

BULLETIN

NORTH ASIA - L'ASIE DU NORD

JAPAN/JAPON

- A Japanese steel industry leader said chances are slim for an extension of Japan's voluntary restraint agreement on steel exports to the U.S. when the accord expires on Sept. 30. The U.S. continues to push for an international consensus against so-called "unfair trade practices."

- British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arrived in Tokyo to begin a four-day visit to Japan.

- Japan Business News Center, affiliated with Kyodo News Service, concluded an agreement to distribute Japanese corporate news in China.

- On Oct. 2, Tokyo will host the first OECD meeting to be held outside the group's headquarters in Paris.

- Kimimasa Tarumizu, a senior advisor to the Japanese finance ministry, has been elected next president of the Asian Development Bank.

- Nippon Mining Co. said it has signed a licence agreement with Hana Biologics of California, to produce and sell culture media and diagnostic medicines in Japan.

- Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. has reached an agreement with the U.S. government to extend and expand a 5-year-old pact on bilateral cooperation in research and development in the telecommunications field.

- A Japanese business group, led by Mitsui and Co., and the Iranian government have agreed on a "friendly liquidation" of a joint Japanese-Iranian petrochemical project, a sore spot in economic relations between the two countries.

- Japan has officially asked Vietnam to repatriate refugees who have come to Japan seeking work.

- PM Kaifu reiterated his call to a government advisory body for concrete ways to reform the election system.

- Membership in Japan's ruling LDP dropped more than 40% in the year since August 1988.

- Sohyo, le second syndicat ouvrier a pris la décision de se fusionner en novembre au syndicat Rengo qui compte déjà dans ses rangs le plus grand nombre de travailleurs nippons tant du secteur public que privé.

- D'après l'agence Kyodo, le Gouvernement japonais maintiendra son opposition à la reprise des prêts de la Banque Mondiale à la Chine lors de la réunion annuelle de la B.M. et du Front Monétaire International qui s'ouvre à Washington le 26 septembre.

- L'association japonaise des constructeurs de maisons en bois de style 2X4 annonce pour le deuxième trimestre de 1989 une augmentation record de 16.8% sur l'année précédente. Plus de 11,600 unités furent construites à travers le pays.

CHINA/CHINE

- India and China opened three days of talks by a joint commission to forge closer trade ties and to coordinate strategy for upcoming Uruguay Round negotiations.

- After nearly four months absence from public view, Deng Xiaoping has appeared twice on television, and took the opportunity to reemphasize that China would adhere to the policy of opening and reform while maintaining communist ideology.

- According to a Hong Kong newspaper, troops in Beijing have been ordered to increase their state of readiness ahead of the Chinese National Day on Oct. 1.

- A delegation from the USSR Supreme Soviet is in Beijing on a six day official goodwill visit.

- Deng Xiaoping, meeting Japanese political leaders, stressed that Sino-Japanese friendship must be maintained "under any circumstances."
- Chinese Communist Party General Secretary, Jiang Zemin, said there are no plans to lift martial law in Beijing, but told a visiting group of Japanese political leaders that China retains its commitment to reform and open doors.
- Beijing has dismissed Liang Xiang, governor of Hainan Province, saying he abused his office for private gain. Liang, a strong advocate of Zhao Ziyang's economic reforms, is the highest official discharged to date in the current anti-corruption campaign.
- Ten Buddhist monks and other Tibetans were sentenced to prison terms of up to life on charges of rioting and spying for the Dalai Lama during the anti-China uprising in March 1989.
- China's trade deficit for August widened by US\$270 million and now stands at US\$6.85 billion for the first eight months of 1989, more than double for the same period last year.

TAIWAN

- Real estate prices in Taipei City soared in 1988 compared to 1987. Per ping (one ping equals 3.4 square meters) prices rose 70.3% in residential areas, 96.2% in business areas and 125.1% for apartment house suites.

HONG KONG

- Simon Murray, chairman of Hutchison Whampoa, estimates that CAD\$3 billion has transferred from Hong Kong to Vancouver alone in the first eight months of 1989.
- PM Thatcher has asked Japan to continue to support Hong Kong by keeping up the pace of their investments in Hong Kong.
- In contrast to his predecessor, the new minister with special responsibility for Hong Kong, Francis Maude, made a successful visit to Hong Kong. He called on China to improve confidence in Hong Kong by recognizing peoples' concerns over Basic Law.

KOREA/COREE

- Executives of 50 Korean aviation and defence firms called for increased technical cooperation with the Canadian aerospace industry.
- Korean overseas investment amounted to US\$278 million during the first eight months of 1989, an increase of 47.8% over the same period last year. North America's share was US\$128.3 million in 42 projects.
- Korea Exim Bank signed its first loan to an Asian country from its "soft window" Economic Development Fund. Indonesia will receive 8.9 billion won (approximately US\$13 million).

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ONGOING AND UPCOMING/A VENIR

- Trade Mission to Korea and Hong Kong, Minister of International Trade, Sept. 15-23.
- 14th World Energy Congress, Montreal, Sept.17-24. Contact:Canadian National Committee, World Energy Conference, 305-130 Albert Street, Ottawa K1P 5G4.
- International Meeting of Parliamentarians, International Democratic Union, Tokyo, Sept. 21-23.
- Japanese Assoc. of Canadian Studies Annual Meeting, Tokyo, Sept. 23-24.
- OECD Council Meeting, Tokyo, Oct. 1-6.
- World Environment Legislators Forum, Tokyo, Oct. 9-10.
- Second Canada-Japan Telecommunications Seminar, Ottawa, Oct. 23-24.
- Cda-Jpn Telcom Policy Consultations, Annual Meeting, Ottawa, Oct. 25-26.
- InterMedica '89, International Medical, Hospital and Healthcare equipment, products and technology exhibition, Taipei, Taiwan, Nov. 2-5. For info contact: The Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Ottawa, (613) 238-4000.
- Pacific Economic Cooperation Committee, Seventh Annual meeting, Auckland, Nov. 12-15.
- Bilateral Trade Consultation Minister for International Trade, Tokyo, Nov. 10-11.
- Quadrilateral Meeting, Tokyo, Nov. 12-14.
- Arita Ceramics Symposium, Japan, Nov. 15-17.
- Trade Ministers Meeting, Tokyo, Nov. 17-19.
- Annual Canola Consultations, Tokyo, Dec.
- COMMTEL Asia '89, Hong Kong, Dec. 5-8.

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