COUNTRY: Japan

POST: Tokyo LAST UPDATED: 14DEC89

Japan is a constitutional monarchy situated in the northeast Pacific. The population is concentrated on the four main islands of Honshu, Shikoku, Kyushu and Hokkaido. Some 76 percent of the population is urban and 22.5 per cent live within 50 miles of the capital of Tokyo. Japan is a highly industrialized society with one of the world's strongest economies. Japan's trade is dominated by the export of manufactured goods and the import of raw materials and semi processed products. Japan has for a number of years maintained a substantial trade surplus and one of the world's strongest currencies.