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## State police arrest UFW demonstrators in El Centro

By JOHN NUNES

Staff writer

The California State Police arrested 28 United Farm Worker demonstrators in El Centro Tuesday as the group was protesting Agricultural Labor Relations Board actions.

Hinting at more trouble today, Marshall Ganz, a national UFW director, said, "We anticipate more arrests."

A temporary restraining order obtained Tuesday night by the ALRB limits UFW access to the ALRB office.

Ganz was among those arrested at the office, 582 State St., in what state and union sources said was the first police action taken by the Brown Administration.

Six California State Police were aided by 30 riot-equipped local law officers, including El Centro police, sheriff's deputies and the California Highway Patrol.

During the arrests, which occurred between 5 and 6 p.m., the officers cordoned off the 500 block of State Street. Those arrested were booked on suspicion of unlawful assembly, trespassing and failure to disperse.

All were released on their own recognizance from county jail by midnight. Ganz said he was the last to be released.

The UFW is protesting a farm labor election set for Thursday by the ALRB for about 200 employees of Royal Packing.





**MASS ARREST** — A Sheriff's deputy (top) handcuffs Marshall Ganz, a top United Farm Workers official, after a California state police officer (bottom) struggles with another UFW demonstrator during a mass arrest Tuesday at the state Agricultural Labor

Relations Board office in El Centro. Twenty-eight of the estimated 75 UFW protestors were arrested. Thirty-five lawmen took part in the action. It was reportedly the first police action by the Brown Administration.  
(Staff photos by John Nunes)

Although UFW is on the ballot, the union is trying to prevent the election from being held because it believes the grower firm has conspired with employees to defeat the UFW.

An employees' group petitioned for the election. The ALRB, after investigating the group and deciding it was legitimate, scheduled the election.

"The ALRB investigation was a farce," Ganz charged. "Royal Packing has a long history of effective intimidation of its employees."

The UFW leader said the Royal Packing election was the original issue for staging protests at the ALRB Monday and Tuesday, but "now Delizonna is the issue. He's responsible for the police tactics."

Harry Delizonna is the ALRB's General Counsel.

Fred Lopez, director of the El Centro ALRB, said this morning he asked that Delizonna bring in the state police.

"My people couldn't work," Lopez explained. He said UFW demonstrators were throughout the office for a few hours Monday afternoon and "all day Tuesday."

The demonstrators also prevented ALRB personnel from typing, running off ballots in preparation for the election and they caused a mix up of paperwork, according to Lopez.

State police said the demonstrators were given the choice of being arrested or leaving. "We told them they could go out that door," an officer said, pointing to a door leading to the outside, "or they could go in here." He pointed to an interoffice area.

At 4:30 p.m., Sheriff's Lt. Mike Singh

shouted, "Okay, let's arrest them!"

Lawmen swarmed across State Street into the ALRB office. Minutes later, they had demonstrators lined up single file inside the office.

One by one, the union supporters were brought outside, searched, handcuffed and placed into waiting squad cars.

Only one man struggled after being cuffed, but he was quickly calmed and taken away.

Today, the UFW plans to "invite arrest" by again demonstrating at the ALRB office. Cesar Chavez spokesmen announced.

State police have set up a command post inside the state office to enforce a temporary restraining order obtained by the ALRB late Tuesday night from Superior Court Judge George Kirk.

The UFW plans to challenge the court order, which says no more than 10 farm workers affiliated with the UFW can be

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## UFW pledges more trouble after 28 protestors arrested in E.C.

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in the ALRB office at one time.

An ALRB source said this morning that "attorneys throughout the ALRB are outraged" with Delizonna because of how the restraining order was obtained.

"The defendant, UFW, was only given 20 minutes notice" of the court hearing, the source said. "Normally, defendants are given 24 hours notice. This is unconstitutional."

The ALRB source also charged that the restraining order must have been prepared earlier in the day, "before the arrests," because the order was a 20-page, typed document.

Sgt. R.A. Singer, in charge of the state police unit at the ALRB, said the farm labor agency requested they remain

here until the election is completed Thursday.

The UFW does not plan to demonstrate at the polls because "the workers should have the opportunity to vote," Ganz stated.

The ALRB will set up polls in three locations — Calexico, Winterhaven and Huron. Polls will be open between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The ballots will be counted at 7 p.m. in the Imperial Irrigation District auditorium in El Centro, according to the ALRB, after the Huron ballots are brought down by car.

Sheriff's Lt. Bruce Anderholt claimed that the entire cost of the arrests and subsequent legal proceedings will probably be between \$500,000 and \$1 million. This includes overtime for the lawmen involved, he noted.

Meanwhile, Chavez sent a telegram to Gov. Edmund Brown Jr. demanding to know if the El Centro police action "was made on your orders."

"Yesterday's arrests mark the first time in your administration that peaceful workers were arrested for seeking information from a state office," the wire said.

Marc Grossman, administrative assistant to Chavez, said the union leader would be in San Diego to demonstrate and "if they are going to be consistent, they will arrest him."

Grossman said the last time Chavez was arrested was in 1970 when he spent 23 days in jail for disobeying a court injunction against the lettuce boycott in Salinas.

In El Centro, sheriff's deputies said the ALRB office had been vandalized.