11-29-1991

Nicaragua: Telecommunications & Mail Workers On Strike

Deborah Tyroler

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen

Recommended Citation

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 NotiCen by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.
Nicaragua: Telecommunications & Mail Workers On Strike

by Deborah Tyroler
Category/Department: General
Published: Friday, November 29, 1991

Nov. 19: Telecommunications and Mail Institute (TELCOR) employees launched a strike in an attempt to pressure the government into approving wage hikes. At present, TELCOR workers earn a minimum US$60 per month, while the average wage is US$180. Strikers demand that the minimum be increased to US$100, and the average, to US$250. TELCOR employees' major union is affiliated with the pro- Sandinista National Workers Front (FNT). Another union, accounting for 600 Institute employees, voted against the strike. Union spokespersons said the strike was supported by 65% of the TELCOR's 3,140 employees. Government officials promised leaders of political parties pertaining to the Nicaraguan Opposition Union (UNO) coalition that striking workers would no longer be permitted to occupy public buildings. Nov. 20: About 100 anti-riot police were ordered to remove dozens of TELCOR workers participating in a sit-down strike at Managua's central post office and communications center. A TELCOR union spokesperson told reporters that the police action was not justified since strikers were not occupying the premises. Negotiations between management and union representatives were temporarily suspended following the arrival of the police officers. According to local news reports, the strike disrupted normal telephone service, maintenance, and repairs, as well as postal services. Nov. 23: TELCOR employees suspended the strike after winning wage concessions. Union secretary general Mario Malespin said TELCOR management agreed to raise the minimum salary to US$87 per month. He added that the raise would benefit 462 workers. In addition, TELCOR agreed to increase per diem payments for TELCOR employees, and promised to reclassify jobs in an attempt to resolve problematic salary discrepancies. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 11/19/91, 11/20/91, 11/23/91)

-- End --