

3-10-1992

Jamaica: Sugar Workers On Strike

Barbara Khol

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/notisur>

Recommended Citation

Khol, Barbara. "Jamaica: Sugar Workers On Strike." (1992). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/notisur/8682>

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 NotiSur by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.

Jamaica: Sugar Workers On Strike

by Barbara Khol

Category/Department: General

Published: Tuesday, March 10, 1992

In the last week of February, workers at five of Jamaica's nine sugar plantations launched a strike to pressure employers into approving a wage hike. The strike spread to two others on March 2, and the remaining two the following day. Strikers are represented by the National Workers Union (NWU), the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU), and the University and Allied Workers Union (UAWU). The Sugar Producers' Federation offered the workers a 52.5% increase, but the unions insist on 200%. Union members say their earnings from cutting a tonne of sugarcane are inadequate to purchase a loaf of bread, currently priced at 15 Jamaican dollars. Last year, Jamaica produced 230,000 tonnes of sugar, earning US\$85.8 million, a 32.3% increase over 1989. (Basic data from Inter Press Service, 03/03/92)

-- End --