjected to humiliating or unjust penalties.

Also all intimidations should stop.

2. That no threats, intimidation or penalties be made against any student by teachers or administrators for membership or attendance of meetings of any club or organization outside of school.

3. That the students be allowed to select their own candidates for student council—it should be the students' student council.

4. That excessive and unfair penalties and punishments stop being given students for minor infractions of completely ridiculous reasons, for example: student suspended three days for failure to keep appointment with teacher after school.

9. That courses be introduced, as a regular part of the curriculum, to show the contributions of Mexicans and Mexican Americans to this state and region. For instance, factual accounts of the history of the southwest and Texas, courses in Mexican history and culture.

Also, that qualified, certified teachers be hired to teach these courses.

10. That all college preparatory courses be singled out for students by the time they enter high school.

11. That more effective counseling be given students from understanding counselors that are able to relate to students. Present student-counselor ratio is too great we

student suspended for three days for failing to stand at school pep rally; if something (shorts, tennis shoes) are stolen from lockers the students are punished (paddled or sent to do manual labor) for not being able to suit up.

Likewise, that due process be followed in cases of suspension or expulsion of students, that is, that a student be given opportunity to defend himself and that evidence be presented to both administrators and parents. Also no paddling should be given student until explanation for punishment be given to parents, if student's request such explanation.

5. That no teacher or administrator shall use profanity

need more counselors. Likewise, more assemblies on career opportunities, availability of scholarships, grants, loans, college entrance requirements, etc.

12. Finally that the blatant discrimination against the Mexican American students in this school stop immediately. We demand justice.

13. That regulations for passes be set down clearly and defined so that no question remains as to when passes are needed or not. The present system, or lack of it, is ridiculous.

14. That special attention be given the situation a great number of Edcouch-Elsa students find themselves in—that is, they are migrant workers. Student choices of subjects in spring registration be respected

and also in the last term. These subject forms are often disregarded.

Migrants leave school early, they take part in an accelerated program. Advance tests are supposed to be given before they leave. Often teachers do not let migrants take tests or do not send tests to students up north after them. All tests should be given to migrant students before they leave.

15. That school facilities be improved, renovated, replaced or installed where appropriate. For example:

Fans — Teachers often use fans only for their own comfort, ignoring students.

Heaters — The heaters are for the most part outdated and not in working order. We need new heaters.

Restrooms — Some of the restrooms and toilets are not cleaned and are inoperable; constantly out of repair.

Windows — Fix broken windows.

Walls — Repair holes in wall. Give school buildings a face lifting.

How about hot water for the showers.

We want to be proud of our school.



ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the Corpus  
Christi Caller on November 16, 1968, in Corpus Christi,  
Texas.

# Loitering Charges Filed on 5 Pupils

## Protest In Valley Continues

By HOYT HAGER

Call-Times Staff Writer

ELSA — Hidalgo County sheriff's deputies arrested Friday five of the estimated 150 pupils who have been boycotting classes at Edcouch-Elsa High School in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

The pupils were arraigned before Justice of the Peace Uvaldo Lopez on misdemeanor charges of loitering on the school grounds. The complaint was filed by Principal M. L. Pipkin after the pupils refused to comply with Pipkin's repeated requests for them to leave the school ground.

### Five Identified

Lopez identified those arrested as Mirtala Villarreal, Homer Trevino, Freddie Sainz, Arnulfo Sustaita, and Xavier Ramirez. Miss Villarreal was released upon her own recognizance and the others were held in the Hidalgo County Jail at Edinburg.

The boycott grew out of the denial by the school board of a request to meet with pupils and discuss a list of 15 demands drawn up by the pupils. They asked that the meeting be held Wednesday, and when the school board did not comply, the students began a boycott of classes Thursday that continued through Friday.

Among the complaints lodged by the demonstrating pupils, is one that there is "blatant discrimination" by faculty members against the 96 per cent Mexican-American pupil population at the high school. The faculty is 70 per cent Mexican-American, Pipkin said.

### Movement Backer

The newly formed Mexican-American Youth Organization (MAYO) was believed to be backing the student movement, but student leader Ramirez said the boycott was being carried out by a "student committee."

Pipkin said he had obtained a list of the complaints and had asked the student council to go over them and determine if the student body agreed with demands.

The walkout carried into Friday with considerably fewer participants.

Where some 200 paraded Thursday, there were fewer than 100 Friday.

During the hearing before Lopez, the small justice of the peace, See STUDENTS, Page 14A

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peace officer was Jan. 10, and hundreds stood around outside. The protesters were loaded in by truck and later left by truck. 150 Expelled

Pipkin expelled all the 150 who walked out Thursday and will submit their names to the school board Monday night for permanent expulsion under a policy that the board adopted recently.

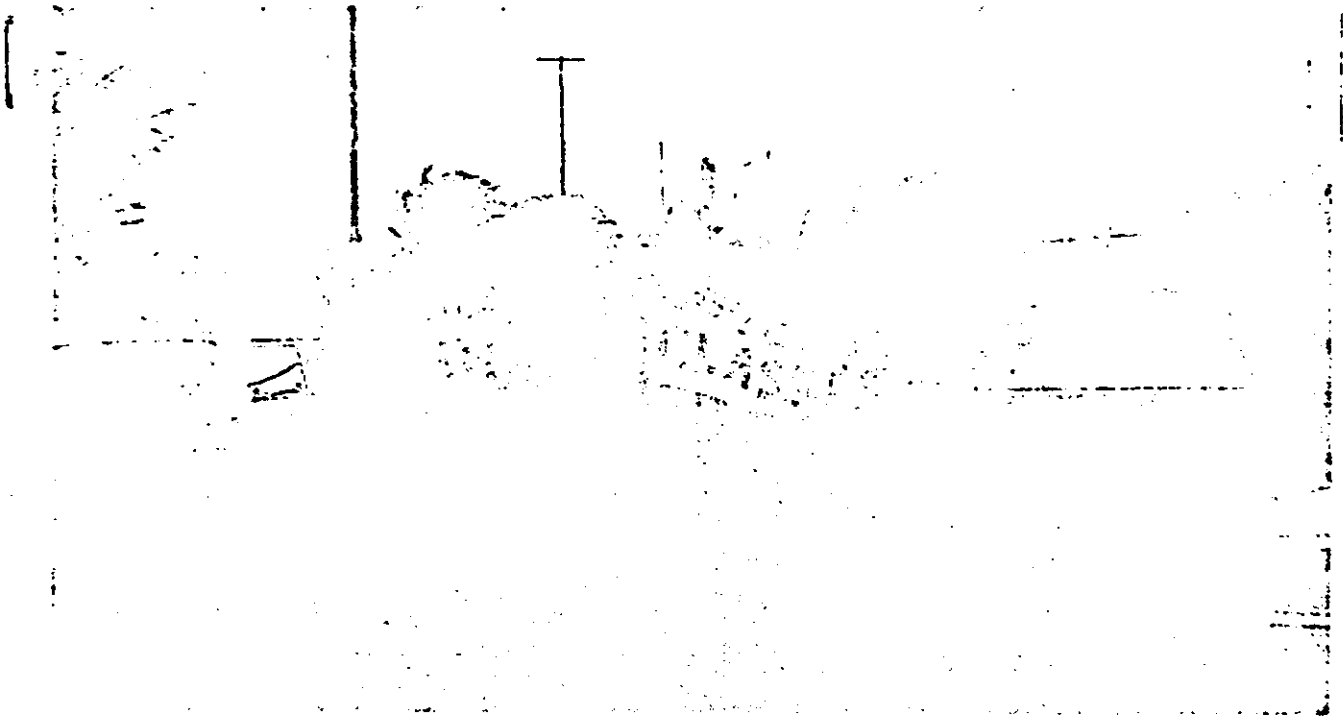
In the meantime at Weslaco Supt. N. M. Henson sent letters in Spanish and English to all students outlining policy on such activities as that at Edcouch-Elsa.

An assembly at Weslaco was devoted to a discussion of the problem.

Weslaco has a different situation from Edcouch-Elsa in that a city ordinance prohibits loitering within 500 feet of a campus. Also Weslaco has a police department with authority to enforce the ordinance.

Edcouch-Elsa school is located in an area outside the two communities for which it is named and only the county and state officials have authority on the campus.

The Mercedes school administration and school districts elsewhere in the Valley are making preparations in case of protests such as the one at Edcouch-Elsa.



**BOYCOTT SIGN IN VALLEY** — Students are shown with boycott sign at Edcouch-Elsa High School in the Rio Grande Valley. The pupils boycotted the school for the second straight day Friday to pro-

test failure of the school board to take action on demands made by a group of militant Mexican-American pupils. For story see Page 1A.

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ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the November 17,  
1968, issue of The Monitor at McAllen, Texas.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# E-E Campus Quiet Saturday after Six Arrested

EDCOUCH — The campus of Edcouch-Elsa High School was quiet Saturday, but Principal M. L. Pipkin warned it could be just "the lull before the real storm."

Monday figures to be the climactic day in a school controversy that resulted Friday in six students being arrested. The arrests triggered a mass rally in front of the Hidalgo County jail before the last of the students was freed shortly after 1 a.m. Saturday.

More than 100 students demonstrated on campus Friday morning, and Pipkin figures most of them will be on hand again when classes resume Monday.

The arrests Friday afternoon triggered an exodus to the Hidalgo County jail where five of the students were held. One of the six arrested was a girl, Mirtala Villarreal, a 17-year-old junior, and she was released on her own recognizance immediately after arraignment at the recommendation of Sheriff E. E. Vickers.

The other five were Homer Trevino, 19, a senior; Freddy Saenz, 16, a sophomore held as a juvenile by order of Judge J. C. Boyd; Xavier Ramirez, 17, a senior and spokesman for the demonstrators; Arnulfo Sustaita, 19, and Artemio Salinas. Ramirez was arrested outside the office of Justice of the

"We plan to take every possible legal action against all students and outsiders who are loitering on the campus Monday," the principal said.

A school board meeting — which had been sought last week by the protesters — will be held Monday at 3 p.m., at which time the board will listen to the complaints of the student group. The students have a list of demands and charges including alleged "blatant discrimination."

Pipkin said he hoped the arrests Friday would have a "sobering effect" on the protesters, but added, "I am anticipating they will be back Monday."

Peace Uvaldo Lopez of Edcouch several blocks from the school, and Salinas was picked up by Deputy Tom Freeman after the arrest of the others.

Lopez set bond of \$500 each on the charge of "loitering on campus." The charge carries a maximum penalty of \$25 fine.

Friday afternoon a large crowd gathered at the jail, but dispersed after McAllen attorney Bob Sanchez promised to arrange surety bonds for the youths. Both Lopez and Vickers said the youths would be released if a responsible adult would sign for them.

However, only Sustaita had been released on bond by Friday night, and the crowd re-

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ed the crowd around 200, while A. C. Skelton said the crowd numbered over 300.

Many in the crowd carried candles, while some held banners saying, "Free the Students." For a time the crowd sang, "We Shall Overcome."

Skelton said the big crowd was orderly at all times. He said the group was made up of about 75 per cent young people, including some college students and students from other high schools in addition to Edcouch-Elsa. Many parents were in the crowd as well as some PASO leaders and VISTA

explosive situation which developed with the large number of protesters at the jail. After a meeting between Edcouch manager Gary Green, police chief A. C. Gonzalez and city attorney Ralph Vidaurri decided to arrange surety bonds.

After informing the crowd about midnight bonds would be arranged for the youths, the crowd began to leave. The last youth left the jail around 1:20 a.m.

The embattled Edcouch-Elsa principal has stood firm through the trying demonstra-

(See CAMPUS, Page 2A)

(Continued from Page 1)

tions and promised Saturday he would not yield. "My teachers will not permit me to yield," Pipkin said. He said his faculty, which includes 22 Latin-American teachers out of 45, is more "unified than ever before."

"We have attempted to evaluate this thing as realistically as possible," Pipkin said. "Our stand will be firm. We have met with parents and discussed the matter since the walkout began, and they (the parents) are very, very concerned."

The principal said students remaining in class are "violently" opposed to the demonstrations.

