

Philip Vera Cruz Papers
8 linear feet
1966-1979 (bulk 1969-1975)

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Kathy Makas on July 15, 2010.

Accession Number: 1423

Creator: Philip Vera Cruz

Acquisition: The papers of Philip Vera Cruz were placed at the Reuther Library in January 1990.

Language: Material mainly in English, some Spanish content.

Access: Collection is open for research.

Use: Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*. **Restrictions: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.**

Notes: Citation style: “Philip Vera Cruz Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

Related Material: Three bumper stickers and a photograph were transferred to the Reuther’s Audio-Visual Department.

PLEASE NOTE: Material in this collection has been arranged by series ONLY. Folders are not arranged within each series – we have provided an inventory based on their original order. Subjects may be dispersed throughout several boxes within any given series.

Abstract

Philip Vera Cruz (Dec 25, 1904 – June 12, 1994) was born in Saoag, Ilocos Sur, Philippines. He worked on farms in the Philippines before traveling to the United States in 1926. Vera Cruz worked several odd jobs around the Midwest, but was not active in any union before moving to California in 1943 and becoming a farm worker. He joined the Agricultural Worker Organizing Committee (AWOC) and soon became a leader in farm workers rights. In 1965 he was an active force in the AWOC decision to strike against grape growers in Delano, CA. The strike and boycott soon won the support of Cesar Chavez and the National Farm Workers of America, and led to the eventual merging of the two groups to form the United Farm Workers. Vera Cruz was elected a vice president of the union, a position he held until he left the union in protest of Chavez in 1977, though he continued to be active in his retirement. Cruz also formed the Farm Workers Credit Union and created Agbayani Village, a retirement community for older farm workers. Throughout his career Vera Cruz worked for migrant and farm worker rights, and was very active in the Asian American, especially Filipino, rights movement and community. In 1987 he received the Ninoy M Aquino Award in the Philippines, and in 1992 he was honored by the AFL-CIO's Asian Pacific American Labor Committee.

The papers of Philip Vera Cruz focus on his active years as a California labor leader. It includes his correspondence, writings and notes, as well as his activity in the UFW and other organizations and his work in boycotts. Cruz's research, negotiations, and collective bargaining work are also included as well as a number of ALRB cases and resources he collected for farm workers and Filipinos.

Important Subjects:

Agbayani Village
Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB)
Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC)
Boycotts
California Migrant Ministry
Chavez, Cesar
Farm Workers
Farm Workers Credit Union
Filipinos
International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT)
Itliong, Larry
Migrant Workers
National Farm Worker Labor Union
National Farm Workers of America
National Farm Worker Ministry
Pesticides
Strikes
Unions
United Farm Workers (UFW)

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into 3 series.

Series I: Correspondence and Writings (Boxes 1-2)

Series II: Activities and Affiliations (Boxes 2-5)

Series III: Subject Files (Boxes 6-8)

Includes: publications, legal information and ALRB cases, research and resources.

Folders in each series are simply listed by their location within each box. They are not arranged, so any given subject may be dispersed throughout several boxes within each series.

Series 1

Box 1

1. Correspondence, 1966-1969
2. Correspondence, 1970
3. Correspondence, 1971
4. Correspondence, 1972
5. Correspondence, 1973
6. Correspondence, 1974, 1 of 2
7. Correspondence, 1974, 2 of 2
8. Correspondence, 1975
9. Correspondence, 1976
10. Miscellaneous Correspondence
11. Letters of Recommendation, 1971-1972
12. Cards Received
13. Field Office Communications, 1969-1975
14. Communications Boycott Cities, 1971-1972
15. Larry Itliong Correspondence
16. Sid Valledor Correspondence
17. Philip Vera Cruz Writings and Speeches
18. Original Articles by Philip Vera Cruz
19. "Who is Responsible? Migrant and Seasonal Farm Worker Powerlessness," 1971
20. Two Guest Books, 1969-1973
21. Visitor Register, 1968-1969
22. Press Releases

Box 2

1. Philip Vera Cruz, Notes, 1 of 6
2. Philip Vera Cruz, Notes, 2 of 6
3. Philip Vera Cruz, Notes, 3 of 6
4. Philip Vera Cruz, Notes, 4 of 6
5. Philip Vera Cruz, Notes, 5 of 6
6. Philip Vera Cruz, Notes, 6 of 6

