

BULLETIN

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JAPAN/JAPON

- While Japan retains the position that there is inadequate scientific evidence to ban the use of driftnets, PM Mulroney emphasized to PM Kaifu that driftnetting is a serious problem which the Japanese should address.
- External Affairs Undersecretary, James Taylor has been appointed to succeed Mr. Barry Steers as Canada's next ambassador to Japan.
- PM Kaifu has won the support of Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, an influential LDP member, for a full two-year term in office. Mitsuzuka said that there will not be any rivals in the October LDP presidential election. The party always puts forward its president for the PM's position.
- Japan's current account surplus diminished to US\$5.308 billion in July from US\$6.498 billion during the same period a year ago.
- The Kansai Economic Federation plans to establish a 2.5 billion yen personnel exchange centre to train businessmen from developing countries in the Pacific region.
- The Tax System Council, a governmental advisory body, is considering exempting such items as rice, wheat, barley, postal rates, expressway tolls, and educational institution entrance fees from the 3% consumption tax imposed in April.
- Five Japanese have been arrested in Tokyo for attempting to sell four kilograms of uranium to the US Embassy in Japan. Sales of uranium is strictly controlled under Japanese law.
- PM Kaifu will meet PM Thatcher and Vice President Quayle when the two attend a gathering of conservative political leaders later this month.
- PM Kaifu indicated that Japan would extend \$US1.4 billion in loans to help Mexico solve its debt problems.
- PM Kaifu said that the US and Japan would continue efforts to resolve economic problems and would work together to achieve a successful conclusion to the Uruguay round of world trade negotiations in Geneva next year.
- According to government sources, Japan will lift its advisory against travel to China next week.
- Japan and the U.S. agreed to draft a plan for reforming their economies and business practices as the first round of the "Strategic Impediments Initiatives" talks ended.
- Bank of Japan Governor Sumita reiterated his strong determination to fight the dollar's rise against the yen with coordinated intervention.
- Canada, Japan and Western Europe voiced concern about the U.S. budgetary cutbacks on space projects which could delay the construction of an international space laboratory.
- The Japan Automobile Importers' Association stated that sales of imported cars surged 39.1% in August from the previous year to 14,008 units.
- The Osaka Prefectural Government will exclude eight construction firms from tendering construction works due to their forming a cartel to artificially fix prices on the New Kansai International Airport Project.

CHINA/CHINE

- As a result of the serious economic problems China is facing, the Government intends to adopt tougher measures in the next three years to accomplish economic retrenchment and improvement.