On the scene Friday when the arrests were made was Joe Uriega of Washington, D. C., who identified himself as an investigator for the U.S. Civil Rights Commission. Uriega attempted to protest the arrests both at the campus and at the

J. P. office, but was cut short by the sheriff.

Vickers told him firmly he was in charge and that if the investigator wished to sue, he was the person responsible.

All six are among the 149 Mexican-American students suspended for three days as a result of the walkout Thursday morning. School officials say they will be expelled for the semester under school board policy against demonstrations when trustees meet Monday night.

It was Friday morning when Pipkin announced he would file charges against the boys and girls for their noisy demonstrations, which were disrupting classes.

The kids had gathered at one corner of the campus for refreshments being served from a car at the time the sheriff and his deputies emerged from the school building with the warrants. Trevino's name was called first and the complaint was read to him and he was advised he was under arrest.

Similar procedure was followed in each of the arrests.

The four served on the campus were then placed in the sheriff's cars for the short trip down the highway to Lopez' office. The other students and adults, along with a number of reporters, followed the officers to the arraignment.

A few crowded into the small office, while a large number remained on the outside chanting and cheering. Judge Lopez called for the door to be shut because of the noise.

After the officers left with the four boys for the jail in Edinburg, the crowd returned to the campus and the students immediately began another demonstration.

Teachers rushed to the door with a clip board attempting to identify those involved.

Pipkin called Lopez again and said more charges would be filed.

"What else can I do?" he asked.

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ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the November 17,  
1968, issue of The Monitor at McAllen, Texas.

# English Vital For Students

With varying degrees of insistence, school authorities of the Valley have laid down a policy against the use of Spanish in the classroom and playground, except of course in Spanish language classes.

This is one of 15 items of complaint which a group of students in the Elsa-Edcouch area have cited as being "discriminatory" in nature.

It would seem to us that it is not only reasonable but extremely persuasive that the use of English during the school day should be encouraged. This is not a matter of "discrimination" but simply a method of trying to improve the student's fluency in the language which happens to be the prevalent and official one of the county in which he is living.

Among the real, as opposed to apparent, disadvantages of the "disadvantaged" people of this country is difficulty with the English language. Anyone with an obvious and nagging deficiency in the use of English is, in this country, at a distinct disadvantage, not because of discrimination (using that word as a synonym for prejudice or bias) but because that person lacks a very basic tool for his own well-being.

A genius in the engineering department who cannot communicate his thoughts with accuracy and ease is a self-contained little package, working largely for his own amusement.

Fluency in more than one language is a splendid accomplishment — an advantage, if you will. But to be barely literate in two languages and accomplished in neither is not helpful.

Keeping — or perfecting — knowledge of Spanish is commendable. But the mere fact that Spanish is the "natural" language used by the student outside the classroom is indicative of his lack of comfort with English. No laws passed by the government and no sermons preached from the pulpit will erase the disadvantage of the man or woman whose English is crude or halting.

The effort at self-improvement dictates that young people should accept willingly the challenge to learn to use the English language, not gingerly as one wears a stiff shirt at a formal function, but as the language of first instance and a source of comfort and advancement.



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ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the November 19,  
1968, issue of Valley Morning Star at Harlingen, Texas.

# E-E High School Suspensions

## Hearings Start This Afternoon

By NOLENE RODGES

EDCOUCH — Three-day suspensions, previously meted out to some 130 Mexican-American students engaging in a class boycott at Edcouch-Elsa high school, were "extended temporarily" by action of the school board Monday night.

The extension is to be effective until trustees "can give each student, with his parents and attorney, an opportunity to appear before the board to show reason why he or she should not be expelled for the remainder of the semester."

The hearings are to start this afternoon.

The board adopted a policy recently calling for permanent expulsion of any student participating in walkouts or campus demonstrations.

### Largest Crowd

Probably the largest crowd ever to assemble at any school board meeting in the area was on hand for the session.

Sheriff E. E. Vickers and Dist. Atty. Oscar McInnis were among the observers.

Bob Sanchez, McAllen attorney, appeared for the students involved in the walkout, which began Thursday morning. The students said the class boycott resulted after the board declined to hold a special session to hear their demands last Wednesday.

Sanchez outlined demands, recommendations and complaints of the student group and called for all to be reinstated in school while the trustees hold the individual hearings.

Trustees also ignored a recommendation by Sanchez that an 18-member committee of students, teachers, parents and board members be appointed to look into the charges.

### Answer Charges

Board President Billie Cellum, Supt. A. W. Reil, Principal M. L. Pipkin, Migrant Director Martin Pena and other faculty members answered the charges out before the meeting by Sanchez one by one.

One of the demands — that Mexican-American students be allowed to speak Spanish in campus — drew the report from Bell that such a rule had been dropped as long as six years

Turn To STUDENTS, Page 2

# Students

(Continued from Page 1)  
ago. Nobody challenged his statement.

Sanchez told the board the striking students had legitimate complaints.

"Believe me, they didn't enjoy this boycott," Sanchez asserted. "I am serious when I tell you these students want to come back to school. We are not here in arrogance . . . we will meet you half way."

He said he realized "some of these demands" cannot be taken care of immediately.

### Some Not Local

Bell, in recommending that the board take up the case of each student individually while continuing the suspension, said there were a "lot of people who were not students" associated with the walkout, including "a lot of people who didn't live here."

He said the trustees and administration are faced with a situation "I do not like simply because I don't think there is a good solution."

The superintendent said "what it boils down to is simply this . . . who shall control and operate the school system. Shall the board or shall the students?"

The dissident students have charged "blatant discrimination" and asked that non punishment be afforded them and that all mention of the walkout be omitted from school records.

### Roll Call Vote

On the motion to continue suspension temporarily until hearings are held before the board, Celum called for a roll call vote. There were five yes votes including that of Celum and one member, Israel Monday, who abstained.

Among those present was Dr. Hector Garcia of Corpus Christi, a member of the U. S. Civil Rights Commission. There also were representatives of VISTA, PASO, MAYO and the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, all of whom have supported the class boycott.

As the board took its action, the crowd which packed the library where the meeting was held began streaming outside. A public address system was set up in the parking lot and Dr. Garcia and others spoke in Spanish.

The outside rally was short-lived, however.

### Spokesman Speaker

Javier Ramirez, 17-year-old senior who is spokesman for the student rebellion, said he felt the students were "cut down" by the board. He said a decision still was to be made on what procedure to follow next.

He and other leaders in the revolt said they felt the board action was unsatisfactory to them.

Celum called on the students and parents to make arrangements to appear before the board concerning expulsion for each.

"They want us to be to get back in," Eddy Gonzalez, another of the walkout leaders, said. "We won't do it."

The superintendent said the board and administration wanted to handle the matter as rapidly as we can, so you will know if you get back in school quickly." He said the decision also would be made without delay in the event Sanchez wanted "to take other action."

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ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the November 24,  
1968, issue of The Monitor at McAllen, Texas.

# 31 Expelled, 94 Remain On Suspension at E-E

EDCOUCH — Thirty-one Mexican American students involved in a class boycott at the Edcouch Elsa Junior-Senior High School have been expelled for the semester, while another 94 remain on indefinite suspension.

Fifty-seven have been returned to school on probation, a statement released by the board Friday disclosed.

Two of the 175 pupils suspended originally as a result of the walkout, which began Nov. 14, were returned to classes immediately upon meeting with the board, due to a lack of evidence of their participation.

The Friday statement was the first official accounting on the walkout and demonstrations. The only figure released previously on the number involved was 160.

Suspended students, their parents and attorneys were extended an opportunity to appear before the board and give reasons why they should not be expelled for the remainder of the semester, "under provisions of established board policy."

School officials had no comment on the matter, but citizens in the area were of the opinion most of the 94 failing by Friday to ask for a hearing before the board would not seek reinstatement in that manner.

The striking students have been aided and advised by representatives of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission and lawyers on the staff of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Court action has been mentioned by the dissidents from time to time.

It was pointed out in the statement the school board had been in almost continuous session since Tuesday afternoon. As of Friday, all suspended students asking to meet with the board had been heard on an individual basis — 81 of them.

whose presence in the school, the board believed would not adversely affect the welfare of the school or the best interests of the other students," the statement said.

The board said in the statement it wanted to commend "those students who remained in school and express its appreciation to the Junior-Senior High School faculty and administration for their excellent performance of their duties under adverse circumstances."

The statement was released at the office of Supt. A. W. Zell, who was not available for comment.

It said the 47 returned to classes would be "on probation, which requires good behavior," but did not spell out terms such as participation in extra-curricular activities.

Also remaining unanswered was whether the returning students will be permitted to make up work missed. Six-week tests were held Thursday and Friday.

Most of those reinstated on probation resumed classes

Thursday morning and a few more returned Friday morning. There was an unconfirmed report that one of the reinstated pupils was suspended again Friday.

The striking students had listed 15 demands concerning school policy and conditions. One of the demands was that no disciplinary action be taken against them and that all mention of it be deleted from school records.

There was still evidence of the walkout Friday throughout the day as some of the students and sympathizers picketed along the highway shoulder in front of the school.

Edcouch - Elsa hosted the Rio Grande City football game Friday night in the last home game of the season and special precautions were taken to handle any trouble or interference from demonstrators.

The school district, one of the smallest in area in the state, has received nationwide publicity on the student revolt. Other school districts in the Valley have been in close touch with the situation.

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ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the November 24,  
1968, issue of The Monitor at McAllen, Texas.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

• NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZATION INDICATES

# MAYO Gets Valley Foothold

"I have a Negro friend! Is he really my friend?"

This notation in large hard-set print is one of a number of such remarks scattered throughout an "underground" 16-page newspaper, *How Today*, published by South Texas MAYO (Mexican American Youth Organization). Stories in the paper — written both English and Spanish — indicate MAYO has the makings of a strong foothold among youth in the Valley.

One article explains the organization and reveals how widespread MAYO is in the Valley:

"MAYO is the only organization in the entire Valley consisting of only the Mexican-American youth. This organization, which consists of college, junior high and high school students is spreading rapidly throughout South Texas.

This organization was founded for the sole purpose of uniting the Mexican-American people and showing them that there are ways they can get higher wages and a better education. Mostly, MAYO concentrates in bringing out the Mexican youths as well as grown-ups.

Valley towns presently in MAYO are San Juan, Pharr, Abilene, Elsa, Edcouch, where MAYO was active in the recent student boycott (La La, Weslaco, Mercedes and Mission.)

Notably absent from those mentioned is McAllen, largest city in Hidalgo County. The McAllen schools have a policy against

belonging to organizations such as the Sub - Debs, and this policy presumably would apply to MAYO as well.

Stories in the paper indicate that the movement is getting support from some groups in the Valley. One story reports a MAYO fund-raising dance held in Pharr, where the "parish hall was obtained free from St. Margaret's Church." Another reports a MAYO raffle held in the San Juan Catholic School auditorium.

Some of the stories attack alleged discrimination. One, concerning use of Spanish in schools, charges: "Turn everything around and see how they (anglos) like it. For you Mexican-American people out there that already think and want to be anglos and who ask, 'Why Spanish? Here's the reason: Anglos. We are so closely related to Mexicans and are in contact with its people everyday. We hear the language everyday and it's all around us. It's our native tongue and we're proud of it. So why doesn't the anglo learn it. I'll tell you why. Because he thinks it's dirty. And because it comes from the Mexican-American which they think are dirty and lazy. In other words we are not good enough for them. That is, according to them."

Another story raps alleged questioning of absentee notes at Pharr - San Juan - Alamo High School. It charges, "How about the anglos? It is believed that they have it easier than the chicanos. They may be asked such questions, but after those

questions comes a warm and friendly smile. Why be unequal to students? Should we call these acts of our administrations rude acts? Have they acted so because they too like favoritism or is it some form of discrimination?"

Another story tells of two P.S.A. Mexican-American youths killed in a recent train wreck, then asks, "Why did the school not provide a memorial's silence memory of these youths without having to be pressured by their fellow students?"

A cartoon in the paper shows a panel of four pictures of a cowboy with these captions: "First we gave in and let them go to school with us, then we gave in and let them eat at the same place we do, then we gave in and let them run for office. True! Next thing you know these ill Mexicans will want to govern themselves, the ungrateful little wretches."

