

relations. He made the statement at a meeting with a delegation from the Canada-China Trade Council.

- The US "Intellectual Property Rights and Market Access Delegation" announced at the end of its five-day Beijing visit that it has invited Chinese Trade Officials to continue talks in Washington D.C. in August.

- Press reports indicate that PM Li Peng will visit Kuwait in early July, but the topics to be discussed have not been announced. Saudi Arabia, Iran and Egypt - and possibly Syria and Jordan - may also be visited by Li Peng to underline China's regional interests.

KOREA/CORÉE

- According to the Bank of Korea, the country's net foreign debt has been swelling in recent months, nearing US\$10 billion in May, doubling the figure registered at the end of last year.

- A draft "stock market opening plan" announced by the Ministry of Finance proposes that the Korean financial market be opened in January 1992. Non-resident foreigners in Korea, as well as Koreans residing abroad, will be allowed to buy up to 10% of a listed company's total shares in the Korean stock market, and they will be able to remit abroad all principle and interest accrued on their investment in the domestic securities market.

- Korea Development Institute forecasts 9% growth in the economy this year, with the current account deficit widening to US\$3.8 billion. The trade account deficit is estimated to grow to US\$3.2 billion based on exports of US\$72.6 billion and imports of US\$75.8 billion. Also, consumer prices are projected to increase 9.7% in 1991 compared to 9.4% in 1990.

- Media reports state that President Roh has directed his cabinet to begin preparations in earnest for national reunification which he predicted will come during the present decade. Roh underlined the need for an intensive study of the German case so Korea will not experience "trials and errors" following unification.

TAIWAN

- China is willing to ease its diplomatic offensive against Taiwan if Taipei agrees to begin talks on reunification, a member of Taiwan's ruling Nationalist Party said after returning from a private visit to Beijing. According to the Asian Wall Street Journal, Lin Yu-Siang said Chinese officials signalled they may end a boycott against Taipei's efforts to join international bodies such as GATT.

VIETNAM

- La secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures, l'honorable Barbara McDougall, a annoncé aujourd'hui que le Canada ouvrira un bureau diplomatique à Hanoi, au Vietnam, le 01 juillet prochain.

ONGOING AND UPCOMING/ A VENIR

-Canada '91 - Cultural Activities (including: choral, symphonic, and chamber music; cinema; theatre; ballet; a book promotion; and, a variety of art exhibits), Tokyo & surrounding area, till July 31.

-Festival Canada - Trade & Investment; Tourism & Cultural Activities (66 projects in all), Hong Kong, June 9-July 1.

-CDA-JPN Interparliamentary Group - visit to Japan, June 22-July 2.

-Visit of ROK President Roh - Ottawa & Vancouver, July 3-6.

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