

NAFTA: THE FACTS

AN INTERNATIONAL BILL OF RIGHTS FOR TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

NAFTA was negotiated in secret, and by North America's largest corporations, among them many of its worst polluters

NUMBER OF BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES SERVING AS TRADE ADVISORS TO THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION DURING NAFTA NEGOTIATIONS: 117

NUMBER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER GROUPS REPRESENTATIVES SERVING AS TRADE ADVISORS TO THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION DURING NAFTA NEGOTIATIONS: 1

NUMBER OF COMPANIES SERVING AS NAFTA ADVISORS LISTED IN EPA'S TOXIC RELEASE INVENTORY AS THE 10 BIGGEST DISCHARGERS OF HAZARDOUS WASTE IN AMERICA : 5

SAFE HAVEN FOR POLLUTERS

Free trade is not just a theory, it has been a bitter reality in free trade zones established on the Mexican side of the Mexican/US border more than two decades ago

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF US COMPANIES NOW OPERATING IN MEXICAN FREE TRADE ZONES (MAQUILADORAS): 1750

PERCENTAGE OF A RANDOM SAMPLE OF US MAQUILADORA PLANTS FOUND BY A 1992 US GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE STUDY TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH MEXICAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS: 0%

PERCENTAGE OF US MAQUILADORA COMPANIES THAT HAVE COMPLIED WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS THAT THEY RETURN HAZARDOUS WASTE TO THE US FOR TREATMENT : 5%

PERCENTAGE OF COMPANIES THAT RELOCATED TO THE MAQUILADORA CITY OF MEXICALI ADMITTING THAT LAX ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION WAS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THEIR DECISION TO RELOCATE: 26%

A "CESSPOOL AND BREEDING GROUND FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE"

That is how the American Medical Association described conditions in the Maquiladora free trade zones

ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF GALLONS OF UNTREATED SEWAGE DUMPED DAILY INTO THE RIO GRANDE FROM MAQUILADORA FREE TRADE ZONES: 100 MILLION

NUMBER OF VIRUSES CAPABLE OF CAUSING POLIO, DYSENTERY, CHOLERA, TYPHOID, MENINGITIS, OR HEPATITIS FOUND IN THE NEW RIVER, WHICH RUNS NORTH FROM MEXICALI: 15

ESTIMATED COSTS OF PROVIDING SEWER AND WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THE MAQUILADORA PLANTS: \$6.5 BILLION.

TAXES PAID TO THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT ON PROFITS MADE BY US MAQUILADORA PLANTS: \$0.00

UNSUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

NAFTA seeks to enshrine the unjust and failed economic and environmental policies of the Bush, Salinas and Mulroney Administrations.

NUMBER OF MEXICAN PEASANTS THAT ABANDONED FARMING AND MIGRATED TO MEXICAN CITIES AND THE US, 1960-1990: 9 MILLION

ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF MEXICAN PEASANTS THAT WILL BE FORCED TO ABANDON FARMING AND MIGRATE TO THE CITIES AND THE U.S. UNDER NAFTA: 3 TO 14 MILLION

NUMBER OF PESTICIDES THAT HAVE BEEN BANNED IN THE U.S BUT ARE STILL LEGAL FOR USE IN MEXICO: 17 (INCLUDING DDT)

PERCENTAGE OF CROSS BORDER FOOD SHIPMENTS THAT ARE INSPECTED FOR PESTICIDE RESIDUES BY THE US CUSTOMS SERVICE: 1%

PERCENTAGE OF FOOD IMPORTS WHICH FAIL TO MEET THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATIONS TESTS: 40%

NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY PROGRAMS THAT WILL BE ALLOWED UNDER NAFTA: 2 (OIL AND GAS MEGA PROJECTS AND DEFENSE SPENDING)

AVERAGE HOURLY FACTORY WAGE IN THE U.S.: \$10.97

AVERAGE HOURLY FACTORY WAGE IN MEXICO: \$1.85

APPROXIMATE AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE PAID TO MAQUILADORA FACTORY WORKERS: \$0.75

WORLD BANK ESTIMATE OF THE COST OF MEETING THE MINIMUM DAILY NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF A MEXICAN FAMILY OF 5: \$15.00

NUMBER OF TOP 100 U.S. CORPORATIONS THAT HAVE AT LEAST ONE PLANT IN MEXICO: 100

LARGEST PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYER IN MEXICO: GENERAL MOTORS

LARGEST PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYER IN THE US: MANPOWER TEMPORARY SERVICES

AN UNPOPULAR AGENDA

When NAFTA is so unpopular, why is President Clinton so committed to it?

PERCENTAGE OF AMERICANS WHO, ACCORDING TO A JULY CNN/USA/GALLUP POLL, OPPOSE NAFTA: 65%

LENGTH OF NAFTA TEXT: 2000 PAGES

HOURS CONGRESS HAS UNDER THE FAST-TRACK APPROVAL PROCESS TO DEBATE NAFTA: 20

AMOUNT ESTIMATED BY THE LA TIMES THAT THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT WILL SPEND LOBBYING FOR NAFTA: \$100 MILLION

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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