

BULLETIN

NORTH ASIA - L'ASIE DU NORD

JAPAN/JAPON

- Les ventes de voitures, camions et autocars importés ont augmenté de 20,6% en septembre 1989 par rapport à la même période l'an dernier, pour atteindre le record mensuel de 18,507 véhicules.

- Le Ministre des Affaires étrangères M. Taro Nakayama a accueilli favorablement la décision de Mikhaïl Gorbatchev de visiter le Japon en 1991, en indiquant que ce geste prouve que l'Union Soviétique a l'intention d'améliorer ses relations avec le Japon.

- Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp said it will seek bids on an equal footing from both domestic and foreign companies for construction of its new head office in Tokyo.

- Japanese investors led foreign investments in US stocks in the second quarter of 1989, buying US\$ 1.9 billion of securities.

- Mitsubishi Co received an order from Nova Scotia Power Authority for "full turn-key" construction of a coal-fired power plant generating 165,000 KW for Yen 35 billion. Exports from Japan will account for only about 7% of the total construction costs, with the rest procurable from within Canada and the US.

- A Newsweek survey, carried out by Gallup, reports that 54% of respondents view the economic power of Japan as a greater threat to the US than the military power of the USSR. The poll reported that 60% of Americans would "seriously consider" boycotting Japanese products unless Japan changes its allegedly unfair trade policies.

- Japanese institutional investors hold nearly CDN \$40 billion in Canadian bonds, stocks and direct loans to the Canadian government and public corporations, a survey by the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo shows.

- Sony Corp's buyout of Columbia Pictures Entertainment Inc will be the largest US corporate acquisition ever undertaken by Japanese interests. US Congresswoman Helen Bentley has called on the US to investigate whether the purchase would violate anti-trust laws.

- The Japanese Finance Ministry reports that for the second year in a row Japan ranked first in net private investments in developing countries in 1988, followed by the US.

- The U.S. Defense Department has banned 14 Japanese construction firms and 24 individuals from future contracts with the U.S. government because of alleged bid-rigging.

CHINA/CHINE

- According to PRC press reports, Deng Xiaoping told North Korean party chief Ji Jong-ok on Oct. 1 that "what happened in Beijing not long ago was bad, however, in the final analysis it was beneficial to us because it made us sober-minded".

- The CPP has barred private entrepreneurs from joining the party. Private sector businessmen who are already members must limit their incomes, and will have to submit to supervision by party organizations.

- A PRC Foreign Ministry spokesman alleged that Vietnam has been quietly landing troops on the Spratley Islands over the last few months, while China has been preoccupied with internal matters. The spokesman demanded that Vietnam withdraw from all islands it has occupied in the last 10 years.

- Li Ruihuan of the Politburo Standing Committee has said that for now it appeared Zhao Ziyang would not be expelled from the party, but made no prediction for the future.