

TITLE OF VIDEO: Latino Rodríguez

DATE OF VIDEO: August 8, 2019, Medellín, Colombia

TRANSLATED BY: Charlie Lott and Sofía Kearns

DATE OF TRANSLATION: July 2020

<p>[00:05] Latino Rodríguez:</p>	<p>I think that, from what I remember, I remember everything. Because I started in the army, a brother of mine worked at Pantéx, he helped me get a job, they even gave me a better job than his. And I started working there. Since I had so little schooling, I was very afraid of SENA (National Institute for Learning). Because there you have to know some mathematics if you want to have a little career and all that.</p>
<p>[00:35]</p>	<p>So, I avoided it (going to study at the SENA). But, apart from that, an opportunity for training in textiles came up at the factory. So they would leave a supervisor there over time. Because the thing started like this: I was assigned as bobbin turner which means to put thread on the machines. So, on any given day, I said, "I have just arrived from the army, young, 22 years old and, and, and, and am I going to remain stuck in this all my life?" I would like to...</p>
<p>[01:05]</p>	<p>Then I started thinking on my own. And I talked to the older boss over there in the Hall, Hall of Looms. So I said to him: "I need to talk to you" and he said: "Hey, what about? Any problems?" and I said, "no, it's not a problem, it's something I want to ask you." So I said to him: "I need to start doing something that benefits me over time</p>
<p>[01:35]</p>	<p>for me not to suffer much later and for me to earn a living and not to suffer much and have something to live on, something. "</p> <p>Then he said to me: "Well, I don't see that here ...", I said to him: "For example, working in mechanics, I like it". "And do you like mechanics? But that takes time, it's very difficult. " And I say: "Why?" He told me: "you have to be a cleaner first, then an oiler, then an assembler, then an assistant mechanic and over five years,</p>
<p>[02:05]</p>	<p>You have to work at least a year in each of those things. And in the end you end up taking a mechanics course. "</p> <p>So I said to him: "And how much is it? I have time. I'm 22, so let's go for that one. " And he said to me: "Hah, now that I told you all that I'm in trouble. And what happens is that I have a lot of people in front of you. I have cleaners up front, fitters and I have oilers and I have everything, fitters too and mechanic's assistants,</p>
<p>[02:35]</p>	<p>And what do I do with all those people waiting in line before you? " And I said to him: "I don't know, but that's my thinking. Hey, to become something in life, for me to say 'yes, I know how to do something.' "</p> <p>And then he said to me, "It's going to be [Inaudible 00:02:51], let me see what I can do. I see you are so eager that perhaps I will gain a good worker in you," he said. "and perhaps there will be a position for you." [Inaudible 00:03:00] after fifteen days he said to me: "I spoke to the supervisor,</p>

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[03:05]	<p>You go on Monday with one shift - I was on the third shift, I worked at night - you go on the first shift. You get in touch with the morning supervisor and he is going to tell you what to do. "</p> <p>"I'm going to give you a great job, as a fitter, you will be an assistant mechanic and mechanic, that is, you are skipping some steps and getting ahead. Surely, those in front of you are going to cut off my head. " And that was the tremendous leap, compared to all those who were ahead of me.</p>
[03:35]	<p>And he said: "well, I'm going to try a new worker who just came in and who is very eager to work and we are going to see how eager he is,. I'm going to give him three weeks to learn how to be a fitter. "</p> <p>I no longer had to clean or oil, but was already a fitter. Assembling cylinders with thread and all that, like equipping a machine to start working to make fabrics. I had to do everything,</p>
[04:05]	<p>everything we needed, to assemble the thread, to tie it up and to make it pass the threads and do everything. And after that, then I was promoted to, from there, from being a fitter, I became an assistant mechanic.</p> <p>So he said, after two weeks he said to me "I'm going to give you three weeks and if in three weeks you don't get anything out of this, what are you going to do?" I said: "I am going to succeed. I am sure</p>
[04:35]	<p>of what I told you, I'm going to get through this. I like it and want it. I like this factory, I had not worked in a factory. " I worked at Fabricato first but very soon, soon, I had a problem with a drunk who was there, a drunk and then they fired him and me two months later, after two months they threw us out. That was when I entered Pantéx. So I say to him, "Shall I continue with Pantéx?". He said this to the one who trained me:</p>
[05:05]	<p>"Talk to the man to see, allow him, allow him to be the assembler, he's been with us two weeks, let's see how he is doing" and he said: "It is going perfectly well, it is going very well, that man is very smart at that." Knitting nylon. And nylon is a fiber that when tied and tightened a lot, breaks and kinks. To weave fabric for dresses, shirts especially for women, nylon and all that. So, uh,</p>
[05:35]	<p>He said to him: "man, he makes it burst very little, almost never bursts." That is called warp. "He breaks the warp very little and is producing good results in almost two weeks. In two weeks it can already be said that he is capable of assembling. "</p> <p>Then he said to him: "Let's give him the other week so that, for three, so as not to cut off his time, three weeks for him to learn." And after three weeks he said to me: "How do you see it for [Inaudible 00:06:01]?" and I said to him: "Let me go, let me go, I already know what I have to do."</p>

