



UNITED FARM WORKERS, AFL-CIO

CLEVELAND BOYCOTT OFFICE

2705 DETROIT AVENUE

CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113

216/696-2686



April 25, 1974

Dear Mark,

Halbin made the following arguments and can probably be expected to do the same everywhere:

1. Chavez started good, but he didn't consolidate. The Chavez organization is very inefficient. The farm workers became disillusioned, and petitioned the Teamsters for representation.
2. The hiring hall is used for friends; separates families; and is used for favoritism.
3. Talks about violence on both sides-- refers to the \$9,000 check paid to the Teamsters by the United Farm Workers for the Teamster who was shot by a striker in the 1970 lettuce strike.
4. The way to help farm workers is to invite congresspeople to include farm workers under the NRLA. The farm workers can settle this is through Federal elections.
5. He says that Cesar is opposed to NRLA coverage.

His main strategy is to confuse the people by raising phony side issues and then encourage them to think of NRLA and not of boycotting.

We opened our presentation by quoting the Supreme Court decision; the L.A. Times article on the "Massive Lettuce Strike"; the indictment of two growers for bribing the Teamsters; specific acts of violence by the goons; Mohn's statement, and ended by challenging them to an election. We said we would even let them pick the time, date, place, and who would supervise it. All we asked was access to the workers and to have a representative present when the votes are counted.

On petitions, we quoted the Newsweek article of 5/21/73, saying: "While the Teamsters claim their petition signatures are legitimate, Newsweek's Peter S. Greenberg discovered upon examining them that the signatures on a number of them were remarkably similar."

On the hiring hall, we repeated what is in the contract on no discrimination and challenged them to produce specifics about abuses in the hiring hall.



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On violence, the guy responsible for the shooting of the Teamster was kicked off the picket line, before the shooting because he was trying to recruit some of our people to help him beat-up some Teamsters (the Supreme Court said we were responsible because he was a member of UFW), as is union policy, which differs from Teamster policy: proof of 200 Teamsters attacking picket lines, attacking Fr. Banks, etc., etc.

On NRLA, we said it takes too long, so we proposed a bill in California that would take elections only two weeks to take place, and the Teamsters oppose it. We can still have elections now if they agree, but they refuse because they know they will lose.

On Larson election, we said "It would be the same as if Nixon would hold his own election to see if he is guilty of Watergrape."

In all, he doesn't know much more than the propaganda he writes. Give him hell!!!

Hasta La Victoria!

Eliseo
Eliseo

EM/ee