Another article written by Jose Angel Gutierrez, who is identified as a graduate student in government and head of MAYO, charges the "establishment" in Texas is controlled by "gringos."

In the article he charges Mexican-Americans are forced to give up their culture, heritage and dignity as men to be accepted as an American.

"Fortunately for the establishment," he says, "the Mexican-American, the black people and the anglos keep on swallowing" ideas pushed by the establishment.

He adds, "We will join forces as soon as Mexican-Americans

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stop trying to be some gringos  
when anglos realize some of  
their own are gringos and when  
the blacks see us as brothers."  
One other blurb in the paper:  
"We urge every chicano to  
do his best to educate himself."  
Few would disagree with this  
pronouncement.

This document contains neither recommendations  
nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the  
FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are  
not to be distributed outside your agency.



UNCLAS

Q.  
P 211340Z NOV 68  
FR CO 109TH MI GP  
TO CG USAINTC  
DCINT

UNCLAS FROM ICGP-B-OC FOR ICOP-IV; AHABB-SI

NOV 21 11 41 '68

C I SPOT REPORT

1. I & S BR, 109TH MI GP
2. 109-8326-121
3. ANTI-GRAPE ACTIVITIES, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA
4. NONE
5. SEE SUMMARY
6. SEE SUMMARY

DISTRIBUTION:  
 CI DIV  
 GDSOPS  
 INTRON DESK  
 INT COM 10  
 C.D. (2009)  
 CDCC  
 FILE

7. AT APPROX 2130 HRS EST 20 NOV 68, DURING THE INTRODUCTION TO AN ANDY WARHOL FILM AT SKIBO HALL, CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY (CMU), PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, A CMU STUDENT AND SPOKESMAN FOR CMU'S EXPERIMENTAL FILM GROUP, NFI, ADVISED THAT A "MASSIVE" MARCH IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL BOYCOTT ON CALIFORNIA GRAPES WOULD BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 23 NOV 68, EXACT TIME UNKNOWN, IN PITTSBURGH, PA. THE PROPOSED ROUTE WOULD BE FROM THE CORNER OF CENTER & HERRON, A PRE-DOMINANTLY NEGRO AREA, TO THE POINT IN DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH. ALL IN ATTENDANCE AT THE FILM WERE URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN ORDER THAT THE MARCH AND BOYCOTT WOULD BE FRUITFUL. OUTSIDE OF THE ROOM IN WHICH THE FILM WAS SHOWN A TABLE WAS SET UP TO DISTRIBUTE PRO-BOYCOTT LITERATURE. NO INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE.

*[Handwritten signature]*

8. UNKNOWN
9. 0845 HRS EST, 21 NOV 68
10. CONTINUED LIAISON
11. PERSONAL OBSERVATION, REGION III PERSONNEL
12. B-2
13. 2130 HRS EST 20 NOV 68, HOUSTON.
14. LITERATURE BEING FORWARDED UNDER SEPERATE COVER. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE FORWARDED AS DEVELOPED.

*[Handwritten signature]*

100-44916--16

REC 82

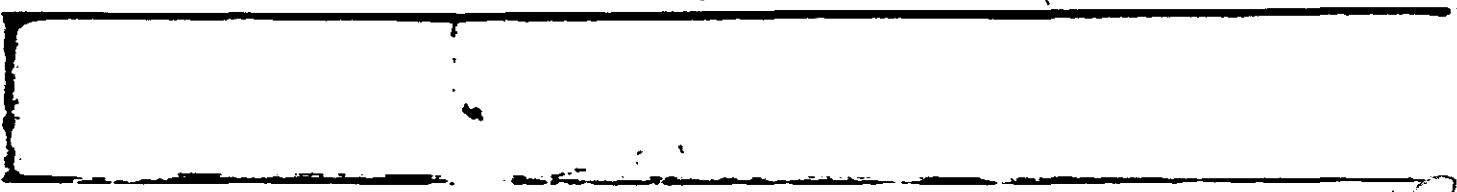
54 DEC 1 2 1968

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11 DEC 3 1968

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AIC 109 HQ

SEP 11 1972



119

F B I

Date: 11/26/68

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via A I R T E L \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: SAC, PITTSBURGH (62-3292)(C)  
SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION MARCH,  
NOVEMBER 23, 1968, BY  
UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING  
COMMITTEE, PITTSBURGH, PA.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(OO: Pittsburgh)

*Handwritten notes:*  
JCR  
Pitt

Re Pittsburgh teletypes to Bureau dated 11/15 and 11/23/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau are ten copies of an LHM regarding above-captioned demonstration.

The sources utilized in the LHM are as follows:

The first source is [REDACTED]

The second source is [REDACTED]

LHM is classified "Confidential" inasmuch as data reported from [REDACTED] could reasonably result in identification of a confidential informant of continuing value and compromise future effectiveness thereof.

Copies of LHM designated locally for USA, Secret Service, OSI and G-2, Pittsburgh, and one copy designated for NISO, Philadelphia, Pa.

- 3 - Bureau (Encs. 10) (RM)
- 6 - Pittsburgh

ENCLOSURE

*Handwritten:* TRAINWA  
REC-47 100-...-16  
17 NOV 29 1968

- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - 157-889) (BLACK ACTION SOCIETY)
- (1 - 100-15213 Sub C) (SDS-CMU)
- (1 - 170-74A)
- (1 - 62-2314 Sub B)

C. C. Bishop

RACIAL INT. SECT.

APM:rmr

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

51 DEC 1 1968

AGENCY: CRD, ISD, IUU, RAO, CD,  
ACSI, OSI, S  
HOW FORN: [REDACTED]  
DATE FORN: DEC 1 1968  
BY: [REDACTED]



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

November 26, 1968

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

DEMONSTRATION MARCH,  
NOVEMBER 26, 1968, BY  
UNITED FARM WORKERS  
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE,  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

On November 15, 1968, a source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that Albert Rojas, a representative of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC), has obtained a permit for a march to be held on November 23, 1968, at Pittsburgh. The source further advised that the march was to begin in the Hill District, a predominantly Negro section of Pittsburgh, and proceed to an area of downtown Pittsburgh known as Point Park. According to the source, the aim of the UFWOC is to gain union recognition for grape pickers in California, and as a means to that end, Rojas has been in Pittsburgh for sometime organizing a campaign to discourage the use of California grapes. The source advised there were indications that civil disobedience might occur during the march.

On November 23, 1968, a second source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that at about 10:55 AM, on November 23, 1968, a parade of approximately 128 individuals composed of both blacks and whites marched from the Hill District of Pittsburgh to Point Park in downtown Pittsburgh. The source further advised that the march was led by Albert Rojas, a representative of the UFWOC, and was held in support of the California grape pickers and their

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~GROUP 1~~  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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11/11/82

ENCLOSURE 100-41-111

180

CONFIDENTIAL

**DEMONSTRATION MARCH, NOVEMBER 23, 1968,  
BY UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE,  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA**

national grape boycott. Along the way, the marchers delayed their parade to walk three times around the Hendel Fruit Market, which is located at the intersection of Forbes Avenue and Market Street. This was done to protest that market's selling of California grapes. The entire contingent arrived at Point Park at about 12:00 noon, where the participants heard speeches by the following individuals who voiced their support for the UFWOC:

~~Albert Fondy~~, President of the Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers Union (PFT).

Albert Rojas, a representative of the UFWOC and organizer of the demonstration.

~~Charles Harris~~, a representative of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

~~James McCoy~~, a representative of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the NAACP.

~~Tom Boynton~~, (phonetic), a student of the University of Pittsburgh and a member of the Black Action Society.

The Black Action Society is a campus-approved organization at the University of Pittsburgh.

~~Thomas Flaherty~~, a representative of the City Council of Pittsburgh.

~~Steve Lawrence~~, a student at Carnegie-Mellon University (CMU) and a member of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS).

The Students for a Democratic Society is characterized in the Appendix hereto.

- 2 -  
CONFIDENTIAL

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEMONSTRATION MARCH, NOVEMBER 23, 1968,  
BY UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE,  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The source advised that at Point Park, Rojas distributed to each participant one grape, a plain envelope and the address of President-Elect Richard M. Nixon, Pierre Hotel, New York City, New York. Each person receiving the above was instructed to mash the grape, place it in the envelope and mail it to Nixon at the New York address.

The source advised that the entire parade was entirely orderly and peaceful, and no acts of civil disobedience were committed by the participants. The demonstration disbanded at 12:50 PM, after the speeches were finished.

- 3 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**DEMONSTRATION MARCH, NOVEMBER 23, 1968,  
BY UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE,  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA**

APPENDIX

STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

The Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), as it is known today, came into being at a founding convention held at Port Huron, Michigan, in June, 1962. The SDS is an association of young people on the left and has a current program of protesting the draft, promoting a campaign for youth to develop a conscientious objector status, denouncing United States intervention in the war in Vietnam, and to "radically transform" the university community, and provide for its complete control by students. Gus Hall, General Secretary, Communist Party, USA, when interviewed by a representative of United Press International in San Francisco, California, on May 14, 1965, described the SDS as a part of the "responsible left" which the Party has "going for us." At the June, 1965, SDS National Convention, an anti-communist proviso was removed from the SDS constitution. In the October 7, 1966, issue of "New Left Notes," the official publication of SDS, an SDS spokesman stated that there are some communists in SDS and they are welcome. The national headquarters of this organization as of July 24, 1968, was located in Room 206, 1608 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois.

APPENDIX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

183

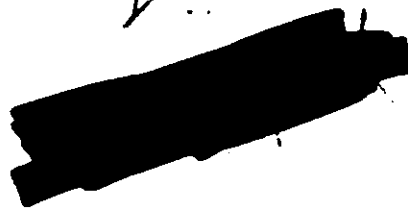
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-446914) 12/21/68

FROM : *gms* SAC, SAN ANTONIO (100-2469) (P)

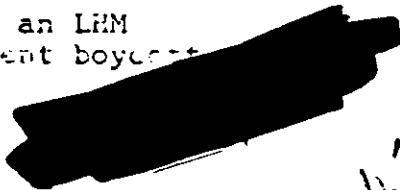
SUBJECT: ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING



OO: SA

Re San Antonio letter to the Bureau, 11/27/68.

Enclosed for the Bureau are ten copies of an LHM reflecting continued newspaper coverage of the student boycott Eddough-Elsa, Texas, High School



- 2 - Bureau (Encl. 10)
- 8 - San Antonio
  - (1 - 100-10224)
  - (1 - 100-10414)
  - (1 - 100-10427)
  - (1 - 157-658)
  - (2 - 157-654)
  - (2 - 52-3269)

ENCLOSURE

LDW/jsm  
(10)

12 DEC 19 1968

AGENCY *ROD (SD, CO)*  
 REC-  
 12/22/68  
*SA*

56 JAN 2 1969

*INTOSD*

NUMERICAL COPY AND COPY OF ENCLOSURES BY

184



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

San Antonio, Texas

December 11, 1968

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM WORKERS  
STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS

The following articles appeared in McAllen and  
Harlingen, Texas, newspapers concerning the student boycott  
at Edcouch-Elsa, Texas, High School.

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SEP 11 1974

179

185



( )  
ACTIVITIES CONCERNING  
FARM WORKERS STRIKE  
IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the November 25,  
1968, issue of The Monitor at McAllen, Texas:

AT HEARING IN BROWNSVILLE

# VISTA Linked to Boycott

*By AP/W*

**BROWNSVILLE** — VISTA volunteers this morning were re-printing job on the students' behalf called VISTA into the demonstrators' demands was underwritten by a student strike and boycott local VISTA volunteers and that she could not remember who made the call at Edcouch-Elsa High School.

The role played by VISTA several other students with an initial call came to light during the open-hearing of testimony in U.S. District Court here on a request by parents of five expelled students but Bob Sanchez, McAllen attorney, said for a temporary restraining order prohibiting the school district from barring any of the attorney whom Sanchez pointed out in a recent strike class. The attorney also asks a permanent injunction and \$50,000 in damages.

VISTA's part in the demonstration came out when Jim Bates, Edinburg attorney, representing the school district, cross-examined Miralva Villarreal, 17, one of the student leaders of the strike.

