

6-13-1989

Maquiladoras In Guatemala

John Neagle

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/notisur>

Recommended Citation

Neagle, John. "Maquiladoras In Guatemala." (1989). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/notisur/3213>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiSur by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.

Maquiladoras In Guatemala

by John Neagle

Category/Department: General

Published: Tuesday, June 13, 1989

In 1984, maquiladora assembly plants in Guatemala numbered three, and their export earnings totaled \$3 million. At present, maquiladoras number 126, and export revenues from these plants totaled \$96 million in 1988, and may surpass \$160 million this year. Almost all maquiladoras in Guatemala produce clothing from fabrics made in the US, and for the US market. The plants employ more than 25,000 workers, and indirectly provide jobs for 35,000 more. Experienced assembly line personnel at the plants earn around \$8 a day, or about \$6 above Guatemala's minimum daily wage. Only 55% of the country's 2.8 million work force are believed to be working full-time. Guatemala passed legislation in 1984 granting special tax advantages to attract maquiladoras. According to Alvaro Colom, president of Megatex, Guatemala's largest consulting company specialized in maquiladora development, Guatemalans have provided 60% of the total \$30 million investment in apparel assembly plants, with 15% coming from the US, and 10% from the Far East, mainly South Korea. In 1988, Costa Rica exported \$180 million in goods manufactured in maquiladora plants. Guatemala is in second place in the region, followed by Honduras and El Salvador. (Basic data from Copley News Service, 06/12/89)

-- End --