7. Philip Vera Cruz, Notes UFW Executive Board Meetings, 1967-1974, 1 of 2
8. Philip Vera Cruz, Notes UFW Executive Board Meetings, 1967-1974, 2 of 2

Series II

9. UFW
10. UFW Dues
11. UFW Memos
12. UFW Reports, 1 of 2
13. UFW Reports, 2 of 2
14. Kinds of Union Security
15. Reports to National Board and Related Matters
16. Board Meetings and Reports, 1 of 2
17. Board Meetings and Reports, 2 of 2
18. UFW Executive Committee
19. Memos, Correspondence, Executive Board, 1974
20. National Executive Board Minutes, 1973

Box 3

1. Executive Board Meeting, June 1974
2. Executive Board, Reports and Correspondence, 1974, 1 of 3
3. Executive Board, Reports and Correspondence, 1974, 2 of 3
4. Executive Board, Reports and Correspondence, 1974, 3 of 4
5. National Executive Board Meeting Minutes, 1974
6. National Executive Board Minutes and Other Matters, 1974
7. Organizing Committee Delano Conclave, 1971
8. First Political Endorsement Convention, 1976
9. UFW Instructions from Cesar Chavez, 1976
10. Organizational Reorganization, 1976
11. UFW Organizational Realignment, 1976
12. UFW, Negotiations, Contracts and Agreements, 1975
13. UFW, Teamsters and Growers Struggle
14. Baltimore UFWA Office, 1973-1974
15. Security Guard, 1974
16. EL Taller Grafico, 1974
17. Proposed Constitution for UFW 1st Constitutional Convention, 1973
18. UFW, 1st Constitutional Convention, 1973
19. Report of the 1st Constitutional Convention, 1973
20. UFW 2nd Constitutional Convention, Agenda, 1975
21. UFW 2nd Constitutional Convention, Proceedings, 1975
22. UFW 3rd Constitutional Convention, Resolutions, 1977
23. UFW 4th and 5th Constitutional Conventions, 1979, 1981
24. UFW 6th Constitutional Convention, 1983
25. UFW 7th Constitutional Convention, 1984
26. UFW 7th Constitutional Convention, Resolutions, 1984
27. AFL-CIO 10th Constitutional Convention, 1973
28. Agbayani Village

29. Agbayani Village Miscellaneous

Box 4

1. Agbayani Village and Willie Barientos
2. Agbayani Village Matters, 1978-1985
3. Agbayani Village Cards, 1 of 2
4. Agbayani Village Cards, 2 of 2
5. Agbayani Village, 1970-1974
6. Cooperativism, 1969-1970
7. Smithsonian 1972 Festival of American Folk Life
8. Teamsters, 1974-1975
9. Farm Workers Union Matters
10. Credit Union Matters, 1970-1971
11. Credit Union Material, 1970
12. Credit Union, 1974
13. Farm Workers Credit Union, Annual Meeting, 1977-1-30
14. National Farm Workers Service Center, 1968-1973
15. AWOC AFL-CIO Rosters, 1966
16. National Farm Workers Ministry, 1974
17. California Migrant Ministry, 1969
18. California Labor Federation, 9th Convention, 1972
19. Industrial Welfare Commission Portfolio for Wage Board Members, 1972-1973, Revision of 1968 Orders
20. Peace and Freedom Party, 1967
21. Consultation on World Council of Churches, 1969
22. Delano Clinic, 1973
23. World Confederation of Labor, 1970
24. National Farm Workers Service Center, 1970
25. Central Labor Council, 1974-1975
26. AFL-CIO, 1974-1975
27. Interfaith Committee to Aid Farm Workers, 1973-1974

Box 5

1. Itinerary, 1974
2. Hawaii Matters, 1973
3. Asia, 1975
4. Canada, 1974-1975
5. Strike Support and Opposition, 1969
6. Strikes, 1966-1973
7. Strikers to be Referred to Jobs, 1970
8. Catholic Bishops, 1973-1975
9. Political Opposition to Boycotts, 1972
10. Boycott Research Summaries
11. Lettuce Boycott, Dow Chemicals, 1970-1976
12. Sign-in Sheets, etc., 1975
13. Thriftmart Picket Line, May 1975

14. New Democratic Movement
15. Farm Worker Organizing, 1968
16. Boycott Cites, 1974
17. Boycott, ALRB, 1976
18. Weekly Boycott Reports, 1971
19. Boycott Strategy
20. Boycott Volunteers, 1972-1975
21. Observer Presence
22. Boycott Information, 1969-1971
23. Miscellaneous Boycotts
24. Delano Grape Boycott
25. Boycotts, 1970-1972
26. Boycotts, 1 of 4
27. Boycotts, 2 of 4
28. Boycotts, 3 of 4
29. Boycotts, 4 of 4
30. NLRB Campaign III, 1972