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[06:05]	Then he said to the other: "You do nothing, he is going to do it and you check him and when he is finished, you go and then call me or the chief engineer to come and take a look at the work he did to see how it looks. " Everything went perfectly. Then he already told me, he said to me: "hey, you are going to do fitting." Like any fitter. There were about ten fitters.
[06:35]	Eh, so he said, they said to me: "you are going now, after you completed 3 weeks, you said to me, well, on Monday you are going alone. What you are going to do you do alone and deliver it well, [if not] you know you are going back, you are going do bobbins again or you are leaving the factory. " And I said: "no, I'm not going to leave, I'm going straight ahead." And so that's how I started working alone. About a year later a mechanic left, went to Barranquilla
[07:05]	and I was told: "there is a mechanic who left, there is a vacancy, do you want to take it?" and I said to him: "Do I want to take it? Absolutely, I carry out orders here, you tell me to take it, I take it. " "He said to me, well then watch [inaudible] turn on Monday." I got on that turn. That week I had the highest production and highest quality in the room. In that possibility he gave me, from the first week. And they put me on a poster in a column: "Latino Rodríguez,
[07:35]	the best production and the best quality of the week. " Then I started to get even more alert and smart. So now, the production: very good production, very good quality and all that matter. And immediatly after, they called me, congratulated me and put up a poster for a whole week: my session had the best production and the best quality. And then I started there and kept it up, kept it up. I was one of
[08:05]	the best new mechanics who were giving better performance and better quality. I got a girlfriend while I was in the army and when I got out of the army she came with me [Laughs]. When I got here [in Medellín], well, we got here, when I married her, I married here, I married her here, and so the children started arriving. That was in, I started here in early '55,
[08:35]	In '55 the first one was born, who lives upstairs, what is her name? The chubby one. She was the oldest. So we already started there. There were seven but there was an miscarriage so we had the others. That was part of it, since then, I worked two months at Fabricato, and I worked five years at Pantéx, I left after I became a mechanic. Then I
[09:05]	left being a mechanic. So it turned out that I went to Venezuela and I was in Caracas and I was busy there. From there, uh, I came back again because I wasn't doing well and the country was not in good shape for work. There was not much work. So I came back and came back here (Medellín). Arriving here, a co-worker from Pantéx told me: "I have a brother-in-law in Barranquilla

