

UFW California Boycott Records

7 linear feet (7 SB)

1965-1980, bulk 1967-1976

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

Finding aid written by Kathy Schmeling on April 3, 2014.

Accession Number: LR002502

Creator: United Farm Workers Union

Acquisition: The records were deposited by several California boycott cities to the Walter P. Reuther Library from 1970 to 1980.

Language: Material in English and Spanish.

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 that might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.**

Notes: Citation style: “UFW California Boycott Records, Box [#], Folder [#], Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University”

Related Material: Office of the President: Cesar Chavez Records; Boycott Central Records; UFW Arizona State Records.

Abstract

The primary mission of the UFW California boycott offices was to alert the nation that farm laborers were looking for civil rights, as well as fairer wages. Cesar Chavez, president of the United Farm Workers Union believed that a non-violent boycott of grapes and lettuce would convey the message. The two main city offices were situated in Los Angeles and San Francisco, with other offices located throughout the state of California. These offices were primarily concerned with organizing letter-writing campaigns to growers, distributors (with special attention given to Safeway stores), and public officials. In addition, boycott organizers coordinated picketing campaigns against local stores for selling boycotted grapes and lettuce, and solicited support from local religious organizations, universities and labor unions.

The records of the California boycott offices mainly consist of coordinators' files, leaflets, grape and lettuce reports, legal actions against pesticide usage, and correspondence from boycott support organizations. Also, files documenting the UFW's attempt to defeat a California farm labor initiative, Proposition 22 (Agricultural Labor Relations Act), are also prevalent throughout the collection.

Important Subjects:

Agricultural laborers—California
Agricultural laborers—Labor unions—California
Agricultural laborers—Political activity--California--History--20th century
Boycotts—California
Pesticides—California
Pesticides—Public opinion—United States
Pesticides—Health aspects—California
“No on Proposition 22” ballot initiative (Agricultural Labor Relations Act)
Strikes and lockouts—Agricultural laborers—California

Important Names:

Bricca, Kit
Chavez, Cesar, 1927-1993
Hall, Laurence
Padilla, Gil
Serda, Joe
Watson, Don

Arrangement

Note: Folders are listed by their location within each box. They are not necessarily arranged, so any given subject may be dispersed throughout the entire collection.

Box 1 **Los Angeles Office files:**

- 1-2. Boycott information from Delano; letters from Cesar Chavez, Jerry Cohen and Juanita Brown
3. Boycott leaflets – counter-boycott, 1968-1970
4. Correspondence; accounting, 1970
5. Correspondence; accounting-defense fund, 1969-1970
6. Correspondence; Delano, 1970
7. Correspondence; *El Malcriado*, 1968-1970
8. Correspondence; Hollywood Support Committee, Leslie Parrish
- 9-13. Correspondence-general, 1968-1970
14. Donation reports, 1969-1970
15. Fact sheets; agricultural studies
16. Financial reports, 1969-1970
- 17-19. Boycott support literature, 1968-1970
20. Boycott support literature, letters to Giumarra (grape grower), 1968; Chicago, 1968
21. Grape information, variety and price
22. Grape reports, weekly and monthly
23. Supporters' lists
24. Los Angeles Boycott Campaign; plan of action, 1970
25. Newsletters-Boycott
26. News media contacts, press releases
27. Pesticides; case histories and studies
28. Joe Serda; proposals, minutes, memos re. Mexican American organizations
- 29-30. Staff and coordinators' meetings minutes, 1968-1970
31. Stores not carrying California grapes, 1969-1970
32. Stores picketed with information on incidents
33. Thank you letters and notices, 1969-1970
34. Unions; IUE
35. Weekly activity reports, 1969
- 36-37. Newspaper and magazine articles, 1968-1969
38. Arbitration proceedings with DiGiorgio Corp., 27 Feb 1967

Box 2 **Proposition 22 files, 1972:**

1. Alan Blanchard & Assoc., correspondence on Agricultural Labor Relations Initiative, 1972
2. Anti-Proposition 22 materials
3. Arizona campaign
4. Attorneys
5. Analysis of Statewide Propositions on the Nov 7th ballot
6. Bugliosi, Vincent

