

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

HIGHWAY PATROL DIVISION

February 21, 1938

San Antonio, Texas

SUBJECT: I-C-418-O-91. Confidential investigation of the alleged violations of civil liberties of strikers during the pecan shellers strike in San Antonio, Texas.

Colonel H. H. Carmichael, Director
Department of Public Safety
Austin, Texas.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your instructions that we report daily concerning the strike in the pecan shelling industry here, we wish to make the following report:

Yesterday afternoon, Sunday, February 21, 1938, a mass meeting of the strikers was held in Casiano Park, San Antonio, under the leadership of Donald Henderson and J. Austin Beasley. At this meeting the demands which the union were making were outlined to those attending, and a committee appointed to confer with plant owners. The conference was to have been held today, but other circumstances prevented.

At two oclock this afternoon the hearing began in the 45th District Court concerning the injunction asked by Henderson to prevent the Police Department of San Antonio from arresting pickets in the trouble area. This hearing will be continued tomorrow.

At three oclock, J. Austin Beasley, newly appointed strike leader, was arrested at the hearing by San Antonio police upon request of federal authorities in El Paso and booked, "hold for postal authorities".

After leaving the hearing we went to the West Side trouble area, but saw only a few pickets. We visited the Sunshine Pecan Shelling Plant and talked at length with the manager. He reported that out of 120 regular pecan shellers in his plant, 115 were working today, and that this percentage was representative of all the major plants.

Trusting that our actions in the above matter meets your approval, I am,

Respectfully,

/s/

Hill Foreman

Hill Foreman, Captain
Texas Highway Patrol

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

HIGHWAY PATROL DIVISION

February 21, 1938
San Antonio, Texas

CONFIDENTIAL: T-3-103-0-31. Confidential investigation of the alleged violations of civil liberties of strikers during the past several weeks in San Antonio, Texas.

Colonel E. A. Campbell, Director
Department of Public Safety
Austin, Texas.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your instructions that we report daily concerning the strike in the bean-canning industry here, we wish to make the following report:

Yesterday afternoon, Sunday, February 21, 1938, a mass meeting of the strikers was held in Corbett Park, San Antonio, under the leadership of Donald Henderson and J. Austin Besley. At this meeting the demands which this union were making were outlined to those attending, and a committee appointed to confer with plant owners. The conference was to have been held today, but other circumstances prevented.

At two o'clock this afternoon the hearing began in the 45th District Court concerning the injunction asked by Henderson to prevent the Police Department of San Antonio from arresting pickets in the trouble area. This hearing will be continued tomorrow.

At three o'clock, J. Austin Besley, newly appointed strike leader, was arrested at the hearing by San Antonio police upon request of Federal authorities in St. Paul and booked, "held for Federal authorities."

After leaving the hearing we went to the bean-canning area, where we saw only a few pickets. We visited the Executive Bean Canning Plant and talked at length with the manager. He reported that out of 120 regular bean canners in his plant, 115 were working today, and that this percentage was representative of all the major plants.

Trusting that our report on the above matter meets your approval,

Respectfully,

Bill Foreman

Bill Foreman, Captain
Texas Highway Patrol