

11-8-1991

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Panama-u.s. Textile Trade Accord

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Category/Department: General

Published: Friday, November 8, 1991

On Nov. 6, Panamanian Trade Minister Roberto Alfaro and US Ambassador to Panama Deane Hinton signed a textile trade accord. Under the three-year agreement, the US will import 30,092 dozens of cotton pants, and 400,000 dozens of garments assembled in Panama and employing US-made patterns. Two months ago, the US unilaterally imposed an embargo on Panamanian textile imports. The ban was in response to exports of falsely-labeled clothing to the US by several Chinese firms operating in Panama. Alfaro said two textile firms were fined US\$25,000 each for having falsified trademarks. The new bilateral accord is conditioned upon the application of measures by the Panamanian government to prevent the illegal transshipment of textile products from third countries through Panama to the US. (Basic data from Agence France-Presse, 11/06/91)

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