

10-30-1991

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Tyroler, Deborah. "Honduras: Coffee Producers Protest Move To Eliminate Subsidies." (1991). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/6618>

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Honduras: Coffee Producers Protest Move To Eliminate Subsidies

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General

Published: Wednesday, October 30, 1991

On Oct. 28, hundreds of coffee growers occupied a section of the major highway linking Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula to protest a bill before the national legislature that would eliminate subsidies for producers. Meanwhile, another 200 growers rallied in front of the congress building in the capital. The government's special fund for coffee growers finances road construction and repairs, and a US\$0.37 per quintal incentive to producers of exported coffee. President of the national congress Rodolfo Irias told reporters that the legislature had no intention of damaging coffee producers. He promised to postpone debate on the bill until next year. (Basic data from AFP, 10/28/91)

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