Bates asked if it was not true that an Edcouch-Elsa teacher, Elsa Villarreal, contacted local VISTA leader Joe Urregoes of Pharr, of students telling the school to continue this afternoon.

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• ACTIVITIES CONCERNING  
FARM WORKERS STRIKE  
IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the November 26,  
1968, issue of Valley Morning Star at Harlingen, Texas:

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188

# VISTA Sponsored Strike

## Judge Rules Students Due

BROWNSVILLE, Tex. (morning session, was at best half a victory for the militant. Following the hearing, Garza ruled Monday that the student group which was suing the school board not only for the expulsion of the rebellious students suspended on the school board not only for the case itself." He added, however, expelled without prior hearing in temporary and permanent injunctions against expulsions and that his court docket "was heavily Edcouch-Elsa school boycott junctions against expulsions and by Garza" and that he had no idea when the next phase of the case would get underway. He added, however, that in alleged damages. During Monday's hearings school officials may expel any student as order, Garza emphasized that he was making no ruling on the merits of the case. One of the students said VISTA members to comprise any faculty as to the merits of the case. Volunteers had offered to finance the school strike earlier this month. The school board last week's restraining order he was granting. Mirtala Villarreal, 17, said they striking order he was granting. Volunteers in Service to America, an Office of Economic Opportunity organization, and others who wanted reinstatement. Garza's ruling which came at the end of some three hours, walkout, or "as to their conduct," including retaining an attorney.

## Hearing

Miss Villarreal, one of the leaders of the student strike, had paid for the printing job, which he termed "ridiculous." He warned school officials, however, they would have to prove to him that none of the students participating in the strike were expelled without prior hearing.

Filed Sunday, Miss Villarreal filed a suit against the school board, seeking both temporary and permanent restraining orders against expulsions ordered by the board. Miss Villarreal was arrested Nov. 15 on charges of loitering on the school grounds where about 150 of the striking students were staging a noisy rally.

Under Bates' questioning Miss Villarreal said VISTA workers, interrupted proceedings with a

Relevance  
Ramiro Meia of San Antonio, one of the attorneys for the students, objected to Bates' line of questioning, saying it had "no relevance" in the case. "Oh yes it does," snapped federal district Judge Reynaldo Garza. "I want to know who is behind all this business."

Expelled  
Of the approximately 175 students who walked out of the classroom, some 35 have been expelled. The rest either have returned to their classes or were left under suspension because they ignored the board's offer to mediate the question. The suit, which the five student leaders have filed also sought \$50,000 in damages.

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING  
FARM WORKERS  
IN RIO GRANDE VALLEY, TEXAS

The following article appeared in the December 1,  
1968, issue of The Monitor at McAllen, Texas:

190

## Contract Will Extend Valley Operation

# VISTA Official Claims Walkout By Weslaco Students Was Headed Off

VISTA volunteers apparently are going to remain in the Valley and expand their operations under a contract being negotiated by the Office of Economic Opportunity and the Leo Cramer Corp. of Washington.

At the same time, one of the Hidalgo County VISTA supervisors, admitting his organization has "a black eye" in the Valley, said he hoped that such incidents as the Edcouch-Elsa school walkout in which VISTA was involved can be avoided in the future.

"I fact," Christ Quintanilla of Edinburg, the supervisor, declared, "We've already headed off a similar walkout in the Weslaco schools."

The contract being negotiated in Washington would provide between 150 and 180 VISTA volunteers for an area from Brownsville to El Paso by next spring.

According to Quintanilla, the new contract would not increase the scope of VISTA's operation in Hidalgo County, which already has an authorization for 40 volunteers and four supervisors.

The border program would cost between \$750,000 and \$1 million, an OEO spokesman in Washington said. Of that amount \$600,000 would be used to pay volunteers. The Army Finance Center in Illinois is the disbursement agency for salaries of VISTA volunteers.

The Leo Cramer Corp., a private company involved in the VISTA program on a contract basis with the government, would receive approximately \$175,000 to \$200,000 to pay the 15 to 20 supervisors and pay office and travel expenses.

Quintanilla said under the contract 10 VISTA volunteers would be sent to Starr County for the first time. At present Cameron County has "eight or

nine" volunteers, Quintanilla said, and Del Rio has 40, San Antonio 30 and El Paso 20.

VISTA was brought to Hidalgo County at the request of the Texas Council of Churches, which as sponsoring agency with approval by the local OEO, still has a hand in supervising activities.

Quintanilla said a Valley Service Committee, made up of Hidalgo County ministers meets once a month with VISTA supervisors to offer guidance and advice. He said "three or four" meetings were held in the past month during the Edcouch-Elsa student boycott.

The VISTA supervisor said there perhaps was some bad judgement on the part of his organization in becoming in-

involved in the student protest.

However, he said the role of VISTA in the strike was "misinterpreted." He explained, "These kids had already had a meeting and then contacted us for help. We worked to get the parents involved with what their kids were doing — right or wrong."

In testimony at a federal court hearing in Brownsville on a successful request for an injunction barring the Edcouch-Elsa School Board from expelling any of the student agitators without a hearing, it was brought out that VISTA paid for printing the lists of student demands and for legal assistance for the students.

(See VISTA Page 3A)

Quintanilla, supervisor of an area covering Weslaco, Donna, Mercedes and Alamo, said his workers in Weslaco had been contacted by students who "wanted to do the same thing the Edcouch-Elsa students did."

"Somehow they thought VISTA was the ring leader," the Edinburg man said. "One of my volunteers in particular did a marvelous job in getting these kids organized into other activities. I don't think we will have the same trouble in Weslaco as we did in Edcouch-Elsa."

Quintanilla said despite bad publicity given VISTA, he believes the organization can be a big asset to the Valley. "Our main job is to work with the poor and help them help themselves," he said.

"In the towns in which my volunteers are working we have good relations with city and school officials. We have organized citizens into committees to seek such things as improvements to streets and sanitation, and in one town, we are attempting to set up a membership grocery store to provide savings on food bills."

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ACTIVITIES OF  
FARM WORKERS  
IN RIO GRAY

The following article appeared in the December 2,  
1968, issue of Valley Morning Star at Harlingen, Texas:

1968

## The VISTA Thing

FEDERAL AUTHORITIES would be well advised, in our view to make a thorough-going investigation of the sort of "community involvement" practiced by the Volunteers In Service for America (VISTA).

"Involvement" is a word which lends itself to all sorts of "interpretations; and it would be interesting to find out if the taxpayer is supporting a group whose involvement includes fomenting discord, demonstrations and defiance of authority. As U.S. Dist. Judge Reynaldo Garza said in his courtroom last week it would be instructive to discover whether the demonstrations staged by students in the Edcouch-Elsa high school were motivated and encouraged by outside sources.

VISTA people seem to have been involved, according to the sworn testimony of one witness. VISTA has denied it, but we published a picture of a VISTA "observer" sitting in a government car at the scene of the demonstration.

It should be explained why VISTA is "observing" a student demonstration and at whose instigation. To whom are these "observers" being reported—and to what purpose? Who offered a lawyer to the demonstrators? Although a VISTA official has denied it, the young lady in the witness box, under oath, recited that the students had been offered financial help and legal aid by VISTA.

If VISTA has one of its "community involvements" the agitation of campus demonstrations, it should be explored by an appropriate government agency—perhaps the Department of Justice or a grand jury. It does not seem to us that the taxpayer should be called upon to support agitators. Based on the testimony of the young lady in federal court, an investigation is appropriate. We hope one is forthcoming soon.

This document contains neither recommendations of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and your agency; it and its contents are not to be outside your agency.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

San Antonio, Texas

December 11, 1968

*In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.*

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM WORKERS  
STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS

The following articles appeared in McAllen and Harlingen, Texas, newspapers concerning the student boycott at Edcouch-Elsa, Texas, High School.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Fable Grape Boycott Sought

Migrants Seek Aid at

OSU

By FRED KOCHER

Lantern Staff Writer

"The Grapes of Wrath" have become stark reality for thousands of migrant workers in California. They have come to Ohio State for help.

Venustiano Olguin, son of a migrant worker and representative of the United Farm Workers Boycott Committee, was the United Christian Center Thursday talk with students interested in forming a grape boycott group at Ohio State.

Thousands of Mexican-Americans have struck against California table grape growers for three years. But growers allegedly refuse to recognize the workers' rights to collective bargaining and allegedly import illegal labor to break the strike.

Olguin is traveling across the United States appealing to people of every political, economic, and social persuasion to help migrant workers get their rights. He is asking housewives, grocers and institutions to stop buying California table grapes until the strike is settled.

Agricultural workers and employers are not covered by provisions of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA). Farm workers have no rights under the law to seek elections for collective bargaining. California wine grape growers have normally negotiated numerous contracts with organized workers. Most table grape growers have not.

The only recourse left to the migrant farm workers is to apply economic pressure until they have won union recognition and collective bargaining.

Migrants are excluded from unemployment insurance and allegedly discriminated against in minimum wage coverage.

These problems exist among migrant farm workers in states other than California. Many problems of migrant farm workers reportedly exist in Ohio. Agricultural employers still enjoy exemption from child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Leader of California's migrant workers is 40-year-old Cesar Chavez, an advocate of non-violence but highly disciplined courage.

Chavez once undertook a 25-day fast as a call to his followers for sacrifice and non-violence.

Olguin said Thursday an Ohio State student boycott group could persuade the University to get rid of all grapes from cafeteria menus. A nationwide boycott would help decrease the price of grapes and force California growers to come to the bargaining table.

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED  
JAN 10 1969  
FBI - CINCINNATI

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Cincinnati Enquirer  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Cincinnati Post &  
Times Star  
Cincinnati, Ohio

The Citizen Journal  
Columbus, Ohio

Columbus Dispatch  
Columbus, Ohio

Dayton Daily News  
Dayton, Ohio

Journal Herald  
Dayton, Ohio

1 Ohio State Lantern  
Columbus, Ohio

Date: 11/2/68

Edition: Daily

Author: Fred Kocher

Editor: W. Nathaniel Johnson

Title:

Character: SM

or 100-2-

Class: Section: Cincinnati

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

*Handwritten notes:*  
B...  
M...  
J...  
1/10/69

NOT RECORDED

17 JAN 9 1969

143  
61 JAN 10 1969

195

42/78,16

VIA TELETYPE  
JAN 25 1969  
ENCIPHERED

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

WA5

FBI NEW YORK

3:22PM DEFERRED 1-25-69 PAL

TO DIRECTOR (ENCODE)

ATTENTION DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

FROM NEW YORK (100-165174) 2P

*02411FD TARI 1. REF.*

DEMONSTRATION PROTESTING PURCHASE OF GRAPES BY UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AT NEW YORK CITY, JANUARY TWENTY FIFTH, NINETEEN SIXTY NINE, INFORMATION CONCERNING (INTERNAL SECURITY)



A SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, ADVISED THAT A DEMONSTRATION AND PICKET LINE PROTESTING THE PURCHASE OF GRAPES BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TOOK PLACE AT TWO FIFTY TWO SEVENTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, ON JANUARY TWENTY FIFTH, NINETEEN SIXTY NINE. THE DEMONSTRATION BEGAN AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK A.M. AND ENDED AT ELEVEN FORTH FIVE A.M. APPROXIMATELY THREE HUNDRED PEOPLE PARTICIPATED, MOST OF THEM OF HIGH SCHOOL AGE.

*P*

END PAGE ONE  
54 FEB 7 - 1369 706

EX-105  
REC 26

100-165174-171  
25 JAN 29 1969

1-25-69

*advised.  
No act rec at this time  
MSK*

*5-10*

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PAGE TWO

THE DEMONSTRATORS CARRIED ABOUT TWENTY BANNERS,  
WHICH REFLECTED THE EMBLEM OF THE UNITED FARM WORKERS.

TWO PEOPLE SPOKE, BOTH FEMALE. ONE WAS IDENTIFIED  
AS REPRESENTING THE UNITED FARM WORKERS, AND THE OTHER  
FROM THE STUDENT DEMOCRATIC COALITION OF LONG ISLAND.  
BOTH SPEAKERS CRITICIZED THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR  
PURCHASING MORE GRAPES THIS YEAR AND PRESIDENT NIXON  
FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE UNITED FARM GROWERS. N.Y.

THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS OR ARRESTS.

ADMINISTRATIVE

REFERENCED NEW YORK TELETYPE, JANUARY TWENTY THIRD,  
NINETEEN SIXTY NINE, SOURCE UTILIZED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NO LHM BEING SUBMITTED. COPY  
OF TELETYPE BEING DISSEMINATED LOCALLY.

END

PAO FBI WASH DC

[REDACTED]

1969

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

0

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-444762)

DATE: 1/31/69

FROM : *C. R. B. 1/29* SAC, SAN ANTONIO (62-3269) (P)

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO  
GRANDE CITY, TEXAS  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

OO:SA

[REDACTED]

Enclosed for the Bureau are seven copies of an LHM regarding captioned matter

ENCLOSURE

*1 904 DB*

- 2 - Bureau (Encs. 7) (RM)
- 2 - San Antonio
- LDW:ies
- (4)

*1 - LHM  
to OEO  
re Baldemar Valdesquez  
1/29/70  
LAD: zmm*

REC 11 1

REC 11 1

[REDACTED]

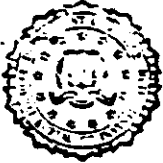
SEC

*-ct w st 3/10/69  
HAG: SPW*



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

*198*



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

San Antonio, Texas  
January 31, 1969

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

FARM LABOR

Valley Threat Brews

EDINBURG, Tex. (UPI) — A and government housing proj- He claimed the strike there took  
never and younger group of eds. 2 1969 600 farm workers out of the  
farm union activists has moved. LET BY STUDENT fields for three days and ended  
into the Lower Rio Grande Val- Leader of the group, now with 23 new contracts for the  
ley—the scene two years ago. Headquarters in Edinburg, is Neoplasia union.  
ley—a sister organizing battle for sociology student at Bluff year," he said. "We've got  
town in Florida labor leader on College, in Ohio. Texas about 500 members in the Val-  
Cesar Chavez and melon and Ask if he intended this ley now, and our job is to get  
vegetable growers in Starr spring to carry the cry of "Hu- them involved in political and  
County. els" — strike — to the melon social movements. The three  
This time, the young organiz- fields around Rio Grand City unions have got to come togeth-  
ers will take the field under where Texas Rangers battled er and bring in their own sup-  
the banner of the Farm Labor members of Chavez' Unio e report."  
Organizing Committee (FLOC), Farm Workers Organizing Com- The "three unions," he said,  
with demands for more than mittee (UFWOC) in 1956 and are his own, the UFWOC, found-  
merely wage increases for mi- 1967, he answered: "I don't see ed by Cesar Chavez—the labor  
grant workers, and with a how anybody can do anything leader from the Illinois,  
philosophy sharply critical of here. There's no support. We're Calif., grape boycott appor-  
such federal programs as the not yet organized sufficiently to and "Obreros Unidos," United  
Office of Economic Opportunity back a strike." Workmen organized in Wiscon-

Then, with candor, he added, sin by Jes. Velas  
"I've also been known to lie to newspaper reporters." UNITS NEEDED

ONE FACT SURE He said all three now have  
On fact stood uncontested. representatives in the Valley,  
and that he hoped to unify

The Valley, already familiar, them in the common goal of "a  
with the bitterness of picket self-sufficient community."  
lines and harrassed farmers. Velasquez said he brought a  
faced still another season of staff of nine with him to Edin-  
agitation among the migrants burg. All are college students,  
who have been picking and cul- and all are veterans of the Ohio  
tivating the area's crops for confrontation. Velasquez, who  
years. grew up in a migrant family.

Velasquez said his organiza- indicated that his group's idea  
tion was founded last year in a of organization was one that did  
someones violent confrontation not include dependence on fed-  
with tomato growers in Ohio. eral funds.

as occurred in this letter recommendations  
conclusions of the FBI. It is the property  
the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and  
contents are not to be distributed outside  
ur agency

COPIES DESTROYED  
#26 SEP 11 1972

- 1\* -  
ENCLOSURE 100-444762-172

199



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

San Antonio, Texas  
January 31, 1969

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM  
WORKERS STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE  
CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

**Farm Labor**  
**Valley Threat Brews**

EDINBURG, Tex. (UPI) — A newer and younger group of farm union activists has moved into the Lower Rio Grande Valley—the scene two years ago of a bitter organizing battle between California labor leader Cesar Chavez and melon and vegetable growers in Starr County. This time, the young organizers will take the field under the banner of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), with demands for more than merely wage increases for migrant workers, and with a philosophy sharply critical of such federal programs as the Office of Economic Opportunity.

He claimed the strike that locked 600 farm workers out of the fields for three days, and ended with 25 new contracts for the fledgling union. "We've gone a lot in one year," he said. "We've got about 900 members in the Valley now, and our job is to get them involved in political and social movements. The three unions have got to come together and bring in their own support." The "three unions," he said, are his own, the UFWOC, founded in 1966, and the Delano, Calif., grape boycott group — and "Obreros Unidos," United Workers organized in Wisconsin by Jesse Salas.

He claimed the strike that locked 600 farm workers out of the fields for three days, and ended with 25 new contracts for the fledgling union. "We've gone a lot in one year," he said. "We've got about 900 members in the Valley now, and our job is to get them involved in political and social movements. The three unions have got to come together and bring in their own support." The "three unions," he said, are his own, the UFWOC, founded in 1966, and the Delano, Calif., grape boycott group — and "Obreros Unidos," United Workers organized in Wisconsin by Jesse Salas.

Then, with candor, he added, "I've also been known to lie to newspaper reporters."

UNITY NEEDED  
He said all three now have representatives in the Valley, and that he hoped to unify them in the common goal of a self-sufficient community.

ONE FACT SURE  
On fact stood uncontested. The Valley, already familiar with the bitterness of picket lines and harassed farmers, faced still another season of agitation among the migrants who have been picking and cultivating the area's crops for years.

He said all three now have representatives in the Valley, and that he hoped to unify them in the common goal of a self-sufficient community. Velasquez said he brought a staff of nine with him to Edinburg. All are college students and all are veterans of the Ohio confrontation. Velasquez, who grew up in a migrant family,

Velasquez said his organization was founded last year in a sometimes violent confrontation with tomato growers in Ohio.

He said all three now have representatives in the Valley, and that he hoped to unify them in the common goal of a self-sufficient community. Velasquez said he brought a staff of nine with him to Edinburg. All are college students and all are veterans of the Ohio confrontation. Velasquez, who grew up in a migrant family, indicated that his group's idea of organization was one that did not include dependence on federal funds.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

200

SAC, San Antonio (62-3269)

2-28-69

REC 44

Director, FBI (100-444762) - 172

1 - [REDACTED]  
(Field Supervision)  
1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - [REDACTED]

ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM WORKERS  
STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reurlets 1-31-69 and 2-10-69.

Relet dated 2-10-69 enclosed six copies each of six newspaper stories which appeared in Rio Grande Valley newspapers during the period 1-30-69 - 2-3-69. Relet dated 1-31-69 enclosed seven copies of a letterhead memorandum which memorandum consisted solely of a Xerox copy of a newspaper article concerning captioned matter.

The copies of the six newspaper stories in their present form are not suitable for dissemination and consequently are of no material value to the Bureau. A letterhead memorandum consisting solely of a Xerox copy of a newspaper article is hardly considered a professional product worthy of dissemination to other Federal agencies by a highly sophisticated intelligence organization like the FBI.

Additionally, the Bureau generally has no interest in the continuing harangue involved in lengthy drawn-out strike activities. We are interested in these activities should there be incidents of violence or activities which are in violation of Federal laws or where there is an indication of subversive domination, control or influence.

In the future, you should be circumspect in submitting information such as that enclosed with referenced letters. All pertinent information should be submitted in form suitable for dissemination. If you include newspaper articles in letterhead memoranda, it is desirable to synopsis the article rather than include a Xerox copy of the article itself. Should there be a subversive element involved in these activities, submit appropriate communication under the caption of the subversive element, followed by the caption of the particular strike activity involved.

HAG:sfw  
(6)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

MAILED 21  
FEB 27 1969  
COMM-FBI

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 12 1969

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

201



Letter to SAC, San Antonio  
RE: ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM WORKERS  
STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS  
100-444762

NOTE:

San Antonio submitted as enclosures to relets many Xerox copies of newspaper articles concerning the farm labor strife which has been prevalent in the Rio Grande Valley area for more than three years. These articles, many of which contain no information of jurisdictional or intelligence value to the FBI, were submitted in form not suitable for dissemination and as such, serve no useful purpose. Above being sent to San Antonio to clarify the Bureau's position regarding these activities and to reiterate the proper manner in which information of value should be submitted to the Bureau.

FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 14 1969

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

FBI DETROIT

9:42 PM URGENT 2/14/69 ETA

TO DIRECTOR

FROM DETROIT (100-NEW)

*0 ... Association*

DISTURBANCE AT GRAND RAPIDS JUNIOR COLLEGE, ONE FOUR THREE BOSTWICK, N.E., GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., AND ANTICIPATED DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF CALIF. GRAPE BOYCOTT AT MEIJER SUPERMARKET, FOUR TWO FIVE FULLER, N.E., GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., FEBRUARY FOURTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTYNINE; SM - STAG.

*XEROX*  
*FEB 25 1969*

FIVE P.M., FEBRUARY FOURTEEN, INSTANT, RELIABLE SOURCES AT GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., ADVISED THAT AT APPROXIMATELY TWO O'CLOCK P.M. ON THIS DATE, A TRADITIONAL VALENTINE DAY DANCE WAS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE AT CAPTIONED JUNIOR COLLEGE. MUSICAL GROUP HEADED BY ONE JAMES WASSERMAN HAD BEEN RETAINED TO PLAY FOR THIS DANCE, HOWEVER, SEVERAL YOUTHFUL WHITE MALES AND FEMALES APPEARED WITH THE BAND HAVING TOY INSTRUMENTS. SOME OF THESE INDIVIDUALS, BELIEVED TO BE CONNECTED WITH BAND MEMBERS AND BELIEVED TO BE STUDENTS FROM GRAND VALLEY STATE COLLEGE, ALLENDALE, MICH., ATTEMPTED TO SELL LITERATURE AND DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF "THE LANTHORN", A STUDENT PUBLICATION AT GRAND VALLEY STATE COLLEGE. SCHOOL OFFICIALS AT GRAND RAPIDS JUNIOR COLLEGE PROHIBITED THE DISTRIBUTION OF THIS MATERIAL; CANCELLED THE DANCE AND ORDERED THESE INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING BAND MEMBERS,

*173*  
*5-20*

END PAGE ONE

RECORDED COPY FILED

17 FEB 20 1969

*205*

DE 100-NEW

PAGE TWO

TO LEAVE THE BUILDING. WHEN VERBAL OPPOSITION WAS ENCOUNTERED, SCHOOL OFFICIALS SUMMONED THE GRAND RAPIDS PD, AND RESPONDING OFFICERS CLEARED THE GROUP, ESTIMATED AT TWELVE - FIFTEEN INDIVIDUALS, FROM THE BUILDING. ONE ARREST INVOLVING AN INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFIED AS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WAS MADE.

ONE OF THE ABOVE SOURCES ADVISED THAT THE ACTIVITY AT GRAND RAPIDS JUNIOR COLLEGE, MENTIONED ABOVE, MAY POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN CONNECTED WITH A BOYCOTT OF THE MEIJER, INC., SUPERMARKETS AT GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., IN SUPPORT OF CALIF. GRAPE WORKERS.

THIS SOURCE ADVISED THAT A MISS LUPE ANGUIANO, A FORMER NUN AND LEADER OF THE CALIF. GRAPE BOYCOTT IN MICH., WAS PUBLICIZED IN THE "GRAND RAPIDS PRESS" NEWSPAPER OF FEBRUARY TWELVE, LAST, AS HAVING SPOKEN AT A NUMBER OF LOCATIONS IN THE GRAND RAPIDS AREA, INCLUDING GRAND VALLEY STATE COLLEGE AND GRAND RAPIDS JUNIOR COLLEGE.

