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On Oct. 6 in New York during a speech to the Council of the Americas, Interior Minister Luis Pinerua Ordaz said the government's privatization program will be accelerated in 1993. According to Pinerua, since the privatization process commenced in 1989, the federal government has obtained US$2.3 billion in revenue, and about 43,000 public employees were transferred to the private sector. Sales of state-run companies this year also resulted in federal budget savings of US$1.1 billion. Members of the Council of the Americas, a US non-governmental organization, include businesspeople, scholars, diplomats and government officials from the US, Canada and Latin American nations. The Council's purpose is to promote cooperation and exchange. (Source: Agence France-Presse, 10/06/92)

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