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[09:35]	and he asked me if I knew of a mechanic, quickly, do you want me to put you in contact with him?" And I said to him: "do it" and then he called him and then he said to him: "You know what? We are going to send him some forms to fill out. Fill them out and ask for salary and all the rest. " I applied for a salary at that time to assemble that machinery, which was ninety machines that had arrived from the United States, I requested ...
[10:05]	five hundred pesos, which was very good payment. That was in 1959. Then, it turned out, they sent word to me: "come immediately on your own, come because the job is ready." So I started out on a Friday, yes, on a Friday morning by bus.
[10:35]	Then a colleague of other colleagues told me that they were going there, young people like me, we all arrived in Barranquilla and we all split up, I went one way and the others took up elsewhere. So, I arrived at the factory at five o'clock in the afternoon, on a road called road 40, there was a lot of textiles all along that line, there towards Boca de Ceniza. So I went there, I showed up at the factory and they told me: "Come on Monday at seven in the morning." And so I met many friends there.
[11:05]	So those friends took me to a house, they rented me a room and then we went there, to have a drink in the afternoon and all that matter. And on Monday I got up early to work. There was a trail of machinery like a street full of people but instead full of machines all lying on the floor. So I had to take the pieces, find them and put them together and build the machinery. I put together ninety machines with two other mechanics who came
[11:35]	from Manizales. And we assembled the machinery and when it was fully armed we began to assemble it ourselves, to assemble the machinery and to polish it. [Inaudible 00:11:50] the whole thing and to assemble it and put the machine to work. So I started out with the assembly of all the machines and all that stuff. I was asked: "Do you want to work here with the company because you have already assembled the machinery?"
[12:05]	But we don't know if you want to stay." And I said to him: "I am staying, I do not know these two if they want to stay but I am staying." Then he said: "We are going to distribute this machinery in sessions, thirty of the ninety machines for each one, and they stay here working with the company" and I said: "Okay, let's go there." It was called Celtic Fabrics, on route 40. There were a lot of factories out there. Celtic fabrics
[12:35]	from a German owner, it seems to me, but he spoke good Spanish. So we worked there, well, I worked ... Suddenly I got bored there, the heat and many things that one is not taught to deal with like the heat that is very strong in Barranquilla and then I already had, I already had three children there with my wife. And then, I said

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[13:05]	<p>to the woman: "See, take this money and stay here, I'm going to Medellín." "But why?" "I'm going back, I got bored here, I like to travel and meet people, let's see what happens to me over there. " Here (back in Medellín) I lasted like a month and a half without being able to get a job. I went to Bogotá. In Bogotá I was in a factory that was owned by Pantéx, I was there but they had no job. Well, I ran into another friend over there in another factory, neither did I [Inaudible 00:13:24]. There was a factory where they told me: "We are going to practice, if we like your work in the rehearsal..." Let's see, then they put the mechanic of the session</p>
[13:35]	<p>to walk ahead of me, to ride the machines and to stall them and then he would raise a red flag that was for me. And then I would go where the red flag was and I would go and have five minutes to fix the problem, or half an hour to fix major problems, and so I would continue fixing, fixing, behind the man who was running the machines.</p>
[14:05]	<p>So, uh, when a person called me and said: "don't stay more than two hours (in this rehearsal) because here they use you all day and then they don't pay you, they don't even give you a glass of water." And I said to him: "Okay, it's all good, the news is good." When it had been two or three hours, then I went and said to the supervisor: "Hey, where's the boss here?" Then he said to me: "Wait a minute and I'll call him." Then he called him and asked him in front of me: "How is he?" and he said to him: "excellent, he is a great mechanic, he is very good, he fixes the machines well and he is fast." And then he said: "you will see if you want to work</p>
[14:35]	<p>but I am not going to pay him but mm, a little more than half of what the others earn "and I said to him:" why? If I'm going to do a job, what anyone does here, and what I did well in the rehearsal, then why [Inaudible 00:14:50]? " So I would say that even if both my shoe soles had holes in them, I wouldn't stay giving my work away here. So, being like this, I decided to call my mom here to say hello over the phone.</p>
[15:05]	<p>So I had left a job application in Tejicóndor, there on the road to San Juan, in San Juan, a route that leaves Medellín and goes to the America rd., there to the side of Laureles called San Juan, a wide route. So that factory was there, then I left ... Ah, when I called my mom, she said: "How do you like it, my son, come on, haven't you got a job?" "Nothing" She said to me: "come</p>
[15:35]	<p>Here, a man came who is a supervisor in Tejicóndor and came looking for you. " Because when I went to Bogotá, a job application had turned up but it had wrong information about me, a bad recommendation, so the chief mechanic told me: "they found bad information about you so they threw your application to the back." That was when I left for Bogotá.</p>

