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by John Neagle

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According to a May 15 report by the national government's Planning Department, authorizations for foreign investment in the first four months of the year totaled \$49.5 million, down 55.9% from \$112.3 million for the same period last year. The report attributed the decline to escalating political violence, and company executives' decisions to wait until after the May 27 presidential election. The Canada-based Starton company recently closed a gold mining operation in Antioquia department, result of threats and attacks by National Liberation Army (ELN) guerrillas. In the January-April period, US companies accounted for 65.5% of the foreign investment authorizations; British firms, 11%; and Panamanian companies, 5.21%. (Basic data from AFP, 05/15/90)

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