7. Busch, Joe-District Attorney
8. Californians for State Pay Control Amendment
9. California Highway Patrol Initiative; Proposition 16, informational flyer
10. Car maintenance
11. Chavez, Cesar; biography
12. Chavez campaign schedule
13. Chicano labor caucus
14. Churches: Catholic
15. Synagogues; Board of Rabbis of Southern California
16. Churches: Protestant
17. Cohen & Associates; administration file
18. Committee against Proposition 22
- 19-20. Correspondence; general
21. County Registrars of Voters
22. Cranston, Alan
23. Democratic Party
24. Election returns
25. Endorsements
26. Field offices-contracts and field office staff lists
- 27-28. Financial reporting; UFW and growers
- 29-33. Fraud; correspondence, statements, news clippings
34. Fundraising
35. Senator Harmer; A.B. 1498
36. Initiative conference with boycott and field office staff, Aug 5-6
37. Proposition 22 leaflets
38. Legislative council, ALR Initiative analysis
39. *Los Angeles Times*, correspondence re copyright
40. No on Prop. 22; button/pins orders
41. George McGovern campaign
42. Media campaign; No on Prop. 22
43. Coretta Scott King supports campaign
44. Hollywood celebrity support
- 45-49. News clippings; church, student, minority, union pubs
50. Politicians; endorsements
51. Political organizations
52. Press list
- 53-54. Pro-initiative; growers

Box 3

1. Proposition 22 poll
2. *Pueblo Campesino* (Tent City)
3. Secretary of State; official ballot arguments/rebuttals/financial reports
4. UFW Support Committee: *Las Hermanas*, newsletters, correspondence
5. Students and schools
6. California Teamsters Legislative Council
7. Television coverage

8. Unemployment insurance
- 9-10. Union endorsements and statements of policy
11. Volunteer applicants
12. Voter registration; correspondence, accounting
13. Voter registration; statistics, statewide registration
- 14-15. Voter Registration Drive; California counties
- 16-18. No on Proposition 22, informational materials
19. L.A. Boycott; correspondence, 1971-1972
20. Child labor, articles, clippings
21. Anti-union literature
22. Pesticides, articles, 1971-1972
23. Letters to La Paz
24. Letters to and from Delano, 1971
25. Free Marketing Council
26. Information to mail out
27. Fundraising
28. Pickets; Ralphs store, with photo, 1971
29. Political; statements, Senate bills, 1971
30. Restaurants; lettuce reports
31. Westgate-California Corp., 1971
32. San Diego; reports and clippings
33. Safeway, 1971
34. Farm Bureau, 1971-1972
35. Lettuce boycott; reports, notes, 1970-1971
36. Leaflets, 1970-1971

Box 4

1. Support committees; general files, 1976-1977
 2. Support committees; England, 1976
 3. Los Angeles office, correspondence, 1978
 4. Support committees; Sweden, 1976-1977
 5. Support committees; Norway, 1976-1977
 6. Support committees; The Netherlands, (photo), 1976
 7. Support committees; Europe, general files, 1976
 8. Support committees; Denmark, 1976
 9. Support committees; Switzerland, 1976
 10. Support committees; Brazil, 1976
 11. Support committees; Canada-Vancouver
 12. Support committees; Germany, 1976-1977
 13. Support committees; Hong Kong and Puerto Rico, 1976
- San Francisco Office Files:**
14. San Francisco files; flyers, meeting minutes, 1971-1972
 15. Proposition 22 materials, 1972
 16. Boycott updates and reports, 1971
 17. Union support
 18. NLRB campaign, 1972

19. Joint Strategy and Action Committee, Inc., newsletter, 1972
20. National Farm Worker Ministry, correspondence, 1971-1972
21. National Coalition for Land Reform, 1972
22. Religious support, 1972
23. Boycott Central; reports, updates, 1972
24. Publications, resolutions (Senate Bill), 1972
25. Boycott opposition, 1972
26. Songs, poems and program agendas, 1970s
27. Boycott reports and political materials, 1971-1972
28. Clippings, 1971-1972
- 29-30. Other boycott cities; newsletters, 1971-1972
31. Boycott notes and reports, 1972
- 32-39. Coordinators' notes, minutes, agendas

Box 5 San Francisco Office Files:

1. San Francisco newsletters and boycott information, 1972
- 2-3. Boycott cities; newsletters and informational materials, 1971-1972
- 4-6. Meeting Notes and reports, 1971-1972
- 7-17. Coordinator's weekly notes, minutes and correspondence, 1972
18. Lettuce Boycott materials: bumper sticker, Directory of the Liberated Church, 1970-71, benefit poster, flyers
19. Boycott newsletters and farm worker food caravan
20. Pesticides articles and reports, 1966-1970
21. Grape boycott; resolutions, support correspondence, reports, 1968-1970
22. Cesar Chavez letter to E. L. Barr (California Grape and Tree Fruit League), Apr 1969
23. *El Mosquito Zumbador*, newsletter, Jun-Jul 1966
24. Grape boycott; clippings, leaflets, union support correspondence, 1968-1970
25. Jesse de la Cruz; handwritten testimony, Christian Brothers vineyard farm worker
26. Grape boycott; Gallo and other wineries, flyers, reports, 1968-1973
27. Lemon strike—Arizona; articles, 1974
28. Art of Boycotting; Don Watson's file, 1969
29. Grape and Lettuce boycotts; Chavez's open letter to Quentin Reynolds—Safeway Stores on pesticides (DDT), flyers, reports, articles, 1969-1977
30. Citizens for Farm Labor, Jun 1966
31. The Western Conference of Teamsters: A Long History of Union-Busting Collusion, report, n.d.
32. Boycott mailings, 1972
33. Office notes and financial reports, 1976
34. ILWU Locals 10 & 34 Farm Worker Support Committee Meeting, Jun 16 1973
35. Boycott reports, correspondence, notes of Laurence Hall, 1971-1973

Box 6

1. Boycott reports, correspondence, notes of Laurence Hall, 1971-1973
2. Boycott office closings; San Francisco and Los Angeles, 1978

3. Chain stores, San Diego and Los Angeles, 1975-1976
4. Los Angeles boycott office, correspondence, reports, 1976-1977
- 5-6. Safeway boycott, leaflets, reports, 1971-1973
7. Price freeze reports, 1973
8. Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs: Consumers Fraud Task Force, statements, correspondence, 1973
9. Pesticide-Monitor 4 on lettuce crop; declarations, 1973
10. Safeway stores-Alameda County; declarations, Laurence Hall and others—fraudulent activities
11. Interfaith Committee to Aid Farm Workers; Safeway Stores mislabeling, 1973
12. Safeway Stores; Bruce Robinson declarations, 1973
13. Safeway Stores; Laurence Hall reports, 1973
14. Safeway Stores; legal research, 1973
15. Safeway Stores; pricing (photo), May 1973
16. Safeway Stores; complaints on meat pricing, correspondence, 1973
17. Interfaith Committee to Aid Farm Workers; pesticide on lettuce, press releases, court documents, 1973
18. Interfaith Committee to Aid Farm Workers; class action suit, 1973
19. Interfaith Committee to Aid Farm Workers Consumers Task Force, press releases, correspondence, court docs., 1973
- Boycott Coordinator's Research Files:**
20. County crop reports, studies, publications 1973
21. Coachella strike, clippings and reports, 1973
22. Coachella strike, declarations and notes, 1973-1974
23. Song lyrics and poetry; (some materials sent to *El Malcriado* editor, Glen Percy), 1973-1974
24. Coachella ranches, list, 1973-1974
25. San Diego organizing reports, 1976
26. Boycott; Religious support—San Diego, 1976
27. *Agricultural Situation: A Crop Reporter's Magazine*, 1977-1978
- 28-29. California agriculture research publications, 1969-1976
30. Agricultural prices; research publications, 1977-1978

Box 7

1. Safeway Stores; boycott, articles, annual report, reports, 1971-72
2. Agribusiness accountability report, 1971
3. Lettuce boycott; flyers, news releases, 1970-1973
4. Interfaith Committee to Aid Farm Workers, Safeway fraud case, 1973
5. California Senate Commerce Committee; statements by Consumers Task Force, 1973
6. Agri-Science Labs; Hobart calibration curve, 1973
7. Inspection reports, 1973
8. Health codes; entrance barriers
9. Safeway Stores; tomatoes, 1973
10. Safeway Stores; press releases, 1973
11. Consumer investigation data, 1973

12. San Francisco press, mailing lists
13. Safeway Stores; clippings, 1972-73
14. Safeway Stores; ground beef reports,
- 15-16. Interfaith Committee to Aid Farm Workers, court documents, 1973
17. Gakas and Porcelli vs Safeway Stores, 1972
18. Larry Hall – price availability survey and reports, 1973
19. Letters of protest to Teamster president, 1973
20. U.S.D.A. – beef and poultry marketing reports and booklets
21. Safeway Stores; staff directory
22. Inspection reports – meat, 1972
23. Warrant action, 1974
24. Safeway Stores – proxy battle, conflict of interest, 1973
25. Larry Hall – false arrest, statement, clippings, notes, 1973
26. Larry Hall – field work expenses
27. Larry Hall – ground beef and lamb reports, 1973
- 28-30. Safeway Stores – meat price gouging,
31. Coachella strike – illegals, interviews, 1973
32. Oxnard/Coachella strikes, interviews, 1973
33. “Spanish for Urban Workers,” Flynn and Montoto