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[16:05]	So, then he said to me: "He said that he called for you to come immediately, that your application was not the bad one but that of another applicant, so he came with the job and the job is ready." So that same day I pawned a watch because I had no ticket, so I pawned a watch for fifty pesos and took a plane ticket in the afternoon and I came and arrived here at around 5 in the afternoon. So I came and I looked for him out there, he was leaving work for the day in Tejicóndor
[16:35]	and then he said to me: "Weren't you in Bogotá, man?" and I said to him: "I was but now I am here" and he said "The man can move" [Laughs]. And I said to him: "What am I going to do if I need a job? And I can't get anything there. " And he told me: "your now have a job at Tejicóndor, arrive tomorrow at 7 and call me when you arrive. I'll meet you at the door and lead you indoors." We entered and he said to the chief of staff: "Look, there was a mistake in an application, this is a mechanic who comes from Barranquilla, worked in many parts and knows how to work."
[17:05]	Then he said to me: "no, then you know what, sorry brother, things got messed up here but in any case, you have your job. Go and get these blood and lungs tests, I don't know what, the DAS (security clearance) certificate and bring that as soon as you have it and the next day you will go to work. " So it was when I entered Tejicóndor, I worked there for six years. I was working in Tejicóndor, back in San Juan, when three job adds came out: one, they needed some mechanics
[17:35]	for the Dominican Republic for a Fabricato factory that they had there, [Inaudible 00:17:42] for Central America because taxes are cheaper there so the factories paid less money to the workers, and also there were fewer taxes to pay to the government there.
[18:05]	So that's why they put the Fabricato factory there. There was an recruitment for Australia. Since I was a peasant, let's see, how long, like until I was 16 or so, then an offer for a job in Australia. They would arrange to take your whole family there. I already had three or four children. They would arrange traveling for the family and after six months , if you couldn't do the work, which was knocking down a mountain(as a logger),
[18:35]	I was going to go through a mountain, to cut trees down ... Those employers asked for a permit with the government to take the people on the condition that if they did not work, they did not work for them or, if they didn't like it, they would be returned with all your belongings. People took everything over there. Then after six months they were going to do a review. If you were a good worker, you kept your job,
[19:05]	If one was a good worker, one could continue working calmly, but if one had a fault because one was beligerant or negative or something along those lines, then they would return you to your country, that was the agreement with the government. To

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	<p>be returned with the family and all belongings or get a rented house and get settled. Until all was confirmed, nobody could leave.</p>
[19:35]	<p>That was the condition with the (Australian) government. So, I was considering this offer, when a recruitment add for the United States appeared in the Chamber of Commerce and I said: "Well, this looks better." So I went to that office. And things happen to you. I was in a line there, on this side were all those who had been chosen, and those who were waiting were here on the other side[Inaudible 00:20:02], a guy passed by right by me. He had already been chosen to work in the U.S,</p>
[20:05]	<p>so when he passed I said to him, I touched his shoulder like this and I said to him: "hey, I have been working as a mechanic for around fourteen years. Why don't you ..?" and he said: "but why do you have to touch me?", because I put my hand on his shoulder and said "well, I'm not trying to hurt you." So a colleague of mine came up to me, a very good friend, almost a brother and he said: "don't argue with that guy, leave him alone because they've already chosen me</p>
[20:35]	<p>and since we are in February, wait until July when the factories in the United States stop for the holidays, so I am going to get some contracts and come for you, the first is yours. Don't argue with him or you'll damage the record here. " I said "done". Ok, so I was among the ones who were not chosen. So I stayed, I kept working. That was in February ... That was in March of</p>
[21:05]	<p>'58, something like that, well, in any case, they chose seven, eight, nine people and took them away. My friend was among those and told me: "Stay calm, calm and I will come for you, I'll get you a job contract and with a contract I'll come, fill it and leave, that's how it will be." So he was the one who ... Let's see, that was in early February, the first days of February</p>
[21:35]	<p>and the following year he came back on vacation. He brought the contracts as he had promised when he left in February ... let's say February, February, March, April, May, June, July, in July he came on vacation. He brought five contracts. At night when he arrived he called me at the house, I did not have a phone,</p>
[22:05]	<p>He called me from a neighbor's here in Bello. Then he left me a message. "Tell this man who lives here right away to please call this phone early tomorrow or now, tonight." And I arrived around 10 at night and I called him at that time and he was still up and he said to me: "Brother, guess who is calling you?" And I said, I said "no, I'm not sure" He said: "Raúl is calling you, man, I brought you the contract, I brought five contracts to take with me,</p>
[22:35]	<p>three workers from Tejicóndor and two from Pantéx. So that's when I got recruited for the United States, it was no longer for Australia or the Dominican Republic, but</p>

