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Nicaragua: Workers Occupy Businesses Returned By Government To Former Owners

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Sept. 26, employees of four of 16 businesses the government has returned to former owners refused to permit the latter to take control. The four enterprises are as follows: El Caracol food processing plant, Managua (130 employees); Camas Lunas bed factory, Managua (80 employees); Prego soap plant, Grenada; and, the Sovipe small appliance factory, Managua. At El Caracol, Magelda Campos arrived with government order in hand, and was not permitted inside. Ronaldo Rodriguez, local secretary general of the National Workers Front (FNT), said workers want the government to give El Caracol to them. He added, "She left this enterprise in shreds, never giving a thought to the workers, and we have struggled to make it productive again." Brenda Escoto, local union leader at Camas Lunas, has said, "The return of this enterprise was done only on paper; we are not going to return anything." (Basic data from AP, 09/26/90)

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