THIS SOURCE INDICATED THAT MISS ANGUIANO STATED THE MEIJER SUPERMARKETS WOULD BE THE MAIN TARGET OF THE BOYCOTT AT GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

END PAGE TWO

204

DE 100-NEW

PAGE THREE

THIS SOURCE FURTHER INFORMED THAT ACTIVE BOYCOTT ACTIVITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE BOYCOTT ACTION AGAINST MEIJERS, INC., WAS EXPECTED TO OCCUR AT APPROXIMATELY EIGHT PM, FEBRUARY FOURTEEN, INSTANT, AT THE MEIJER MARKET LOCATED AT FOUR TWO FIVE FULLER, N.E., GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

THE SOURCES MENTIONED ABOVE ARE [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

THE ANTICIPATED ACTIVITY AT MEIJERS, INC., WILL BE FOLLOWED, AND BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF ANY PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

G-TWO, DETROIT AND SECRET SERVICE, GRAND RAPIDS, BEING ADVISED.

END.

CKG

FBI WASH DC

*Perat-1020*  
[REDACTED]

*cc Mr. [unclear]*

---

905

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 7 1969

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FBI PITTSBGH

548 URGENT 5/7/69 LCL

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: PITTSBURGH (62-3292)

DEMONSTRATION MAY TEN, NINETEEN SIXTY NINE, BY UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, PITTSBURGH, PA., INFORMATION CONCERNING.

ON MAY FIVE, LAST, A RELIABLE SOURCE ADVISED THAT A LEAFLET PREPARED BY THE UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (UFWOC) WAS BEING DISTRIBUTED ON THE CAMPUSES OF CARNEGIE-MELLON UNIVERSITY (C-UN) AND UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH (UP), PITTSBURGH, PA. THE LEAFLET ANNOUNCED AN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMONSTRATION SPONSORED BY THE UFWOC SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND MEXICO ON MAY TEN, NEXT, TO DISCOURAGE THE PURCHASING OF GRAPES AND STOP THE ABUSE OF FARM WORKERS. ACCORDING TO THE LEAFLET, THE ACTIVITIES AT PITTSBURGH INCLUDE AN OUTDOOR MASS AT THE PITTSBURGH PRODUCE TERMINAL AT SIX AM, A PARADE BEGINNING AT THE CIVIC ARENA AT ELEVEN AM PROCEEDING TO THE MONONGAHELA WHARF PARKING LOT AND A RALLY AT MARKET SQUARE.

54 MAY 22 1969

END PAGE ONE

To White House, AG, Secret Service, CIA, STATE, ACSI, OSI, DIA, by tel

CC's to DAG; AAG; NIS, IDIU, Vice President.

MU  
100-444762-173X  
MAY 10 1969  
REC 109

1  
L  
K

J

206

PAGE TWO

PG 62-3292

DOWNTOWN, WHERE SPEAKERS FOR LABOR, WELFARE, CHURCH AND POLITICAL GROUPS WOULD BE HEARD. THE ACTIVITIES WILL CONCLUDE WITH PEACEFUL CONTINGENTS OF DEMONSTRATORS CONTACTING VARIOUS MANAGERS OF LOCAL CHAIN STORES REQUESTING THAT THEY REFRAIN FROM ORDERING CALIFORNIA OR ARIZONA GRAPES FOR THE NINETEEN SIXTY NINE SEASON. THE SOURCE ADVISED THERE WERE NO INDICATIONS THAT CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE WOULD OCCUR DURING THE DEMONSTATION.

ON MAY FIVE, LAST, A SECOND RELIABLE SOURCE ADVISED THAT DURING A RALLY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH ON MAY ONE, LAST, IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED LEAFLET, A LETTER SIGNED BY ALBERT ROJAS, BOYCOTT CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE UFWOC, WAS DISTRIBUTED. THIS LETTER WAS WRITTEN TO THE "FRIEND OF THE FARM WORKERS" URGING THE ADDRESSEE TO WRITE GRAPE PROTEST LETTERS TO OFFICIALS OF THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC TEA COMPANY (A&P) AT PITTSBURGH AND NEW YORK CITY. THE SOURCE ADVISED THAT A SAMPLE LETTER WAS ALSO DISTRIBUTED WITH THE ONE SIGNED BY ROJAS

END PAGE TWO

---

J.L.

PAGE THREE

ABOVE INFORMATION FURNISHED TO PITTSBURGH PD, ARMY INTELLIGENCE, SECRET SERVICE, OSI, AND USA, PITTSBURGH, PA., AND NISO, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

ADMINISTRATIVE

NO LHM BEING SUBMITTED, PITTSBURGH WILL FOLLOW. -P-

END

BJP

FBI WASH

D

C

*cc. [unclear]*

COPY SENT: IDIU

*7/5/54*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-444762)

DATE: 2/10/69

FROM : SAC, SAN ANTONIO (62-3269) (P)

SUBJECT: National  
ACTIVITIES CONCERNING FARM WORKERS ASS  
STRIKE IN RIO GRANDE CITY, TEXAS  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

OO: SA

Enclosed for the Bureau are 6 copies each of 6 newspaper stories appearing in Rio Grande Valley newspapers, 1/30-2/3/69.



100-444762-111  
ENCLOSURE

ENC. BEHIND FILE

ENCLOSURE

4-Bureau (2-100-444762) (Enc. 36)

(1-44-36536)

(1-105-18823)

4-San Antonio (2-62-3269)

(1-44-1131)

(1-157-654)

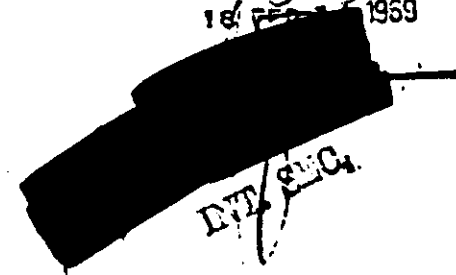
LDW:csh

(8)

100-444762-111

NOT RECORDED

18 FEB 17 1969



INT. SEC.



57 MAR 19 1969

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

209



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Texas Council Minister Says He Was Fired for Not Exonerating Rangers

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)  
Page One,  
The Monitor,  
McAllen, Texas

Date: 1/30/69  
Edition: PM  
Author: Kenneth Clark  
Editor:  
Title: Activities...  
Farm Workers Strike

Character: Misc. Info.  
or

Classification:  
Submitting Office: San Antonio

Being Investigated

62-3269  
LDW

210

By KENNETH R. CLARK  
PHARR — A United Church of Christ minister who was a central figure in the Starr County farm labor dispute two years ago said Wednesday his dismissal by the Texas Council of Churches was the result of his refusal to sign a "compromise agreement" exonerating the Texas Rangers, charged with brutality by a farm labor union.

The Rev. Ed Krueger, of Pharr, was fired as the TCC's Lower Rio Grande Valley staff member by Harold Kilpatrick, executive director of the interdenominational Protestant group.

"I'm uncertain as to where the pressure came from," Krueger said. "But I have been requested to sign the agreement on several occasions. It's my personal feeling, however, that to approach a thing like this with a feeling of forgiveness is one thing — but you can't change history and say nothing was done wrong."

Krueger said he had been asked to sign the compromise by Bishop W. Kenneth Pope, president of the Texas Council of Churches, by Kilpatrick, and that the action was "strongly suggested" by the Rev. Carl Borikier, chairman of the council's personnel committee.

Krueger collided with the Texas Rangers when he helped lead efforts of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee to recruit Mexican-American field hands for a strike during the melon harvest of 1966-1967, in Starr County.

The activity subsequently resulted in a civil suit filed in U.S. District Court against the Rangers. The court action alleged the lawmen acted on behalf of growers in Starr County to try to break the strike, that their methods were brutal and discriminatory, and that the labor statutes they were enforcing were unconstitutional.

The case, which culminated in a bitter courtroom battle in June, still has not been decided, and Krueger said if a compromise agreement exonerating the Rangers is signed now, he fears it will affect the decision with regard to constitutionality of the labor statutes.

"I feel it would be very unwise at this time," he said. "I'm afraid a compromise also might tend to block any similar action in the future, but I rather imagine some move will be made in this direction."

the colonias "challenged the paternalistic pattern — a pattern which really keeps people in servitude and a kind of slavery."

"There are a lot of people who believe in democracy in principle," he said, "but when it actually comes down to allowing people to participate in it, effectively and meaningfully, then there are a lot of people who don't believe in democracy

after all." Krueger said he was given no formal reason for his discharge, which he said he did not believe reflected the feeling of the council church's board of directors, and he said he doubted if a successor would be named for his post until after the TCC had merged with the Texas Catholic Conference, to become the Texas Conference of Churches, later this year.

He said he was "not at all bitter" about his firing, that he intended to remain in the Valley, and to continue his work among the poor of the colonias. "My wife and I have no definite plans right now," he said. "Perhaps we'll do farm work. We certainly want to continue our relationship with the people in the colonias and barrios."

Krueger also attributed his firing to "antipathy on the part of the established community to our work — the people's refusal to come to grips with some big problems, and a desire not to look at the facts."

Krueger's ministry, as sponsored by the TCC, was devoted to the "barrios," slum areas in Valley cities, and organization of the "colonias" — remote villages where most of the Valley's Mexican-American migrant farm workers live.

He said his labor to establish programs of self-help within

211

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page One,  
The Monitor,  
McAllen, Texas

Date: 1/31/69

Edition: PM

Author:

Editor: John R. Kinard

Title: MAYO

Character: RM

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: San Antonio

Being Investigated

157-654

LDW

412

## OVER REFUSAL TO FIRE PROGRAM LEADERS

# TCC Drops VISTA Sponsorship

PHARR —The controversial VISTA program in Hidalgo County — described as an "absolute mess" by one Texas Council of Churches board member — will be dropped unless a sponsor is found in 30 days.

The TCC Thursday at 2 p.m. officially announced it will no longer sponsor the VISTA program, climaxing an internal battle over who would direct the volunteer workers in the county.

The Rev. W. A. Triggs, pastor of the United Methodist Church in Pharr and a member of the TCC board said severing ties with the VISTA program was the result of constant politi-

cal activity on the part of its workers and of refusal of the Austin VISTA administration to discharge three of the program leaders.

Rev. Triggs said an overlap of 30 days would be allowed to phase out the church group's participation in the federally-funded poverty project. Dumping of VISTA came in the wake of the firing of Rev. Edgar Krueger as TCC minister at large to the poor of the Valley's "colonias."

Since VISTA volunteers cannot legally operate without sponsorship the TCC rejection ostensibly eliminated the program in Hidalgo County.

There were rumors today, however, that several other organizations, including the Mexican - American Youth Organization (MAYO), were ready to take them over — rumors which apparently disturbed Rev. Triggs.

"The situation is dangerous," he said "and efforts will be made to see that they stay unspoiled."

At the center of the decision to drop VISTA are Jose Uriegas, VISTA project director for the county, Merle Smith, deputy director, and David Lopez, senior supervisor.

A series of meetings between VISTA officials and TCC board members which started last Sunday finally ended with the TCC washing its hands of the program which had become involved in a number of controversies including the Ed-couch - Elsa school walkout and the dispute over location of a neighborhood center in Weslaco.

Attending a Sunday night meeting in Edinburg were OEO member Jim Wilson, Dr. James Reber, TCC VISTA director, Rev. Triggs, Edinburg City Manager Gary Gwyn, Gonzalo Barrientos, Texas VISTA director, George Gault, VISTA director for Texas-Louisiana, and the three local VISTA supervisors.

According to informed sources, discussion of alleged "militancy" on the part of the VISTA leaders arose, and

Barrientos, Uriegas, Smith and Lopez walked out of the meeting.

Gault suspended the three local leaders and appointed Chris Quintanilla as director of the county program. Quintanilla called a meeting of the 36 volunteers in the county for Tuesday, but only 11 showed up.

Quintanilla, who resigned his post later that day is now working in the Edinburg "model cities" program, said the three suspended leaders persuaded the others to boycott the meeting.

Gault ordered all of those not showing up fired, but Quintanilla declined to do this. "I felt that many of them were just misdirected," he said.

