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Mexico: Report On Complaints Surrounding Illegal Entry Of Central Americans

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Jan. 24, federal police commander Manuel Arvizu Acosta told Notimex that 11 Central Americans had been detained after having entered the country illegally on board a bus crossing the Guatemalan border into Oaxaca state on the Pan-American highway. He called the large number of Central Americans entering Mexico an "alarming" development, since the "majority are dedicated to subversion, crime and drug trafficking." Teodoro "El Rojo" Altamirano Robles, former PRI deputy from the locale (southwestern Oaxaca state, bordering on Guatemala), said that every month an average 700 undocumented persons enter Mexico via the Juchitan district. He added that at least 2,500 Central Americans work in the area, after having purchased false birth certificates for large sums of money from employees of Mexico's civil registry. Altamirano Robles said foreigners enter Mexico with the aid of leftist groups, representing a serious threat to national security. (Basic data from Notimex, 01/24/89)

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