

BULLETIN

NORTH ASIA - L'ASIE DU NORD

JAPAN/JAPON

- PM Kaifu will make an official visit to Canada from Sept. 6th-9th and will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Nakayama.

- As a gesture of reform, PM Kaifu has requested that all members of his cabinet drop factional affiliations in the LDP while holding their government positions.

- Mr. Yamanaka has been retained as the head of the LDP Tax Reform Commission. He has agreed to modify his strong support for the unpopular 3% consumption tax.

- Japan's four main opposition parties have agreed on a tax reform package that would scrap the consumption tax. The LDP contends that this proposal is irresponsible and fails to present alternative ways to make up for the lost revenue from the tax.

- The Athabasca oilsand project in Alberta involving Canadian and Japanese interests will begin a four year pilot study in 1990.

- Japan had a trade surplus of US\$886.1 million in the first 10 days of this month compared to US\$1.13 billion a year ago.

- The Science and Technology Agency has developed a new material capable of withstanding temperatures of 1700 degrees Celsius.

- By using an optical fiber cable, IBM (Japan) has successfully tested two types of computer chips that can process data in a billionth of a second.

- The Bank of Japan said in its monthly report that the Japanese economy continues to expand vigorously, led by personal consumption and corporate fixed investment.

- The government will not accept so-called "economic refugees" and will deport them as illegal entrants.

- Travel agents are mounting a campaign to lure tourists to wintertime Canada by offering varied programs with attractive natural settings. Currently, more than half of the 400,000 Japanese tourists travel to Canada in the July to September period.

- The Labour Ministry reported that an increasing number of Japanese companies are recruiting women university graduates.

CHINA/CHINE

- The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party will hold its 5th plenum in October to discuss the economy and the fate of the purged party chief Zhao Ziyang, according to a HK news report.

- China has blamed high inflation and lower tourism revenues for the delay in payment of loans to some Japanese banks.

- Because of a shortage of foreign currency caused by the country's economic problems and a new austerity program, China has cancelled orders for 330,000 tons of Japanese steel.

- The China Daily reported that the average urban Chinese was nearly 3% poorer in the first half of 1989 than in the first half of last year.

- A circular issued by the Supreme Peoples' Court and Procuratorate asked state employees involved in embezzlement, bribery, speculation or any other corrupt practices to turn themselves in before Oct. 31.

- The proportion of officially sponsored students studying in the West may be reduced, according to the Vice-Minister of the State Education Commission who linked the turmoil in Beijing to an open educational policy.

- Cotton-spinning factories in Beijing, Tianjin and Shanghai received only 55% of their supplies in the first 7 months of this year and will have difficulty meeting yearly quotas.

### TAIWAN

- Premier Lee Huan appoint P.K. Chiang as the administrative vice minister of economic affairs.

### HONG KONG

- The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation reported first-half profits after tax and transfers of HK\$1.93 billion, a 15.3% increase.

- The third group of Vietnamese refugees has flown back to Vietnam under the voluntary repatriation program. There are still some 54,000 Vietnamese refugees in HK.

- US Congressman Stephen Solarz called for an "insurance policy" to be provided by the US, Canada, and Australia whereby HK citizens could settle in these countries should the situation warrant.

### KOREA/COREE

- The ROK government announced plans to allow foreign beef to meet 35-40% of the market up to a maximum of 53,000 tons.

- The government party won a Seoul by-election by a large margin. The media billed the event as a popularity poll and endorsement of President Roh's administration.

- President Roh will hold a meeting in September to examine measures to boost slow export growth.

- The ROK government plans to invest US\$ 4.8 billion in 55 government R&D projects in new materials, precision electronics, aerospace, fine chemistry and bio-engineering.

- US-ROK fish talks have been extended and the National Fisheries Administration states it will allow US observers on driftnet vessels and will allow installation of transponders on vessels to monitor their movements.

- A record 121,000 ROK tourists went abroad in July and spent an estimated US\$1.4 billion.

### INDOCHINA/INDOCHINE

- The Vietnamese Foreign Minister stated that a solution to the deadlocked talks in Paris depended on finding a process to ensure the Khmer Rouge leadership did not return to power.

### ONGOING AND UPCOMING/A VENIR

- Pacific Economic Cooperation Committee, Auckland, Sept. 4-5.

- Marine Biotechnology Conference, Tokyo, Sept. 4-6.

- Global Environment and Human Response Conference, Tokyo, Sept. 11-13.

- 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.

- Japan Steel Industry Annual Consultations, Ottawa, Oct. 5.

- Second Canada-Japan Telecommunications Seminar, Ottawa, Oct. 23-24.

- Cda-Jpn Telcom Policy Consultations, Annual Meeting, Ottawa, Oct. 25-26.

- Keidanran/MITI Investment Survey Mission to Canada, Oct. 20.

- InterMedica '89, International Medical, Hospital and Healthcare equipment, products and technology exhibition, Taipei, Taiwan, (China) 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.

- Trade Mission to Japan, Minister for International Trade, Tokyo, Nov. 15-18.

- 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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