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Impact Of Foreign Competition On Textile Industry

by Steven Ranieri

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According to Adolfo Gott Trujillo, leader of the National Textile Industry Chamber, since 1983 foreign competition has caused a 30% decline in sales by Mexican textile manufacturers. The industry employs 110,000 workers today compared to 152,000 in 1982. An estimated 30% of textile plants, he said, have been bankrupted. Next, Gott Trujillo pointed out that 90% of machinery and equipment used in Mexico's textile industry is imported. Replacement parts are not available domestically, and must be purchased with dollars. On Oct. 24, the Chamber reported that over 200 of the industry's 1,500-plus garment factories have been forced to close thus far in 1990 due to the proliferation of contraband and cheap foreign products. (Sources: Notimex, 10/24/90; El Financiero, 10/26/90)

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