However, he did fire one of them, Ruben Barrera, whom Quintanilla said attended a

(See TCC, Page 3A)

213

# TCC Dumps VISTA

(Continued from Page 1)

recent Edinburg City Commission hearing over sale of land needed by Pan American College. Quintanilla said Barrera, using an assumed name, accused commissioners of "being worse than communists."

Gault's decision to fire Uriegas, Smith and Lopez was overruled in Austin by Ed de la Rosa, VISTA supervisor for a five-state area. As a result of De La Rosa's action, Harold Kilpatrick, executive director of the TCC, notified him by letter that the TCC was dropping its sponsorship.

"Since those members of your staff which we judge to be either inadequate or opening militant in their attitudes are still to be retained in positions of authority, we simply cannot continue," Kilpatrick said in his letter.

The question of VISTA operations in the county had been investigated earlier by the Hidalgo County OEO. At that time OEO board member Wilson said the "court of inquiry" called to investigate charges of political involvement by VISTA decided the program should be continued but that a tighter rein should be exercised over activities of the workers.

Alfredo Flores, OEO director, who has been at odds with the VISTA program in the county, said today it was understanding that MAYO was ready to take over sponsorship.

He said he's heard nothing official to that effect, but he understands MAYO is a "chartered" organization. An organization would have to be chartered to be a sponsor, he said, but MAYO lacks any administrative offices. He said it is possible MAYO could obtain federal funds with which to act as sponsors and set up an office.

The upset in the Hidalgo County Vista activities apparently does not affect any other Vista program in Texas.

Flores said Hidalgo County was the only place where TCC was Vista sponsor. In Cameron County, Laredo and other places, he said, the county OEO Community Action Board sponsors Vista. Also, he said, the Hidalgo County project was a special one — only one of its kind and was entitled "a minority mobilization project."

political struggles of any kind?"

Rev. Triggs said he was told the young volunteers would come to the Valley solely to help the underprivileged "react through education and organization," that they would have nothing to do with organized labor, and that the Hatch Act forbade them, as Federal employees, to enter into any political struggle.

Rev. Triggs said he voted for sponsorship, but that "almost immediately" the young volunteers were involved in squabbles with the Mission school system, and with the city commissioners of Weslaco over location of a new swimming pool.

"Then came the national elections," he said, "and suddenly my office was swamped with phone calls, with reports of VISTAS being involved in various political intrigues."

That incident, he said, was followed by the Edcouch - Elsa student walkout, which saw nearly 20 militant Mexican-American youngsters strike against the school system in November.

"We have learned, through an authoritative source, that several VISTA workers and supervisors were involved in various ways in the setting up of meetings and organizations in that affair," Rev. Triggs said. "At this time the council called into question its sponsorship."

Rev. Triggs said the council felt as sponsor it had the right to "establish the VISTA program," and "to veto personnel."

"The VISTA organization," he said, "has refused to honor this from the start."

"I think the VISTA program could be a very fine thing in this Valley to help solve many complex problems we have," Rev. Triggs said. "But I do not think militancy, foment, and secretiveness is the proper approach."

Rev. Triggs said the Council of Churches got into the VISTA program in April last year, when Bill Hale, the organization's regional director, came to the council seeking sponsorship.

"I posed three questions personally to Mr. Hale at that time," Rev. Triggs said. "They were, 'Is the VISTA program to create schism and conflict? Is VISTA to enter into the already established conflicts between organized labor and the

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Krueger Dismissal Protested

**PHARR** — Representatives of several Mexican-American organizations staged a peaceful demonstration outside a Pharr church Sunday to protest the firing of a Texas Council of Churches employe.

Reynaldo de la Cruz, a spokesman for the demonstrators, said the groups were protesting what he called the firing of the Rev. Edgar Krueger, former representative of the Texas Council of Churches in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Krueger said last Friday he had been discharged after declining to agree to a compromise in a federal court suit the Texas Council of Churches filed against four Texas Rangers.

### Alleged Rough Up

The suit was brought by the council in behalf of Krueger, who alleged that he and his wife were roughed up and falsely arrested by Texas Rangers on May 26, 1967 during the farm strike in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Harold Kilpatrick, executive director of the Texas Council of Churches, said the council had decided to change its mode of operation and asked Krueger to resign before it knew he would not sign the compromise.

Krueger had worked actively with Mexican-American organizations and had helped VISTA volunteers in organizing the poor in small villages in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

The demonstrators gathered outside the United Methodist Church of Pharr. The minister, the Rev. William Triggs, is secretary of the VISTA committee in Hidalgo County and was the apparent target of the demonstration.

Close to 50

Only a few were outside the church as persons were entering

see PROTEST, Page 12A

# PROTEST

Continued from Page 1

ing, but their number had swelled to close to 50 by the time the worship service had ended.

Many of the demonstrators carried picket signs. One read "The church is for justice. Where is justice for Rev. Krueger?" Another sign said "Is the Texas Council of Churches un-Christian?"

Pharr police stood by outside the church. There were no incidents.

De la Cruz, a former picket captain for the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, during the Starr County Farm Labor dispute, said several groups also planned to stage a demonstration Monday at the McAllen office of the Texas Employment Commission. He said the demonstrators would be asking for more help from the TEC in finding jobs.

Groups represented at the demonstration Sunday included La Raza Unida, Colonias del Valle, the political association for Spanish Speaking Organizations (PASO), the Mexican-American Youth Organization (MAYO), and the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), an Ohio-based farm labor union currently engaged in organizing field hands who migrate northward from the Valley in the summer.

The demonstrators left after the church services were over.

They marched down a main street in Pharr and attended a brief rally held at a drive-in restaurant.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page One,  
Corpus Christi Caller,  
Corpus Christi, Texas

Date: 2/3/69  
Edition: AM  
Author:  
Editor:  
Title: MAYO

Character: RM

Classification:

Submitting Office: San Antonio

Being Investigated

157-654  
LDW

210

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Plan To Kill Ranger Suit Confirmed

## Church Council Spokesman Says Compromise Made

SAN ANTONIO — The executive director of the Texas Council of Churches was quoted as saying Friday that the organization will withdraw from a federal court suit against four Texas Rangers "at the proper time."

The suit was filed in connection with the 1967 Rio Grande Valley farm labor strike.

Harold Kilpatrick also was quoted by the San Antonio Evening News as saying the interdenominational organization had reached a compromise with state officials in the matter.

The paper said he made his remarks after the Rev. Ed Krueger, former council representative in the Valley, told newsmen he had been discharged after declining to agree to a compromise in the case.

### Bishop's Role

"Bishop Kenneth Pope has been working on a compromise and has been conferring with high state officials," the paper quoted Kilpatrick as saying. "We feel the purposes for which the suit was filed have been accomplished."

Pope is president of the Texas Council of Churches.

"At the proper time we expect to announce a compromise and withdraw," Kilpatrick was quoted as saying.

The Rev. Mr. Krueger said he and his wife, also a plaintiff in the suit had been "strongly recommended" to "sign a compromise agreement releasing the deputies and Rangers of all blame in regard to that suit," the newspaper said.

"I'm and I felt we didn't care to do this," the minister was quoted as saying.

The suit in question was brought by the council on behalf of the Rev. Mr. Krueger, who has charged he and his wife were roughed up and falsely arrested by Rangers during farm strike activities on May 24, 1967.

### Another Suit

Awaiting decision by a three judge federal court is another Starr involving the Rangers and Starr county lawmen. It was brought by the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee.

"We really hadn't planned to announce any settlement of the suit until the union's suit is adjudicated," Kilpatrick was quoted as saying.

See RANGERS, Page 16A

# RANGERS

Continued from Page 1

judicated," Kilpatrick was quoted as saying.

He said the Rev. Mr. Krueger's action in declining to join the compromise has not been involved in his dismissal.

"It had been decided we were going to change our mode of operation and asked him to resign before we knew he wasn't going to sign the compromise," Kilpatrick told the paper.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page One,  
Corpus Christi Caller,  
Corpus Christi, Texas

Date: 2/1/69

Edition: AM

Author:

Editor:

Title: Activities Concerning Farm Workers Strike

Character: Misc. Info.

Classification:

Submitting Office: San Antonio

Being Investigated

62-3269

IDW

216

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Krueger's Dismissal Stems From 'Hassle' With Law

PHARR — A United Church of Christ minister who was a central figure in the Starr County farm labor dispute two years ago said Wednesday his dismissal by the Texas Council of Churches was the result of his refusal to sign a "compromise agreement" exonerating the Texas Rangers, charged with brutality by a farm labor union.

The Rev. Ed Krueger, of Pharr, was fired as the TCC's Lower Rio Grande Valley staff member by Harold Kilpatrick, executive director of the interdenominational protestant group.

"I'm uncertain as to where the pressure came from," Krueger said, "but I have been requested to sign the agreement on several occasions. It's my personal feeling however, that to approach a thing like this with a feeling of forgiveness is one thing — but you can't change history and say nothing was done wrong."

Krueger said he had been asked to sign the compromise by Bishop W. Kenneth Pope, president of the Texas Council of Churches, by Kilpatrick, and that the action was "strongly suggested" by the Rev. Carl Barkley, chairman of the council's personnel committee.

Krueger collided with the

Texas Rangers when he helped lead efforts of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee to recruit Mexican - American field hands for a strike during the melon harvest of 1966-1967, in Starr County.

The activity subsequently resulted in a civil suit filed in U.S. District Court against the rangers. The court action alleged the lawmen acted on behalf of growers in Starr County to try to break the strike, that their methods were brutal and

discriminatory, and that the labor statutes they were enforcing were unconstitutional.

The case, which culminated in a bitter courtroom battle in June, still has not been decided, and Krueger said if a compromise agreement exonerating the rangers is signed now, he fears it will affect the decision with regard to constitutionality of the labor statutes.

"I feel it would be very unfortunate to see the case go to BEEF, Page A2 /

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page One,  
Valley Morning Star,  
Harlingen, Texas

Date: 1/30/69

Edition: AM

Author:

Editor:

Title: Activities...  
Farm Workers Strike

Character: Misc. Info.

Classification:

Submitting Office: San Antonio

Being Investigated

62-3269

LDW

217



# Hassle

Continued from Page One  
wise at this time," he said.  
"I'm afraid a compromise also  
might tend to block any similar  
action in the future, but I rather  
imagine some move will be  
made in this direction."

Kreuger also attributed his  
firing to "antipathy on the part  
of the established community to  
our work — the people's refusal  
to come to grips with some big  
problems, and a desire not to  
look at the facts."

Kreuger's ministry, as spon-  
sored by the TCC, was devoted  
to the "barrios," slum areas in  
Valley cities, and organization  
of the "colonias" — remote vil-  
lages where most of the Val-  
ley's Mexican - American mi-  
grant farm workers live.

He said his labor to establish  
programs of self - help within  
the colonias "challenged the pa-  
ternalistic pattern — a pattern  
which really keeps people in  
servitude and a kind of sla-  
very."

"There are a lot of people  
who believe in democracy in  
principle," he said, "but when  
it actually comes down to allow-  
ing people to participate in it,  
effectively and meaningfully,  
then there are a lot of people  
who don't believe in democracy  
after all."

Kreuger said he was given  
no formal reason for his dis-  
charge, which he said he did  
not believe reflected the feeling  
of the council church's board  
of directors, and he said he  
doubted if a successor would  
be named for his post until after  
the TCC had merged with the  
Texas Catholic Conference, to  
become the Texas Conference  
of Churches, later this year.

He said he was "not at all  
bitter" about his firing, that he  
intended to remain in the Val-  
ley, and to continue his work  
among the poor of the colonias.

"My wife and I have no def-  
inite plans right now," he said.  
"Perhaps we'll do farm work.  
We certainly want to continue  
our relationship with the people  
in the colonias and barrios."

# Shake-Up of VISTA Follows Firing of Valley Minister

## Church Council Demands Supervisors' Dismissal

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 8G,  
Corpus Christi Caller,  
Corpus Christi, Texas

Date: 1/30/69  
Edition: AM  
Author: Hoyt Hager  
Editor:  
Title: Activities ...  
Farm Workers Strike

Character: Misc. Info.

Classification:  
Submitting Office: San Antonio

Being Investigated

62-3269  
LDW

219

By HOYT HAGER

Editor-Times Staff Writer

PHARR - Edgar Krueger, militant minister of the Texas Council of Churches' "migrant ministry" in the Rio Grande Valley has been fired.

