

December 6, 1979

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TO: All UFW Boycott Cities Staff

FROM: The UFW Staff and Strikers in the Imperial Valley

First of all, saludos to all of you from all of us!

We are enclosing letters from the different strike companies here in the Imperial Valley signed by alot of folks who have been actively on strike now for 46 weeks. Some letters from you all to the strikers would also be a good idea.

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As you probably know, Willie Moreno and the Calexico City Council did what probably no other rural city council would have done - they voted to rent us the "famoso Hoyo". Richard Chavez, Max Avalos and a couple of brothers from the construction training program came down and did a great job of reconditioning the office. We held the official inauguration of our new offices on Nov. 17th and moved in a few days later. We are enclosing some photos of the event:

Photo #1 - The day began with the march leaving "El Hoyo" & covering the main sections of Calexico. The local press credited us with 2,000 so you know there must have been more!

Photo #2 - When the march returned to "El Hoyo", the first people to enter the grounds were the Banda de Guerra de la Secundaria Carrillo from Mexicali and our special guests. Rufino's father - Don Lorenzo Contreras - raised a Union flag specially made by the strikers for the first time on the flagpole. The flag now flys daily.

Photo #3 - This is during the Mass, which was celebrated by our good friend, Father Luis Olivares. In the front row are Don Lorenzo Contreras and Rufino's widow, Rosa Maximina.

Photo #4 - The platform with our "double whammy" banners.

November 17th is a day we won't forget for a long time.

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STEVE MATCHETT, our Watsonville Service Center person turned #1 Para-Legal in the Salinas and then Imperial Valley strikes, was hospitalized in Calexico on Nov. 20th with a collapsed lung. Today Steve was transferred to UCSD Hospital in San Diego. We're sure he would appreciate hearing from you. Send your letters here and we will get them to him.

SIN MAS, QUE VIVA LA HUELGA! Y QUE VIVA EL BOICOTEO!