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by John Neagle

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On April 12, Planning Minister Carlos Rodriguez reported that cumulative consumer price inflation for the first quarter of the year totaled 26.5%. He added that official projections for inflation during the months of April and May are "substantial." Even the most optimistic official forecast for 1989 inflation about 70%, would set an historical record. Independent economists and labor unions predict the annual rate will surpass 100%. According to Central Bank statistics, consumer price inflation in March averaged 21.3%, compared to 3.2% in February and 1.1% in January. [Basic data from El Nuevo Herald (Miami), 04/13/89]

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