The controversy swirling around the United Church of Christ minister, was in the front lines of the Starr County labor dispute a year ago and on hand at the Edcouch-Elsa school boycott, has been followed by shake-up of VISTA program in Hidalgo County.

The Texas Council of Churches, after firing Krueger, demanded that VISTA remove Joe Uriega, Merle Smith and David Lopez as local supervisors of VISTA.

The Rev. W. A. Triggs, pastor of the Pharr United Methodist Church, and a member of the executive board of the VISTA committee, said if Smith, Uriega and Lopez are not removed the Council of Churches will withdraw its sponsorship of VISTA immediately.

It is understood MAYO (Mexican-American Youth Organization) and several other similar organizations are standing by to take over the sponsorship. It also is reported a strong move is under way to have the new national administration kill VISTA entirely in the Valley.

Much of the turmoil in VISTA that developed over the past year when "Volunteers" and supervisors of VISTA took part in the Starr County dispute and Edcouch-Elsa troubles came to a head Monday night in Edinburg where the sponsoring TCC met to discuss the public image of the Council of Churches as a result of VISTA activities.

Dr. Jesse Reber, state representative of TCC, was on hand along with Triggs, Edinburg City Manager Gary Gwyn and Edinburg Justice of the Peace Jim Wilson — who are members of the executive board — and top VISTA agents.

Triggs said TCC demanded that it have complete control over program policy, procedures and a veto on VISTA employees in Hidalgo County. He said whether or not VISTA will agree to this at the state level and also will remove Lopez, Smith and Uriega will be decided in Austin. TCC agents have gone to Austin to confer on the matter.

VISTA has some 40 volunteers in Hidalgo County. Their stated mission is to aid, teach and work with the poor.

Cris Quintanilla, supervisor for VISTA in Hidalgo County resigned this week in the upheaval. Triggs said Quintanilla has accepted a job at a pay raise with the Model Cities Program at Edinburg, which is under in-

tervention of Gwyn, the city manager.

In the meantime, Triggs is temporary head of the Pharr VISTA Office appointed by George Gault who is two-state supervisor of VISTA. Under Gault is Gonzalo Barrientes, state supervisor, and under him Uriegas, area supervisor.

Quintanilla has not been replaced but Leo Aguiar is temporary acting senior supervisor at Pharr, with Mrs. Jane Arredondo Rivera, assistant.

200

FBI WASH DC

FBI SANDIEGO

6:17 PM 5-9-69 URGENT BRS

TO: DIRECTOR AND LOS ANGELES

FROM: SAN DIEGO (62-0)

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

2 UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MARCH FROM INDIO, [REDACTED] CALIF., TO CALEXICO, CALIF., MAY TEN THROUGH MAY EIGHTEEN NEXT. [REDACTED] INFORMATION CONCERNING.

100-444762

THIS IS TO ADVISE THAT CAPTIONED MARCH, ORGANIZED BY CAESAR CHAVEZ, IS BEING MADE ON DATES INDICATED WITH OVERNIGHT STOPS AT MECCA, CORVINA CAMP, SALT CREEK CAMP, BOMBAY BEACH, NILAND, CALIPATRIA, BRAWLEY, AND EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA. IT IS REPORTED THAT MARCH WILL TERMINATE IN A RALLY AFTERNOON MAY EIGHTEEN NEXT AT CALEXICO. THERE IS UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE RALLY. ABOVE FURNISHED FOR INFORMATION OF BUREAU AND BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS, IF ANY.

END

ERT

FBI WASH DC

REC-64

100-444762-175

2 MAY 12 1969

66 MAY 19 1969

Handwritten initials

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATION SECTION

MAY 10 1969

*CRS*

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*S/S*

FBI WASH DC

6:05 PM EDT URGENT 5-10-69 WRJ

TELETYPE

TO DIRECTOR

FROM PITTSBURGH 62-3292

DEMONSTRATION MAY TEN, NINETEEN SIXTYNINE, BY UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, PITTSBURGH, PA., INFORMATION CONCERNING

ON MAY TEN, INSTANT, A RELIABLE SOURCE ADVISED THAT ACTIVITIES WERE HELD AT PITTSBURGH, THIS DATE, IN CONNECTION WITH AN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMONSTRATION SPONSORED BY THE UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (UFWOC), TO PROTEST THE PURCHASING OF CALIFORNIA GRAPES IN AN ATTEMPT TO GAIN UNION RECOGNITION FOR CALIFORNIA GRAPE PICKERS. THE SOURCE FURTHER ADVISED THAT AS PART OF THESE ACTIVITIES AT ABOUT ELEVEN THIRTY AM, A PARADE OF APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED INDIVIDUALS COMPOSED OF BOTH BLACKS AND WHITES AND TWENTYTHREE AUTOMOBILES PROCEEDED FROM THE CIVIC ARENA IN THE HILL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH TO THE MARKET PLACE IN DOWNTOWN

END PAGE ONE.

100-444762-175X

REC-64

MAY 14 1969

0 11 1969

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PAGE TWO..

PITTSBURGH ARRIVING THERE AT TWELVE THIRTY PM. THE MARCH WAS LED BY ALBERT ROJAS, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UFWOC, AND THE ORGANIZER OF THE GRAPE BOYCOTT AT PITTSBURGH. UPON ARRIVING AT THE MARKET PLACE, THE PARTICIPANTS HEARD SPEECHES BY THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO VOICED THEIR SUPPORT FOR UFWOC AND SPOKE AGAINST THE PURCHASING OF CALIFORNIA GRAPES: ALBERT ROJAS; TOM QUINN, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNION OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS; LOUISE JONES, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WELFARE RIGHTS ORGANIZATION; HAL ROBINSON, INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF PITTSBURGH; AND JAMES MC COY, HEAD OF THE UNITED NEGRO PROTEST COMMITTEE AT PITTSBURGH. SOURCE ADVISED THAT THE ENTIRE DEMONSTRATION WAS ORDERLY AND PEACEFUL AND NO ACTS OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE WERE COMMITTED BY THE PARTICIPANTS. THE CONTINGENT OF PROTESTERS DISBANDED AT ONE: ZERO FIVE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SPEECHES.

END PAGE TWO..

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C O  
PAGE THREE

PITTSBURGH PD COGNIZANT.

ABOVE INFORMATION FURNISHED TO ARMY INTELLIGENCE, SECRET  
SERVICE, OSI AND USA, PITTSBURGH, PA., AND NISO, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

REMYTEL MAY SEVEN, LAST. NO LHM BEING SUBMITTED.

END...

GMJ

FBI WASH DC

P

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224

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 4 1969

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FBI PITTSBGH

2:15PM URGENT 6/4/69 MCF

TO DIRECTOR

FROM PITTSBURGH (62-3292)

DEMONSTRATIONS JUNE SIX AND SEVEN, SIXTYNINE BY UNITED  
FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, PITTSBURGH, PA.,  
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

5/9

ON JUNE FOUR, SIXTYNINE, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED INFORMATION HAD BEEN RECEIVED  
INDICATING THE UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE PLANNED  
A DEMONSTRATION AT KROGERS SUPERMARKET, BLOOMFIELD DISTRICT, [REDACTED]  
PITTSBURGH, FROM FOUR THIRTY TO SIX PM, JUNE SIX AND AT  
TEN AM, JUNE SEVEN, SIXTYNINE. USE OF ACTS OF CIVIL  
DISOBEDIENCE BEING CONSIDERED TO ENFORCE DEMANDS THAT KROGER  
COOPERATE IN GRAPE BOYCOTT. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS TO TAKE  
PLACE IN DEMONSTRATIONS IS UNCERTAIN AT THIS TIME AND WHETHER  
OR NOT ACTS OR CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE TAKE PLACE WILL PROBABLY  
DEPEND ON WHETHER OR NOT SUFFICIENT DEMONSTRATORS ARE PRESENT.

100-444762-175X1  
REC-103  
~~100-444762-175X1~~

ABOVE INFORMATION FURNISHED ARMY INTELLIGENCE, SECRET JUN 11 1969

END PAGE ONE

59 JUN 11 1969

5-2



• PAGE TWO

SERVICE, OSI AND USA, ALL PITTSBURGH, AND NISO, PHILADELPHIA,  
PA.

ADMINISTRATIVE

NO LHM BEING SUBMITTED. PITTSBURGH WILL FOLLOW. P.

END

PGH

FBI WASH DC

*200*

FBI WASH DC

FBI PITTSRGH

455PM URGENT 6/7/69 PJM

TO: DIRECTOR  
FROM: PITTSBURGH (62-3292)

DEMONSTRATIONS, JUNE SIX AND SEVEN, SIXTYNINE, BY UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, PITTSBURGH, PA., INFORMATION CONCERNING.

REFERENCE IS MADE TO COMMUNICATION DATED JUNE FOUR LAST AT PITTSBURGH, PA., CAPTIONED AS ABOVE.

ON JUNE SEVEN INSTANT, A SOURCE, WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST, ADVISED THAT FROM FOUR THIRTY PM, TO SIX PM, JUNE SIX LAST, AND FROM ELEVEN AM, TO THREE PM, JUNE SEVEN INSTANT, A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY FIFTY INDIVIDUALS COMPOSED OF BOTH BLACKS AND WHITES PICKETED KROGER'S SUPER-MARKET IN THE BLOOMFIELD DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH. THE DEMONSTRATIONS WERE SPONSORED BY THE UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (UFWOC), WHICH IS ATTEMPTING TO GAIN UNION RECOGNITION FOR CALIFORNIA GRAPE PICKERS, AND WERE LED BY ALBERT ROJAS, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UFWOC.

100-444762-175X2

RE 70

JUN 11 1969

END PAGE ONE

69 JUN 17 1969

Handwritten initials or mark at bottom right.

PAGE TWO

PG 62-3292

DEMONSTRATORS CARRIED SIGNS WHICH REQUESTED THAT CUSTOMERS REFRAIN FROM BUYING CALIFORNIA GRAPES AND ALSO PASSED OUT LITERATURE TO CUSTOMERS ENTERING THE SUPERMARKET. THE SOURCE ADVISED THAT THE DEMONSTRATIONS BOTH DAYS WERE ORDERLY AND PEACEFUL AND NO ACTIONS OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE WERE COMMITTED BY THE PARTICIPANTS.

ABOVE INFORMATION FURNISHED TO ARMY INTELLIGENCE, SECRET SERVICE, OSI AND USA, ALL PITTSBURGH, PA., AND WISC, PHILADELPHIA, PA. PITTSBURGH POLICE DEPARTMENT COGNIZANT.

END.

GMJ

FBI WASH DC

XP

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108

FBI WASH DC

5:56 PM EDT URGENT 6-12-69 WRJ

TO DIRECTOR

FROM PITTSBURGH 62-3292

*lee*

[REDACTED] *Wes*  
*WBA*

DEMONSTRATIONS, JUNE TWELVE, THIRTEEN, AND FOURTEEN, SIXTYNINE,  
BY UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, PITTSBURGH, PA.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

ON JUNE TWELVE, INSTANT, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED INFORMATION HAD BEEN RECEIVED INDICATING UNITED FARM WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE PLANNED A MARCH COMMENCING AT SIX THIRTY PM, THIS DATE, FROM THE EIGHTEEN HUNDRED BLOCK OF BRIGHTON ROAD, NORTH SIDE, PITTSBURGH, TO THE NINTH STREET BRIDGE, NORTH SIDE. DEMONSTRATIONS ALSO TO BE HELD AT KROGER'S SUPERMARKET, BLOOMFIELD DISTRICT, PITTSBURGH, FOUR THIRTY TO SIX THIRTY PM JUNE THIRTEEN, AND AT ELEVEN AM, JUNE FOURTEEN, NEXT. MARCH AND DEMONSTATIONS BEING HELD TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR THE GRAPE BOYCOTT AT PITTSBURGH AND ULTIMATELY GAIN UNION RECOGNITION FOR CALIFORNIA GRAPE  
END PAGE ONE.

*100-444762-175X3*

REC-8

12 JUN 16 1969

*51 JUN 20 1969*

*5 2*

*229*