

**BULLETIN**

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**NORTH ASIA - ASIE DU NORD**

**JAPAN/JAPON**

- Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakamoto has indicated that Japan will not recognize North Korea until Pyongyang accepts international inspection of its nuclear facilities, and has made clear progress in negotiations with Japan, as well as in initiating a dialogue with South Korea.

- Selon un sondage, 44% des japonais sont partisans d'un maintien de M. Kaifu au poste de premier ministre. Parmi les 42% qui aspirent à un changement, ceux qui préfèrent M. Miyazawa sont les plus nombreux.

- After months of wrangling among Japanese political parties, Prime Minister Kaifu and his security advisors have approved a bill to be submitted to the Diet which would allow up to 2000 Japanese troops to participate in UN peacekeeping operations. In order to avoid constitutional problems, the proposed bill would give the UN Secretary General authority to determine what type of arms the Japanese troops carry.

- Bankruptcies in August increased 75% from the same period last year, with record liabilities of \$7.1 billion. Of the companies which have gone bankrupt this year, nine ranked within the top 20 Japanese bankruptcies in forty years.

- During his visit next week to Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, Emperor Akihito will not apologize formally for the Japanese army's behaviour in the region. He will refer to the "unfortunate past" in his speeches.

**CHINA/CHINE**

- Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti visited China Sept. 15-20, the third G-7 leader to do so since Tiananmen, all in the past month. Chinese media have referred to the visit as representing

"not only full normalization, but expansion of our bilateral relations".

- Selon les médias, Andrew Higgins, journaliste britannique de "The Independent" à Beijing, a été expulsé de la Chine pour la possession de documents classifiés portant sur des activités indépendantistes dans la province chinoise de la Mongolie intérieure.

- The Chinese press reports that agriculture officials in China anticipate an excellent grain harvest this year, despite natural disasters which damaged wheat and rice crops in 18 provinces. It is expected to be second only to last year's record harvest of 435 million tons.

- La Chine compte augmenter la production d'électricité de 40% en cinq ans, visant une production totale de 870kwh en 1995.

- Avec l'approbation de 4996 projets pendant les premiers six mois de 1991, l'investissement étranger a augmenté de 71% par rapport à la même période l'année dernière.

**KOREA/CORÉE**

- Kim Dae-Jung, leader of the New Democratic Party, and Lee Ki-Taek, leader of the Democratic Party, announced the merger of their parties to form a consolidated opposition to the Democratic Liberal Party.

- According to media sources, South Korea has made high-level representations to Japan urging caution in Tokyo's steps toward what Seoul views as de facto recognition of Pyongyang, following North Korea's admission to the UN.