

Box 34: Tape 196-Spanish Translation
Cesar Chavez meeting with J.M. "Pancho" Botello

Cesar: (Speaks a few audible syllables)

Pancho: There at the entrance.

Cesar: Who were the three?

Pancho: Me and one of the irrigator that has more than ten years working (at the company).

C: Give me the names: Pancho Botello and who else?

P: Camacho and the other one I can't remember right now. Malachi is the other one's name. And Camacho was the one with the flag and I was at the entrance.

C: At what ranch?

P: In Castle Farm

C: At what entrance...at what location?

P: On Fallon Road.

C: Fallon Road?

P: Yes.

C: In Hollister?

P: Yes.

P: Then they came. They came already prepared. They had three tractors, the scabs. They had the chains, and the clubs inside, Mexicans and whites and the guards paid by the rancher. The guards, right, had a machine marking a path.

Then I stopped and asked, "What are you doing? Are you marking the path to throw nails and then later blame us?"

And he said, "Daz' right. That's why I do it!"

Well, I didn't pay any mind to him because the tractors were coming and I wanted to talk with a scab that had worked for Almaden, one Rodriguez. Then, Aseo, he *did* stop; and then I told him to, well, to cooperate.

"They said that you were going to cooperate with us."

And he said, "What son of a mother fucker is going to make us cooperate."

"No," I told him, "it's voluntary."

Then he said, "You know what?" "You better get lost from here because if you don't, I'm going to make sure of it!"

Then I told him; I said to him, "Okay, well alright!" "If you can take me out of here, well, go for it."

And then he got off the tractor, he and another one, at once with a club in his hand. And then the ones from the other tractor got off all at once, also; and the ones from the pickup and all the guards and all. The end result is that Camacho, the one they took to jail, they clubbed him on the head and then they dragged inside (into the field) to finish beating him.

C: And they took Camacho to jail?

P: (No audible response-might have shaken his head?) And then, I told the cops that instead of taking him to jail to take him to the hospital and, no. And then they even put handcuffs on him and everything except that by then all the people were already there. And then we told them to take them off and if not we were going to take them off; and to take him to the hospital and not the can (jail).

And then I was able to observe that all the highway patrol, there were five following me, three highway patrol and two scabs; (and all the while they were throwing lots of rocks at me from all the company pickups); well, everything was already planned. One was walking around with one of those "film" cameras-filming. And then, it wasn't until the people came, all the scabs went in (into the fields) and they no longer came out. And it was then that the cops came, too; and I told them then (the strikers) to all return to where they were before. And then the cops arrived. Instead of taking Camacho (to the hospital), they threw him to the ground and took him to the can. They say he had a knife, but that is not true because Camacho has ten years working for that company and he is a man who will not even speak one swearword to you

C: And what happened to those that were beaten? With...uh...those from the company?

P: Well, nothing.

C: They didn't take them to the can?

P: All of them. We told them to take them. But just now that I went back, they say they were all released; and that I am the one that they want to arrest.

C: They didn't take any of them to the can?

P: Yes, they took them to give the impression they were being arrested.

C: Yes, that is why I am asking.

P: Yes.

C: Uh, we have to write down everything how it happened.

C: What did all of you do to provoke it?

P: Nothing.

C: Nothing, nothing?

P: Nothing, nothing.

C: What do you mean, nothing, nothing?

P: Only three of us were there.

C: I know, but you didn't do anything?

P: Nothing.

C: How are the...who...did you...and how are the others...is the other one?

P: Three of ours went to the hospital.

C: How many were beaten?

P: Oh, well, they beat a whole bunch; even me, too. That is why I said that they came prepared. But from Aseo's only one.

C: But, tell me, how many were beaten? Didn't you ask? How many were beaten?

P: At the very least five or six.

C: Didn't you get the names of everybody?

P: I didn't have a chance.

(Pause)

P: But, they are five.

C: Five were beaten?

(Pause)

C: How many were there in the picket line when the accident...the incident happened?

P: All the picket line was four miles back.

C: No, how many were there in...in?

P: Only three.

C: And then how did they beat five?

P: Huh?

C: And then how did it happen that...?

P: Oh, well. It's that they came when the others arrived when they first began helping us; and they didn't have anything and entered the fray. And then, it was over.

P: We didn't take out anything. Well, from where? We never carry anything.

C: Then how is it that they took Camacho to jail if he didn't do anything?

P: Well, they took him in a patrol car.

C: Yes, but how is it that if he didn't do anything they took him to jail?

