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BRAVO!

It was a remarkable change. Less than two years earlier, many people viewed El Comite with fear and suspicion. Now, in April, 1982, the organization's president Tony Tafoya was accepting the Volunteer of the Year Award for Boulder County, Colorado along with a \$1,000 check for the Comite treasury.

The following night, he joined other county winners at a statewide recognition dinner in Denver hosted by Governor Richard Lamm.

Days later, he was called to Denver to receive the Denver Bar Association's Liberty Bell Award--the first time that award went to a non-Denverite.

And finally, in the same City Council chamber where he had stood with 200 other protesters months earlier, Tafoya was presented a Special Citizen award by City officials.

Operation Jobs

El Comite joined Hispanic organizations throughout the Nation in protesting the Gestapo-like roundup of undocumented Mexican workers in late April. Comite representatives joined area Chicanos in a nighttime vigil to mourn the death of Jose Arnando Morales who was struck and killed by a semi-trailer truck as he fled from an INS raid at the Boulder Valley Poultry Farm east of Boulder.

El Comite's offer to join in a suit against the INS was declined by attorneys working with the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF). There are already enough parties to the suit; more would just muddy the waters and make the case unnecessarily complicated.

Comite members Marta Moreno and Sue Brown are gathering testimony, however, from families or individuals who were hassled by INS during recent raids. Marta can be reached at 772-4236 and Sue at 651-3918 or 772-8205.

The Concerned Citizens of Boulder County formed in response to the raids. People interested in learning more about that organization or how they can help deal with migrant issues should call Phil Hernandez at 443-7118 in Boulder.

El Comite
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