Series III

Box 6

1. Handouts, Flyers, etc,
2. Publications, 1 of 2
3. Publications, 2 of 2
4. Related Newsletters, 1 of 3
5. Related Newsletters, 2 of 3
6. Related Newsletters, 3 of 3
7. Articles on Cesar Chavez
8. *New Yorker* Articles on Cesar Chavez
9. Writing of Cesar Chavez, 1968-1974
10. Articles on UFW, 1973
11. California Migrant Ministry Newsletter, 1968-1970
12. AFL CIO News, 1969-1971
13. Filipino Publications
14. Farm Bureau News
15. Young Socialist, 1969
16. Revolutionary Literature, 1968
17. Third World and Radical Literature, 1973-1975
18. Labor Related Publications, 1968-1974, 1 of 2
19. Labor Related Publications, 1968-1974, 2 of 2
20. *Playboy* "Bringing us Together," 1969-1970
21. UFW Films, 1974
22. *El Malcriado* Annual Report, 1969
23. *El Malcriado*, UFW Newspaper Statistics, 1974
24. *El Malcriado*, 1969-1973
25. Newspaper Clippings, Undocumented Workers
26. Newspaper Clippings, 1967-1972

27. Newspaper Clippings, 1973-1975
28. Newspaper Clippings, 1976-1979
29. Memorials
30. Songs
31. Short Story by Polly Park, Sent to Willie Barientos, 1985
32. Agricultural Labor Relations Board
33. Agricultural Labor Relations Board Memos

Box 7

1. ALRB Miscellaneous Cases
2. Agricultural Labor Relations Board Cases, 1977, 1 of 3
3. Agricultural Labor Relations Board Cases, 1977, 2 of 3
4. Agricultural Labor Relations Board Cases, 1977, 3 of 3
5. Agricultural Labor Relations Board Cases, 1978
6. Bakke Decision Material, 1978
7. ALRB Elections, 1975
8. NLRB
9. Landrum-Griffin Act Re-Examination, 1967
10. Legal and Political Matters, 1967-1976, 1 of 2
11. Legal and Political Matters, 1967-1976, 2 of 2
12. Legislative Matters, 1974
13. Laws Relating to Agriculture
14. Miscellaneous Collective Bargaining Agreements
15. Collective Bargaining Agreements
16. Collective Bargaining Agreement and Explanation of CPD
17. Collective Bargaining Agreements, 1970
18. Negotiations, 1974-1976
19. Contracts, 1970-1973
20. Arbitration
21. Proposition 13, California, 1976
22. California Rural Legal Assistance
23. Agricultural Labor Relations Initiative
24. Research
25. *Occupational Experiences with Pesticides in California*, Irma West
26. Tenneco Report, Clyde Wilson, 1974
27. Farm Labor Problems and Statistics, 1971-1972

Box 8

1. Crop and Farm Statistics
2. Farm Worker Statistics
3. Statistics, 1973-1975
4. Farm Worker History
5. Produce Market Reports, 1974
6. Labor Unionism in American Agriculture, 1945
7. 14 Target Areas
8. Abbreviations

9. Reference Information UFW, 1975-1976
10. May Day History
11. Asian Americans and Census Figures, 1972-1973
12. Crops by Rank, by State, 1970
13. Organizing Areas
14. Labor Strike Strategy, Pros and Cons, 1971
15. Illegal Alien Farm Labor Activity, 1974
16. Pesticide Laboratory Reports
17. Material Relating to Filipino People
18. Mabuhay Planning Overall, 1970
19. Filipino Matters, 1972-1982
20. Filipino Farm Workers Proposal and Documentary, 1982
21. Asian Studies
22. "We Control the Insects" Script, 1977
23. Resources
24. Child Care Resources for Migrant Farm Workers in California, 1974
25. Communication Net, United Papermakers and Paper Workers
26. Laws Effecting Farm Workers and Their Families
27. "The Press and You," United Papermakers and Paper Workers
28. Membership Rights, 1974
29. UFW Health Group, 1974
30. Robert F Kennedy Farm Worker Medical Plan
31. RFK Medical Plan, 1971, 1972
32. RFK Medical Plan, 1974