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	<p>for the United States. We arrived in Rhode Island, close to Boston, an hour from Boston. There were five of us. But since we were recruited in the middle of the year, in six months we got our work permits and visas.</p>
[23:05]	<p>Because he brought the contract so we filled them out, we took them there, they made the passports for us, they sent us the passports, they sent us the money for the passports but we had to pay it in installments when we went to the US. The same with the tool box to work there, they were going to buy boxes of complete tools for each one but we had to pay for them weekly in cash. When they paid us, they paid per week. So that was when we left for the United States,</p>
[23:35]	<p>We got there on a Saturday at 8 at night, and the next day, they had us an apartment and all that, an apartment for five. But then when I arrived because there were two rooms with two beds, I took a bed and put the suitcase on it because I said: "the light that moves forward is the one that shines." And one who fell asleep had to sleep on a sofa while I took a bed.</p>
[24:05]	<p>Let's see, in that time a lot of people came from here, and people started coming with drugs, to climb in through the windows, the robberies began, in a town called Central Falls and Pawtucket. Those two towns were filled with those people. So a lot of drugs started to come out and they were climbing in through the windows and all that matter then I had my oldest son, who was at that time about fourteen, fifteen, fourteen years old,</p>
[24:35]	<p>fifteen years and I said to him: "man, I want to move out of this town" and he said to me; "Ah, that's very good because I also want to move out of here." A lot of snow and a lot of cold, in Rhode Island a lot of snow falls. Very cold. Then he said to me, "What do we do?" and I said to him, that was a Friday, "tomorrow night if you are going to accompany me, you will accompany me and if not then I'll go alone, you know that I'm not afraid of the cold, so you know, you will know."</p>
[25:05]	<p>Then he said to me "oh yes, let's talk at night and we will talk about our plans for leaving." So we went to South Carolina, to Greenville. But we got lost on the road and it took us more than two... We left at 3 in the morning for Greenville and we came to arrive the next day at 9 in the morning because we got lost on the way. We took the highway, the highway, the one that goes to Miami, 95, and</p>
[25:35]	<p>We had to get out, get 85 around Virginia. We had to take 85, the one that goes to Atlanta. So, then, there it was, but we got there to Greenville anyway, that's how I got to Greenville. There I found friends and over there in two weeks I was already placed in a factory called American Spinning. You couldn't have known that factory because it closed a long time ago. And then, in that factory,</p>



