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Category/Department: General
Published: Friday, March 27, 1992

On March 11, construction commenced on a highway linking the north coast ports of San Pedro Sula and Puerto Cortes. Total project cost is estimated at US$42 million. Of the total, the Mexican government contributed a US$17 million loan, while the remainder derives from the Central American Economic Integration Bank (BCIE) and the Honduran government. Mexican companies Sada-Rangel-Cumsa and Landa-Rubio submitted the winning bids for construction of the four-lane highway. Engineers say construction should be completed within 18 months. Next, President Rafael Callejas told reporters that the government is seeking support from Mexico and the BCIE for construction of a highway linking Puerto Cortes and Puerto Barrios in Guatemala. (Basic data from Agencia Centroamericana de Noticias-Spanish news service EFE, 03/11/92)

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