11-25-1986


John Neagle

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by John Neagle
Category/Department: General
Published: Tuesday, November 25, 1986

Bolivian Industry Minister Roberto Gisbert told reporters Nov. 23 that since August 1985, 112 private enterprises have gone out of business. He said the demise of the companies was a result of the economic recession which commenced before President Victor Paz Estenssoro took office in August. Gisbert then emphasized that since Estenssoro took office, 55 new enterprises have been established, a larger number of business start-ups than during the previous five years. The minister denied claims by private business owners that the firms were forced to close due to the "devastating effects" of the Estenssoro government's tax reform. (Basic data from PRENSA LATINA, 11/23/86)

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