

The Reverend Victor P, Salandini Collection

Papers, 1954 - 1973
(Predominantly 1969 - 1972)
3 Linear Feet

Accession #467
LC #

The papers of Father Victor P. Salandini were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs from 1971 to 1973.

Victor Salandini was born on August 12, 1927, in southern California. As a youth, he gained first-hand experience in farm labor not only by working on his parents' farm, but also by picking oranges on other farms during summer vacations from school. In 1952, he was ordained into the Roman Catholic priesthood and, since that time, his personal ministry has been devoted to the cause of the migrant, Mexican-American farm worker in America. He holds a doctoral degree in Economics, earned at Catholic University in 1969.

During the early 1960's, Father Salandini openly assisted the organizing efforts of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, while serving as a parish priest in El Centro, California. Because of the publicity engendered by his union-related activities, he was released from his parishional activities in 1965 and was encouraged to pursue his academic career,

While attending Catholic University in Washington, D.C., he served as the Legislative Representative for California farm workers, then organized under the National Farm Workers Association and, later, the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO. He continued in this post from September, 1965 to March, 1967.

Upon completion of his doctoral degree, Father Salandini returned to California and was appointed Research Director for the United Farm Workers. He remained in this post until September, 1969, and was then sent to Montreal, Quebec, to assist the grape boycott effort in

Canada, From Montreal, he was sent to New York City, again to assist in the mobilization of the grape boycott. He did not return to California until October, 1970,

At the time his papers were deposited in the Archives, Father Salandini was still living in California, was teaching Mexican-American Studies at San Diego State University, and was still actively involved in the farm worker movement. His papers reflect his work with the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, and its predecessors, as well as his dissertation research on Public Law 78 and the California farm labor situation in general.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO
Farm Workers Freedom Bell
Grape Boycott Activities in Montreal, Quebec, and New York City
Public Law 78 (The Bracero Program)

Correspondents include:

Steve Allen
Cesar Chavez
Bing Crosby

Father Salandini arranged and calendared much of his own material prior to placing it in the Archives. With the exception of a few title changes and the addition of dates in some places, his own order has been maintained. The series descriptions and file folder inventory which follow retain Father Salandini's original arrangement.

Series I
Chronological Files, 1965 - 1971
Box 1, Folders 1-7

Correspondence, clippings, leaflets and notes relating to Father Salandini's work for the farm worker movement in Washington, D.C., California, Montreal and New York City. Included are copies of articles written by Father Salandini depicting the plight of the farm worker. This series also contains materials relating to his doctoral studies and dissertation. Father Salandini's chronological arrangement of these materials has been maintained.

Box 1

1. 1965
2. 1966
3. 1967
4. 1969
5. 1969
6. 1970
7. 1971

Series II
Montreal Boycott Office, 1965 - 1970
Box 1, Folders 8-20

Correspondence, notes, clippings, leaflets and other materials relating to Father Salandini's assignment to Montreal to work on the intensification of the grape boycott effort in Canada. Of particular note are the materials directed to the city's various ethnic groups. These files cover the years from 1965 to 1970, but are predominantly concerned with the latter two years. Again, Father Salandini's original arrangement of the materials has been maintained.

Box 1

8. Notes, Clippings and Leaflets, 1965 - 1970
9. Correspondence with Bishop Maher and staff, 1969 - 1970
10. Italian Community, 1969 - 1970
11. Publicity on Grape Boycott in Montreal, 1968 - 1970
12. Montreal Clergy, 1968 - 1969
13. Correspondence with Canadian Bishops, 1969
14. Cesar Chavez's Talks, 1969
15. Toronto, 1969
16. Correspondence while in Montreal, February, 1970
17. Loyola University, 1969
18. Canada's Flag Flies in California's Grapefields, Canadian Region UAW, 1969
19. Leaflets and Clippings, 1969 - 1970
20. Research Notes and Correspondence: Boycott Mailings, 1968 - 1970

Series III
New York Boycott Office, 1968 - 1970
Box 2, Folders 1-12

Correspondence, notes, clippings, leaflets and other materials relating to Father Salandini's work on the boycott effort in New York City. Of particular interest are the materials he has collected regarding the Farm Workers Freedom Bell ("A Bell for Delano"), a symbol of the farmworkers' struggle, which was displayed in various cities across the country. The files in this series cover the years 1968 to 1970, with a predominant focus on 1970. Father Salandini's personal arrangement of these papers has been retained.

