

BULLETIN

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NORTH ASIA - ASIE DU NORD

based on media surveys in the North Asia region

JAPAN/JAPON

- L'organisation patronale Nikkeiren a adopté un rapport sur ses positions lors des négociations de l'offensive salariale du printemps: les patrons, en raison du ralentissement de la croissance, ne veulent consentir qu'à une hausse maximum de 2,2% des salaires de base, et laisser intacts les salaires des débutants, en donnant la priorité à la réduction des horaires.

- Prime Minister Miyazawa has said that his government will begin a review of the 1976 National Defence Outline. He has ordered a review of the 1991-95 Mid-Term Defence Plan and indicated that possible defence spending cuts could be made as soon as the FY1993 budget.

-Plusieurs journaux rapportent que M. Miyazawa lui aussi semble devoir multiplier les déclarations faisant allusion à une acceptation de la tarification pour le riz; dans une entrevue à la NHK, il a déclaré qu'à la condition de protéger les revenus des agriculteurs, il était possible d'envisager diverses solutions pour assurer le succès des négociations de l'Uruguay Round.

CHINA/CHINE

- Premier Li Peng departed on January 26 for a ten day foreign visit to the West, his first since before June of 1989. He has visited Italy, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal. His visit to Switzerland was met by protesters and was boycotted by a Swiss minister over China's human rights record. On January 31, Li Peng attended the UN Security Council meeting in New York, where he also had a bilateral meeting with US President George Bush.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has called reports carried in Western media that Zhao Ziyang has been cleared of any wrongdoing in the events leading up to Tiananmen as "baseless".

- Foreign investment in China in 1991 grew at the fastest rate since the beginning of the 'open door' policy. According to official statistics, more than 10,000 foreign joint ventures registered in China last year.

- In 1991, foreign trade by overseas-funded enterprises amounted to US\$28.9 billion.

- All Chinese official media reported Vice Foreign Minister Yang Fuchang's January 28 opening statement at the Middle East peace conference in Moscow. Yang called for the return of the occupied territories, restoration of the Palestinian right to self-determination, and security guarantees to for all countries, including Israel. The Peoples' Daily, in a front page editorial on January 26, welcomed the establishment on January 25 of diplomatic relations with Israel.

KOREA/CORÉE

- The chairman of Daewoo Corp. has said that North Korean President Kim Il Sung has expressed strong hope for South Korean investment in North Korea and wanted to meet President Roh as soon as possible to discuss unification and other issues.

Daewoo plans to build a joint venture garment plant at the North Korean port of Nampo at a cost of US\$10-20 million.

- An IAEA official is reported to have said that North Korea will sign the Nuclear Safeguards Accord on January 31 and will outline a timetable for actual inspections at a press conference after signing.

- Hyundai Motor Company resumed normal operations on November 27 after an eleven

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