

tributor, and I am led to believe that the distributor got off the dime when the national office said he better do it, or else.

Cesar, do you place any significance in the fact that this is Cinco de Mayo?

Mr. CHAVEZ. Well, there is some significance for those of us who are of Mexican extraction. Another battle was won many years ago for Mexico on this date.

Mr. BURTON. Will you just tell the committee in a sentence or two?

Mr. CHAVEZ. Yes.

The Mexican forces defeated the French forces who were trying to invade Mexico on May 5, 1865, I believe.

Mr. BURTON. I thought it most symbolic and in the tradition of the great understanding of our subcommittee chairman that he would have you and your organization appear to testify here on Cinco de Mayo. Perhaps it augurs well for the future of this legislation.

Mr. THOMPSON. Thank you, Mr. Burton.

With respect to your relations with other unions, the president of the AFL-CIO, Mr. Meany, gave very strong and very splendid testimony here on your behalf the other day and said that they sent you considerable assistance.

It is my understanding also that the United Auto Workers have cooperated with you to the fullest possible extent, including giving you financial support and otherwise. Is that correct?

Mr. CHAVEZ. That is correct; yes.

Mr. THOMPSON. So, actually your difficulty has been this competition in your organizational activities with the Teamsters?

Mr. CHAVEZ. That is where we have had most of our difficulty and that is where I don't see any way out of this unless we gave up and we stop organizing farmworkers or until such time as we have the protection of the National Labor Relations Act.

Mr. THOMPSON. I think now, Mr. Chavez, that we could hear from your next witness. Realizing that you have to leave, when that time approaches, please feel free to leave.

Mr. O'HARA. Mr. Chairman.

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. O'Hara.

Mr. O'HARA. Mr. Chavez, and compatriots, I wish to apologize to you because I have to leave. I have to leave before Mr. Chavez. I have to catch a plane out to Michigan where we are having an annual spring rite on the 5th of May. In Japan, it is Boys' Day; in Mexico, it is Cinco de Mayo; in Michigan, it is Jefferson-Jackson Day. I will have to leave, but I want to say that I will carefully read the testimony of your compatriots as soon as I get back. I am sorry I do have to leave. I think it would be very interesting to stay.

Mr. CHAVEZ. We want to thank you very much, Congressman.

The next witness is Brother Serda, who is the committee chairman for the union in the Sierra Vista Ranch in Delano which is also owned by the DiGiorgio Corp. He was a worker inside the farm while our union was trying to organize and was being kept from going inside to talk to the workers during the whole strike period.

He wants to tell the story of what was taking place inside that would most dramatically point out the need of such legislation to prevent such things from occurring again.