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[26:05]	<p>I went there, I applied for a job, and I got it in a week, I settled down in that factory.</p> <p>Yes, very similar because they were the same looms with different things. But things that were very easy for you to solve. For example, some worked with handles and others worked with an eccentric,</p>
[26:35]	<p>a short part and another lengthened, to be able to make the machines work. So now, I learned much more there and with the assemblage of machinery that I learned in Barranquilla, I already had a lot of skills.</p> <p>Well with the work conditions I tell you that there is one [difference between Colombia and US mill jobs] that is quite striking. Here [in Colombia] I operated 37 machines and there [in the US] I went to operate eighty, eighty machines.</p>
[27:05]	<p>And I also got a job, like what they say, a 'part time', eh, in another factory and they gave me 120 and then I said: "this job here is for two mechanics" and I went in and that's how we got ourselves into a working rythm, we needed to make dollars somehow. So that's what happened. That the ..., and ... A lot of maintenance, one was given a batch of five or six machines to do maintenance on every day,</p>
27:35]	<p>in order to have the machine in good condition.</p> <p>Well, at the price of the dollar they paid us better but the natural reason was that we went there and until we got there they didn't tell us how much we were going to earn: two dollars seventy cents. That was in '59, it seems to me. Yes, in '59 that I left for the United States.</p>
[28:05]	<p>And when, after the thirteen months of working there, --I left on February 22 and on December 13 of the same year, they arrived [my family].</p> <p>Eh, I went there with an interpreter to where the owner was and I said to him: "Do me the favor and give me..." It was convenient for them to bring the family so that one would be more settled there</p>
[28:35]	<p>and would be more interested in having the job. Then he said to us, "You will earn \$2.70 an hour but here we have a weekly raffle of \$25, \$30, with the strips of the checks. The strips were made like this into a knot and thrown in a, in a bag, they call it, a little bag.</p>
[29:05]	<p>So anybody would draw, reach in and take a number from there, so the number that came out and the name would be put on a board and there it would say: "the one that corresponds to this number, the name that corresponds to this number, come to the office to claim your award." The prize was \$ 25 or \$ 30. It was like a bonus. They raffled a voucher every week to get people to cheer up a little bit more,</p>

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[29:35]	<p>as if to collect more than the salary. There were, according to accounts from the city of Providencia, Providence that they call the city over there ... Providence and Pawtucket and Centrall Falls and Cumberland which are the towns that I remember, there were not many people, there was even only one little shop</p>
[30:05]	<p>with Hispanic things to buy and you had to travel there about twenty minutes on the highway, on 95. In Greenville, there was more in Greenville ... In Greenville there were more [Colombians] because Rhode Island had 16 families, in Greenville it was different. There were 16 families in Rhode Island, but we didn't know where they were. We barely had time to meet people very fast, fast, they brought us all in the same week,</p>
[30:35]	<p>or on those first two weekends, they took us to meet other [Colombians] or they were called, new people came, why are we going to visit them man, to see how they are, we don't know who they are. So they appeared in the apartment, then we all sat down to chat and talk there and have a drink or something. So that's how we got to know each other. There aren't so many Hispanics today in Rhode Island,. No, we did not know where they lived, they showed up little by little and around a month or two months later,</p>
[31:05]	<p>we heard of a little shop. I went to look for music and there was only one long play that I really liked, by Javier Solís, with all the music by Javier Solís and I bought that one and when it ran out on one side I turned it over on the other and when it ended on that one, I turned it on the other because there was no more. At least they had, they had restaurants from all of Central America and Colombia and everywhere. In New York there were also quite a few.</p>
[31:35]	<p>I worked from '59, I worked four years in the same company called Cadillac Textiles, I worked there ... But, I had my additional jobs. I was looking for another job in another factory so when I would finish my shift I would go work at the other one so as not to go to sleep alone, to sleep and waste time.</p>
[32:05]	<p>So I made two little salaries there. I would put one in the bank and the other I lived off of and sent back to my family. Let's see ...</p>
	<p>I returned here [to Medellín] because the family grew up, they started to get married and leave the house, and I was alone again, I wasn't with my wife anymore. So I came home so that I could sell the house, because we bought a house between the two of us and we had it paid off, a very good house, a very good farm house, with good land, trees and all that very good, a little pond, high up, it wasn't in a ravine or anything.</p>

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TRANSLATED BY: Charlie Lott and Sofía Kearns

