

International Security Affairs said that 6,987 USA soldiers would be withdrawn from South Korea by the end of 1992.

- La Corée du Sud et l'URSS vont signer un accord visant à développer leur coopération dans la promotion de l'utilisation de l'énergie atomique à des fins pacifiques.

- President Roh, Tae Woo initiated the ground-breaking for Taejon's EXPO '93, the first international exposition to be held in a developing country.

- NORTH KOREA: North Korea's fiscal budget for 1991 will reach 17.3 billion dollars, a rise of 4 per cent in revenues and an increase of 4.5 per cent in expenditures. Military expenses for 1991 are estimated at 12.3 per cent of the total budget compared to 12.1 per cent in 1990.

CHINA/CHINE

- During a visit to Peking April 12-15, former USA President Carter urged Chinese leaders to release jailed dissidents and not to reject international criticism of China's human rights abuses. Chinese leaders, including Prime Minister Li Peng, told Carter that the right of existence and development are the two most important human rights issues in China.

- In his annual press conference on April 9, PM Li Peng asserted that given similar circumstances to those which occurred in Tiananmen Square in June 1989, he would again employ "resolute action" to preserve stability. Li also confirmed that former party Secretary General, Zhao Ziyang remains under investigation for attempting to split the party.

- Le nouveau vice-premier ministre, Zhu Rongji, est en visite officielle en France, après l'Italie, les Pays-Bas et la Belgique.

- The Canadian Chemetics International Co. Ltd. has won contracts worth US\$ 16.32 million to build a fertilizer plant in Anhui province and a chemical plant in Hubei province. EDC has agreed to lend up to US\$ 16.32 million to the Bank of China for the projects.

- Le ministre des Affaires Étrangères de la France effectuera une visite en Chine du 29 avril au 01 mai.

HONG KONG

- Sino-British senior officials talks aimed at resolving the current impasse over Hong Kong's ambitious port and airport development strategy (PADS) concluded April 13 without reaching a conclusion. The main impediments to agreement remain the potential drain on Hong Kong's financial reserve and China's role in Hong Kong's decision making process in the run up to 1997.