Box 2

1. Notes, Clippings and Leaflets, 1970
2. Farm Workers Freedom Bell, 1970
3. Gristede Brothers, 1969 - 1970
4. Correspondence while in New York, 1970
5. Notes and Leaflets, 1968 and 1970
6. Cartoons, Clippings and Miscellaneous, 1968 - 1970
7. Christ the King High School, 1970
8. Correspondence with the Archdiocese of New York, 1970
9. Daniel Lyons, S.J., 1969 - 1970
10. Queens, 1970
11. Diaries, 1970
12. Media, 1969 - 1970

Series IV
Material on Huelga, 1964 - 1973
Box 2, Folders 13-21 and Box 3, Folders 1-5

Notes, leaflets, clippings and correspondence related to Father Salandini's research and boycott activities regarding the farm worker movement. The materials in this series encompass the years 1964 to 1973, but the dominant focus is on the years from 1969 to 1970. Father Salandini's original arrangement has been maintained.

Box 2

13. Research on United Fruit and Tenneco, 1966 - 1970
14. Notes on Picking and Packing Systems, 1969
15. Notes and Bibliography on Piece Rate and Incentives, 1969
16. Leaflets and Other Materials from Boycott Cities, 1969 - 1970
17. Endorsements from Churches, 1966 - 1969
18. Cesar Chavez's Tour, 1969
19. Grapes to Viet Nam, 1969 - 1970
20. Twin Circle Articles and Other Things, 1969
21. Pesticides, 1964 and 1969 - 1970

Box 3

1. Boycott and Political Activity in Washington, D.C., 1968 - 1969
2. National Right-to-Work Committee, 1969 and 1972
3. Newsclippings: Boycott Central, 1969 - 1970
4. AFL-CIO News, 1966 - 1970
5. Safeway, 1969 and 1973

Series V

Personal Research Materials and Correspondence, 1954 - 1972
 Box 3, Folders 6-15 and Boxes 4-6

Correspondence, notes, clippings and other materials collected by Father Salandini. These files reflect his long-standing interest in farm workers, Catholic social action movements and the field of agricultural economics. Of special note is the work that Father Salandini did with the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO. These files span the years from 1954 to 1972, but most originated between 1968 and 1972. Father Salandini's original arrangement has been retained.

Box 3

6. Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, 1966 - 1969
7. Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, 1962 and 1965
8. Clippings, 1965
9. Clippings and Correspondence regarding Grape Strike, 1968
10. Clippings regarding Grape Strike, 1969
11. Clippings regarding Grape Strike, 1970
12. Contracts: UFWOC and Teamsters, 1970
13. Clippings regarding Grape and Lettuce Strikes, 1970
14. Correspondence, 1967
15. Correspondence, 1968

Box 4

1. Doctoral Research Correspondence, 1968 - 1969
2. Weinberg Seminar: Cornell University, 1971 - 1972
3. Chicano Manifesto (Armando Rendon), excerpts, undated
4. Articles on Grape Strike, 1966 - 1968
5. National Catholic Rural Life Conference and Social Action Conference, 1956 and 1965 - 1967
6. Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, 1964 - 1966
7. Escondido, California, Boycott: Clippings and Correspondence, 1970 - 1971
8. Camp Pendelton Affair, 1970 - 1971
9. Teaching Positions: Correspondence with Colleges and Universities, 1970

Box 4 (continued)

10. Steve Allen, 1970 - 1971
11. Benefit Show: El Centro, California, 1958 - 1961
12. Scrapbook, 1959 - 1960
13. Social Action: Short Story and Clippings, 1961 - 1971
- 14.-17. Sermons, 1954 - 1972
18. Catholic Action, 1958 - 1965
19. Congressional Record: Hearings on Green Card System, 1967

Box 5

1. Economics Classes: Notes, 1963 - 1964
2. Farm Labor Economics Class: Notes, 1971 - 1972
3. Farm Labor Legislation, 1963 - 1971
4. Californian Land Conservation Acts, 1965, 1970 and 1972
5. United Farm Workers and Farm Labor, 1966 - 1972
6. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, 1966
7. Corporate Farming, 1972
8. Clippings and Leaflets regarding Grape Strike, 1967 - 1970
9. DiGiorgio Boycott, 1966
10. Clippings regarding Grape Boycott, 1968
11. Clippings regarding Grape Boycott, 1969
- 12.-16. Clippings and Leaflets for Farm Labor Economics Class, 1966 - 1972
- 17.-18. Public Law 78: Dissertation Research Materials, 1958 - 1972
19. Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan and Rodrigo Terronez Memorial Clinic, 1969 - 1971

Box 6

- 1.-4. Clippings regarding Farm Labor, 1972
5. Correspondence, 1968 - 1970
6. Harry Bernstein: Articles from The Los Angeles Times, 1965 - 1966
7. Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1957
8. Biographical Materials, 1965 - 1973