DATE OF TRANSLATION: July 2020

[32:35]	And then the lawyer said to me, "If you don't want to lose the house, you have to divorce her." Because I was getting divorced here. But if we divorced in Colombia, my wife would keep the house. So I needed to buy an apartment, which was the one I bought. So that's why I made the decision to come, because she told me she wasn't coming to the US. She's here [now, visiting],
[33:05]	right here, up here [second floor apartment]. She is visiting [from the US].  I had to live alone, practically nine months alone there [in R.I. when I first came to the US]. I got an apartment to wait for them [the family] and I would cook rice, fry meat, slices, er..., bought what they call "cake", I'd buy it and put it in the fridge and I ate it, only cake with milk and rice with slices of ripe plantain
[33:35]	and fried meat because I had no time. See, I was doing two jobs. I would leave work and go and eat what I had left the night before, warmed it up and ate it. I got a microwave, that was what I needed the most to heat up, so I settled myself in like that. So it was how I started there. I'd call the wife on the phone and ask her how to make a good stew and all that, so she would tell me and I would make it.
[34:05]	In South Carolina I worked in one that was called ... Let's see, South Carolina, the American Spinning was the first one where I worked there, after that I went to one called Burlington where I had an accident in my truck, that mill was right by the "Latino" bridge [laugh]. And then I worked in one mill called the Monaghan, I worked there for a while too.
[34:35]	Then I went to another one that had many factories, it was called the Woodside company, the Woodside company. They had many factories in various towns beyond Carolina, they had them in various towns, even in North Carolina. And I don't know if you know the White Horse rd, they call it,... Well, over there I worked in one Downtown that was called
[35:05]	the Monagan. Err..., the Woodside, the Burlington, the American Spinning, I worked in another one, another one of the Woodside also that was in Easley, a town called Easley, have you heard of it? Easley. I worked at Easley too. It was eight or ten factories I worked at. I was always looking for where I could earn a little more, it didn't matter that I worked far away but that I earned more.
[35:35]	And so those were the factories that I knew there. And there was also another one that was on 25, which was from a very large company, it had about five factories of those, it was called ... That one does not come to mind, I don't quite remember what it was called.  The Hispanics, friends, families, all acquaintances, coworkers were the ones who said "we are going to name the bridge [where you had the accident] "Latino" after

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	<p>you ". "Where do you want us to meet today?" I would say "go over the Latino bridge, there is a factory next to it and we'll see you there." [laughter]</p> <p>The Latino Bridge. It was a guide, something for you ...</p>
[36:05]	<p>I had the pension, because with the pension everything was fixed [laughter]. I got the pension and I said to the wife "are we leaving or are you staying?" She said "No, I'm not leaving here." And I said" then stay because I have to sell the house," and the lawyer had already told me,</p>
[36:35]	<p>"Sell the house,"; I said to him, what percentage will I get after selling the house? " And she said: "1000%". The day you sign, she signs to vacate and you put up the sales notice. That's how it works. It is so here. But if you don't, she stays here and nobody is going to push her out, because that is like you having completely abandoned her. So she is going to stay there and the law does not force her to vacate.</p>
[37:05]	<p>The most common type of meeting among Hispanics in Greenville was in the Latin super markets, and ... the lakes, to go on a Sunday to bathe and spend the day or to the beaches. They were the types of encounters we had. The rest was "work there, work there, work there, work there." I had two jobs almost all the time.</p> <p>There are still many [textile retirees in Greenville]. They are old and sick and they don't want to come here [back in Medellín].</p>
[37:35]	<p>I lived most of the time in Greenville. In Greenville, I lived in a neighborhood called Simpsonville, the town. Simpsonville, where Fountain Inn is, and when you go down that street over there, where I lived, first there was a house on a corner, then mine and then Aliz's, Aliz's is the third, the third [my third child].</p> <p>Yes, many American friends. They loved it so much</p>
[38:05]	<p>when I taught them Spanish, which is very hard work, and then I would say to them: "if it is hard work, then don't learn it". I didn't have any enemies there. Nothing. I really liked having friends, I am very communicative with people. I communicate with everyone. A person sits here, a stranger, and says to me: "man, I heard you talking about the United States, where were you?" There a conversation begins and we agree on some things and it turns out that</p> <p>we had already met there [in the US].</p>
[38:35]	<p>American Spinning was a very, very well-equipped factory with machinery. Another one in Rhode Island was very well-equipped with some knitting machines that wove with trickles of water, the thread was passed by a trickle of water, pts, pts, pts, and</p>