P: Well, the cops you know.

C: Yeah!

C: We need to investigate it, huh? Because it's very, ah, it's very, ah... The scabs must be very bad. If they didn't do anything, and they beat all of you for not doing anything; and then they took Camacho to jail...it's a little...the whole picture is quite a bitch.

P: You can't imagine how things are over there. This man that Sanger trampled the day before yesterday, he ran over him with his pickup; he went into the ranch and about half an hour later the CHP showed up.

C: But you didn't do...? You aren't doing anything to the scab? You aren't throwing rocks or anything?

P: Nothing. I'm telling you that we were there "like neutral" and there were about fifteen with all the highway patrol and all. Who would we be throwing at- three guys?

C: (Speaks to someone else in the room.) How is that?

Person: Fine.

P: Well, I tell you. There was one there marking the path with one from the highway patrol, and with the cameras and all,; and then still, when the commotion was over, one of the scabs threw a big rock at one of the highway patrol to break his window.

C: The one and the same scab was hitting his friend?

P: Yes.

C: Do you think they will believe that one from you?

P: Huh? No way!

C: (Speaks out loud in English.) The other side...

C: I know what is happening. If you do anything to those (scabs), they are all going to come back against you.

P: Yeah, and what do we do-just three guys?

Box 34: Tape 196-English Transcription
Cesar Chavez Meeting With J.M. "Pancho" Botello

Cesar: (Speaks a few audible syllables/habla unas cuantas sílabas audibles)

Pancho Botello: Allí en la entrada

Cesar: ¿Qien eran los tres?

Pancho Botello: Yo y unos de los regadores que tiene más de diez años trabajando.

C: Dame los nombres: ¿Pancho Botello y quien más?

P: Camacho, y el otro no me acuerdo ahorita. Malakai se me hace es el otro nombre de él. Y este Camacho estaba con la bandera y yo estaba en la entrada.

C: ¿En que rancho?

P: En Castle Farm

C: ¿En que entrada...en que dirección?

P: En la Fallen Road.

C: ¿La Fallen Road?

P: Yes. (Spoken in English/en inglés)

C: ¿En Hollister?

P: Yes. (Spoken in English/en inglés)

P: So' entonces vienron. Venian ya preparados. Tenien tres tractores, los escriroles. Tenian las cadenas y los palos.adentro, mejicanos, y gabachos y los guardias pagados por el rancho. Los guardias, ¿no?, cuando pasé yo, andaba con una maquina señalando el camino.

Entonces me paré y dije, "¿Que andas haciendo?" "¿Andas marcando el camino para hechar clavos y despues hecharnos la culpa a nosotros?"

Y dijo, "Daz' right. That's why I do it!"

Pues no le hice cazo porque los tractores venian y queria hablar con un esquirol que habia trabajado con Almaden, este Rodriguez. Y entonces, Aseo si se paró, y entonces le dije que pues que coperara. "Dijeron que ibas a coperarar con nosostros."

Y me díjo, "¿Quien hijo de tu chingada madre nos va hacer que compere?"

"No, le díje, "es voluntad."

Entonces díjo, "¿Sabes que?" "Mas vale que te borres de aquí porque si no te voy a borrar."

Entonces le díje yo,yo le dije, "No, pos' bueno". Si puedes quitarme de aquí, pues entrale."

Y entonces se bajó del tractor, él y el otro luego, luego, con el garrote en la mano. Y luego los del otro tractor se bajaron luego, luego, también; y los del pickup y todos los *guards* y todo.. Total que a Camacho, el que se llevaron a la cárcel, le pusieron un garrotazo en la cabeza y luego lo arrastraron para adentro para acabarlo de golpear.

C: ¿Y se lo llevaron a la cárcel a Camacho?

P: (Not a verbal response; perhaps shakes his head) Y entonces le dije yo al chota que en lugar de llevarse a la cárcel que se lo llevara al hospital, y no. Y entonces le pusieron hasta las esposas y todo nomás que ya para esos entonces ya estaba toda la gente, Y todos les dijimos que se las quitara y que si no nosotros se las íbamos a quitar. Y que se lo lleven al hospital y no al bote. Y entonces yo nomás lo alcancé a mirar que todo los Highway Patrol, (andaban como cinco siegiendome a mi, tres highway patrol y dos esquiroles, y en todo me tiraban muchas pedradas y por todas las pickups de la compañía), pues, ya todo estaba planeado. Uno andaba con una cámara de esas “film”, sacando. Y entonces pues ya no era pa’ cuando llegó la gente toda, se metieron todos los esquiroles pa’ dentro toda y ya no salieron; y en eso llegó la chota también, y luego ya les dije yo que se pusieran todos pa’ tras. Y entonces llegó la chota. En lugar de llevar a Camacho (al hospital) lo aventaron al suelo y se lo llevaron al bote. Y dijo que traía una navaja pero eso no es cierto porque Camacho tiene diez años trabajando en esa compañía y es un hombre que una mala palabra no te la dice.

