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by Barbara Khol

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On March 31, Richard Osborn, president of American Smelting and Refining Corp. (ASARCO), announced that Southern Peru Copper Corp. will invest US$300 million in Peru over the next five years. ASARCO owns a majority stake in SPCC, Peru's biggest copper producer and most important source of direct foreign investment. The investment program includes installation of a sulphuric acid plant in Ilo (1,200 km. south of Lima), and equipment upgrade and waste treatment facilities at the company's Toquepala and Cuajone mines located in the same region. In addition, said Osborn, SPCC is interested in acquiring mines to be privatized by the government within the next few years. (Basic data from Spanish news service EFE, 03/31/92; Agence France-Presse, 04/01/92)

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