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	<p>the loom made the fabric. And all that fabric came out wet. But underneath, they put something on it,</p>
[39:05]	<p>some electric gadget, then that fabric, at the rate it was going, as it is so slowly wrapping the fabric, it was drying. All the part where it was not in a roll, it started out wet, but by the time it got down it was already dry, thanks to a red-hot device. Those were called ... I don't remember what the name was called but we called them the water machines. Because, the, the, ... let's see,</p>
[39:35]	<p>The trickle was thrown and the little thread that was stuck here to the fabric was broken by an appliance that stayed red hot, with electricity. The same on the other side then, the fabric was coming out as if it were being worked by a manual loom. They worked it with a trickle of water. They only brought twenty-five, and they did not work for three years, those machines did not work for three years there when they said that the factory was going to be finished, that it was going to be finished.</p>
[40:05]	<p>What can I tell you? Nostalgia, I don't feel nostalgia [for textiles]. Maybe when I was alone but I live with my sister. And it is a lot of comfort to see another person. It's enough just to have someone to talk to all the time, or to look at or with whom to talk to about anything on television or what is happening on the street or something. Someone to talk to rather. [For a while before] I did get to sit at that table alone for breakfast, it did not make me want to eat, it made me start crying there.</p>
[40:35]	<p>It is very hard to live alone. I don't know, for me it is very hard. But I had to do it because I had no one with whom to live.</p> <p>Yes, I did have a friend, I lived with a friend for about 7 years here in Bello too. We lived in Niquia and later she had daughters, one daughter left for France and the other lived alone, because that one had a son and asked me to</p>
[41:05]	<p>have the baby in my house in Niquia. So I lived with her. We lived seven years, but when the daughter had the son she got sick with mastitis, so she left with the grandson and the daughter [laughter] ... But living alone in an apartment ... One person alone hanging around here ... I played music.</p> <p>I am very afraid of taking a trip there[to the US]. Because I'm more afraid of falling and breaking my hip than anything else.</p>
[41:35]	<p>[If that were to happen] I wouldn't be able to move from where I fell because, at this age one can't get better from an illness, from a fracture in the hip or anywhere. Or the spine. You just die. At this age you just die. I have that fear here. I'm waiting for a son to come soon and he said to me: "I'm going to come and we can go to the US together. And I'll send you back in the care of the crew." Thus you will be able to return here alone.</p>

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[42:05]	<p>I went there [the US] four years ago. And there I made, after I came in 2013, I have made three, four trips there. For a long time ...</p> <p>... long hours. There [in the US] the work week is forty hours. You know that. And if you work a little "overtime" they pay double, hour and a half for an hour. And me when I went out on Fridays</p>
[42:35]	<p>and they would ask me that if I wanted to collaborate [do overtime], I would collaborate with the company to have a better salary because over there those who do not collaborate, when they have a downfall, they are told: "you get out." The, the, ... Abundant overtime hours. That's what encourages you, that after forty hours, for every hour you are paid an hour and a half. So that is also a profit for one who wants to profit... At the end of my career I was told, I liked working so much that they asked me to stay. They told me:</p>
[43:05]	<p>"Do you want to stay?" And, not because I want to boast, but supervisors were very comfortable with my work supervisor saw me work on my job. They always saw me working and they always saw me in a good mood and everything. And then they would say to me: "work four hours for six [of hourly wage], or six for eight or see how it works for you" and I would say "I'll stay six for eight."</p>
[43:35]	<p>So they paid me eight hours for six hours of work, in a factory that was on its way out. Then the supervisor said to me: "Why don't you stay working six hours and we'll pay eight? And look, here I have them written down, you see, because I know that you are going to work. " So I would work six more hours. I would leave at 3, 4 in the morning, 5 and go home with 16 hours worked. He liked it a lot when I would work overtime, after nobody else wanted to.</p>
[44:05]	<p>And I would say to him: "Come and ask me first and I will work overtime hours." And he would reply me: "that's what I'm going to do."</p>