C: ¿Y que pasó con los que golpearon? ¿Con, ...ah,... los de la compañía?

P: Pos’ nada.

C: ¿No se los llevaron al bote?

P: Todos. Les dejimos que se los llevaran. Pero ahorita que me vine para atrás, dicen que ya andaban afuera todos; y que a mi era al quien querían arrestar.

C: ¿No se los llevaron al bote a ninguno de ellos?

P: Si, se los llevaron para hacerlo similar.

C: Si, por eso lo estoy preguntando.

P: Si.

C: Ah, tenemos que agarrar todo como paso.

C: ¿Ustedes que hicieron para provocarlo?

P: Nada.

C: Nada, nada

P: Nada, nada.

C: ¿Como que nada, nada?

P: Nada. Nomás tres estábamos allí.

C: Yo se, pero no hicieron nada?

P: Nada

(Pause)

C: ¿Y como estan los...quien...hacen ustedes... ¿Y como estan los otros; el otro?

P: Tres fueron al hospital de los de nosotros.

C: ¿Cuantos golpearon?

P: Uh, pues golpearon a una bola. Hasta mi tambien. Por eso dije que ya venien preparados. Pero de Aseo nomas uno.

C: ¿Pero cuantos golpearon, dime, no preguntaste? ¿No preguntaste cuantos golpearon?

P: Por lo menos unos cinco o seis.

C: ¿No agaraste los nombres de todos?

P.: Ni chansa tuve.

(Pause)

P: Pero, son cinco.

C. ¿A cinco golpearon?

(Pause)

C. ¿Cuantos estaban allí en el picket line cuando pasó el accidente...el incidente?

P: Toda la piqet line estaba unas cuatro millas pa' tras.

C: ¿No, cuantos estaban allí en, en....?

P Nomas tres

C: ¿Y como golpearon a cinco?

P: ¿Eh?

C: ¿Y como estuvo que ...?

P: O, pues. Es que llegaron cuando llegaron los demás de que primero comenzaron ayudarnos y no traian nada y agarrotazos. Y se acabó.

P: Nosotros no sacamos nada. ¿Pues de donde? Nunca cargamos nada.

C: ¿Y como está que se llevaron a Camacho a la carcel si no hizo nada?

P: Pues, se lo llevaron en el carro de la patrulla.

C: ¿Sí, pero como esta si no hizo nada, como esta que so lo llevaron al bote?

P: Pues, la chota!

C: Yeah!

C: A que investigar eso, ¿eh? Porque esta muy, ah, esta muy, ah.. Han de ser muy malos los esquirols. Si no hicieron nada, y los agarraron a fregazos por no serles nada; y luego se llevaron al bote a Camacho...esta poco,... esta poco cabrón el retrato.

P: No se imagina la cosa como esta allí. Este hombre que atropėjo él Sanger antier, lo atropėjo con el pickup, se metio pa' dentro del ranch y como a la media hora vino el CHP.

C: Pero no hicieron...¿Ustedes no les están haciendo nada al esquirol? ¿No les estan tirando con pedradas ni nada?

P: Nada. No le digo que nomas estabmos como neutral y ellos eran como quince con todos los highway patrol y todos. ¿A que le tirabamos tres guys (hombres)?

C: (Speaks to somebody else/habla con otra persona.) ¿Como es eso?

Persona: Bien

P: Pero te digo que allí andaba uno marcando el camino con uno del highway patrol y con las camaras y todo; y todavia allí, cuando ya pasó todo el relajo, uno de los esquirols tiro una pedradota a uno de los del highway patrol para quebrarle el vidrio.

C: ¿El mismo esquirol le estaba pegando a su amigo?

P: Si.

C: Tu piensas que te la crean esa?

P: ¿Eh? Nombre.

C: (Speaks in English/habla en inglés en voz alta) The other side.

C: Yo se lo que esta pasando. Si tu le haces algo a aquellos, te van hechar pa' tras encima.

P: Yeah, yo se. ¿Y a que le tirabamos, tres guys?