

BULLETIN

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NORTH ASIA - ASIE DU NORD

CHINA/CHINE

- Despite heavy security and the closing of Tiananmen Square to the public from June 1-4, hundreds of university students in Beijing staged protests on their campuses on the nights of June 3 and 4.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has rejected charges by foreign correspondents that they were beaten and their equipment damaged while covering the protests in Beijing on June 3&4. The Ministry accused a small number of journalists of having collaborated with those planning unlawful activities and engaging in activities that are "incompatible with their journalistic status".
- China has placed a **US\$ 4 billion** order for commercial jets with the Boeing Corporation. Boeing had spoken out in favour of the renewal of the Most Favoured Nation status for China.
- The State Council's Production Committee announced that growth in the industrial output is continuing its upward trend, increasing 3% in May.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced last week that China has bought 99,500 metric tons of soft red winter wheat at subsidized prices. The purchase was made under the **Export Enhancement Programme**.
- The State Council has approved the construction of 16 large and medium-sized electric power projects. The central government will fund a third of the total investment. The remainder is to be borne by local governments.
- The Chinese Embassy in Washington reiterated that no overseas students would be held accountable simply because they participated in demonstrations in the USA last year. It was also reaffirmed that China's Government policy of sending students and scholars for overseas study would not change.

JAPAN/JAPON

- Foreign Minister Nakayama has indicated Japan intends to improve bilateral relations with North Korea. With regard to the summit discussions between South Korea and the USSR, he indicated they mark a major turning point in South-North relations on the Korean Peninsula. In addition, he announced he will visit Moscow by the end of this year to discuss details of President Gorbachev's Japan visit in 1991.
- A **US\$ 441 million** government budget for fiscal year 1990 finally became law on Thursday, despite the rejection of the budget bill earlier the same day by the opposition-dominated House of Councillors. The budget grew by 9.7% from the original budget for the previous year, with significant increase in social welfare, defence, and overseas assistance spending.
- Japan and the USA will hold a high-level meeting on June 14 in Kentucky, aimed at increasing U.S. auto parts exports to Japan.
- The Finance Ministry said in a preliminary report that Japan's current account surplus in April posted the sharpest fall in more than 10 years by falling 69.6% from a year earlier to **US\$ 2 billion**. This decline resulted from a continued fall in exports and a sustained rise in imports.
- A Ministry of International Trade and Industry study reports Japan will have to double its present number of nuclear power stations to 78 over the next two decades, in order to meet the expected growth in demand and stabilise carbon dioxide emissions.
- Komeito Secretary General Ichikawa said his party is ready to deliberate about the consumption tax with the Liberal Democratic Party.

KOREA/COREE

- Au cours d'une rencontre historique et sans précédent qui s'est tenue à San Francisco, les présidents Roh et Gorbachev se sont entendus sur la nécessité de normaliser prochainement leurs relations diplomatiques. Ils ont de plus convenu de promouvoir la coopération entre leurs deux pays et ce, dans les domaines économique, scientifique, technologique et culturel.
- As oil consumption is expected to increase 20% annually, Korea's four oil refineries are seeking massive expansion of production, investing more than US\$ 2.1 billion this year alone.
- Samsung Electronics Co. has agreed to produce electronics TDX switching systems worth US\$ 12 billion in a joint venture with the Soviet Union, over the next 5 years. Samsung also agreed to export facsimiles, private exchange systems and other items worth US\$ 100 million a year.
- L'indice des prix à la consommation de la Corée a grimpé de 6,7 % au cours des cinq premiers mois de 1990, ce qui représente la plus importante hausse de l'inflation depuis 1981.
- Korea's unemployment rate dropped 0.4% to reach a rate of 2.2% in April, the lowest in recent years.
- Seoul proposes to dispatch a high-level mission to Moscow next month to follow up on President Roh's meeting with Soviet leader Gorbachev in San Francisco this week. The mission to be headed by Foreign Minister Choi Ho Joong will look into means of establishing formal diplomatic relations.
- Automotive parts shipments during the first four months this year rose 27.9% to US\$ 145.2 million over the corresponding period last year. Exports destined to USA and Canada accounted for 46.9% of the total.
- NORTH KOREA: North Korea's State News Agency bitterly denounced the Roe-Gorbachev meeting this week, denouncing the Soviet leader for his "unpardonable, traitorous bargaining" with South Korea.

TAIWAN

- There have been sharp increases in the number of persons emigrating from Taiwan in recent months.
- A delegation of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) visited Taipei from May 27 to June 2, to encourage interest in Canadian post-secondary institutions.
- The Taiwanese authorities have announced that in order to expand the nation's international air transportation service, the Government will allow more airlines to negotiate with other countries to exchange landing rights.

HONG KONG

- Baring Securities predict that growth of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) could reach 3.5% this year, and 6.2% in 1991.
- The number of illegal immigrants from China arrested by the Police has doubled from last year, with 85 arrests a day in May.

INDOCHINA/INDOCHINE

- A two-day Cambodian Peace conference held in Tokyo concluded with the signing of a joint communique in support of a cease-fire set for late July. The Khmer Rouge representative, Khien Samphan, boycotted the entire set of talks.

ONGOING AND UPCOMING/A VENIR

- International Council for Canadian Studies (ICCS)- annual meeting, Beijing, July 10-12.
- Association for Canadian Studies in China (ACSC)- annual conference, Beijing, July 12-14.
- Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)--Ministers' meeting, Singapore, July 30-31.
- Canada-China International M Xian, China, August 10-14. Conf Faculty of Business Admin., S (604) 291-4528; FAX: (604) 29

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