

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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NORTH ASIA - ASIE DU NORD

JAPAN/JAPON

- Le gouvernement koweitien n'a pas fait mention de la contribution japonaise dans l'encart publicitaire diffusé dans le Washington Post pour remercier la trentaine de pays qui ont participé et aidé à la libération de son territoire.
- A study by a group of scholars on USA-Japan relations on the 30th anniversary of the Mutual Security Treaty suggests that anti-American nationalism is on the rise in Japan, resulting from trade issues and hostility towards the USA for leading the alliance into war in the Gulf.
- Le MITI a informé différentes compagnies pétrolières de son intention d'autoriser les pays producteurs à se lancer dans la distribution des produits énergétiques au Japon.
- Results from the referendum on unity in the Soviet Union show the majority of people living in the disputed Northern Islands voting against the islands' return to Japan. Japan has indicated that its claim to the islands still stands.
- Moscow is reported to have offered the return of the Shikotan and Habomai islands to Japan in return for the USSR's continued sovereignty over Kunashiri and Etorofu.

KOREA/CORÉE

- The Korean Government announced on March 14 a policy package to strengthen manufacturing competitiveness, comprising support measures for technology development, efforts to ease the shortage of technological manpower, land reclamation for new industrial sites and financing.
- The Ministry of Trade and Industry has announced that the Government will support plans for the development of the database industry to prepare for the market opening of the communications industry. The number of database firms is to increase from 15 to 300 by 1995.
- D'après l'association coréenne du fer et de l'acier, la Corée a produit l'an dernier 23.1 millions tonnes d'acier non-traité et consommé 21.2 millions tonnes.
- The Office of Supply announced that it will purchase U.S.\$972.7 million of goods for government offices and state-controlled companies this year through international bidding. The procurement fund will be drawn from the