

.... June 20 Juin 1990

.... LE TEMPS - Région parisienne: Matinée
assez belle avec des éclaircies et des passages nuageux. Pluie en début de soirée. Il fera 20°.

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AFP: LE MONDE EN BREF

MOSCOU - Mikhaïl Gorbatchev a ouvert mardi matin à Moscou la Conférence des communistes de Russie, qui doit préparer le 28ème Congrès du PCUS en juillet et décider de la reconstitution du Parti communiste de Russie, disparu depuis 1925. Il s'est livré à un long plaidoyer en faveur de l'unité du parti communiste, dénonçant avec vigueur l'éventuelle création de "fractions" organisées en son sein et défendant vigoureusement les acquis des 5 premières années de la perestroïka.

BUCAREST - Ce mercredi doit avoir lieu la cérémonie d'investiture du président élu roumain Ion Iliescu, en présence du sénat et de la chambre des députés réunis conjointement à Bucarest. Aucun représentant de l'ambassade américaine n'y assistera, a indiqué mardi un porte-parole de l'ambassade des Etats-Unis à Bucarest.

LA BAULE (France) - Une trentaine de représentants de pays africains, dont 22 chefs d'Etat, étaient attendus à La Baule (ouest de la France), pour participer au sommet franco-africain, prévu ce mardi soir à jeudi.

ECONOMIC AID TO THE SOVIET UNION

REUTER: Mitterrand urges Western plan for USSR

PARIS - "President François Mitterrand said in an interview published on Tuesday that France would urge the West in the next few weeks to consider a major economic aid programme for the Soviet Union. He told the daily LE MONDE he believed President Mikhail Gorbachev was capable, despite great difficulties, of raising Soviet living standards. But if he failed to hold the country together there could be grave international repercussions. 'Therefore, I intend to ask the forthcoming summits in Dublin (European Community) and Houston (G7) to consider financial, commercial and technical aid for the USSR', Mitterrand said."

LE FIGARO: Alcatel Bell: gros contrat en URSS

"Après plusieurs mois de suspense, Alcatel Bell, la filiale belge du groupe français Alcatel, a signé, hier à Moscou, un contrat prévoyant la fourniture sur 2 ans de 250 000 lignes téléphoniques numériques à l'URSS. Conformément aux souhaits des autorités soviétiques, le numéro 2 mondial des télécommunications s'est également engagé à créer 2 sociétés mixtes. Au total, cette opération devrait représenter 2,8 mrd de dollars sur 20 ans."

RAPPORT SUR LA COMPETITIVITE MONDIALE

AFP: La Thaïlande et la Malaisie "étoiles montantes"

LAUSANNE (Suisse) - "Le Japon, la Suisse, les Etats-Unis et l'Allemagne de l'Ouest restent solidement en tête des pays les plus compétitifs, mais la Thaïlande et la Malaisie sont les 'étoiles montantes' des nouveaux pays industrialisés avec la Corée du Sud, affirme un rapport de l'International institute for management development de Lausanne. Les changements en Europe de l'Est ont essentiellement profité à la RFA, à la Suisse, ainsi qu'aux pays nordiques, souligne le rapport de l'IMD réalisé en collaboration avec la fondation du World economic forum... Le classement de la compétitivité mondiale de l'institut de Lausanne s'établit ainsi dans l'ordre: Japon, Suisse, E.U., Allemagne de l'Ouest, Canada, Suède, Finlande, Danemark, Norvège, Pays-Bas, Autriche, Grande-Bretagne, Australie, France, Belgique, Irlande, Nouvelle-Zélande, Italie, Espagne, Portugal, Turquie, Grèce, Hongrie."

TRADE TALKS

FINANCIAL TIMES: GATT bid to simplify tariff charges agreed

GENEVA - "A significant simplification of the world trading system was agreed yesterday in the Uruguay Round trade talks. From now on, the plethora of extra charges levied by many governments on imports will be recorded in the tariff schedules that each country has to publish under the GATT. Moreover, as with their regular tariffs or customs duties, countries will be expected to 'bind' the extra charges, undertaking not to raise them above the levels prevailing at the end of the Round in December."

EC/FRONTIER CONTROLS

HERALD TRIBUNE: 5 nations to open borders before '93

PARIS - "Five European countries, including France and West Germany, agreed Tuesday to allow the free movement of people across their borders in a step toward the elimination of all frontiers within the 12-nation EC by 1993. The agreement, which was also signed by Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, is expected to come into effect some time early in 1992, after it has been ratified by the 5 nations' parliaments and after German unification has been completed. Under its terms, all border checks would be lifted so that citizens of other countries would also be permitted to move freely within the 5-nation zone. But the 5 governments plan to tighten immigration and police controls on those entering the area."

/COURT OF JUSTICE

THE INDEPENDENT: EC 'rewrites' British constitution

"The European Court of Justice ruled yesterday that courts in Britain must suspend Acts of Parliament where rights of citizens guaranteed by EC law may be at risk. The Luxembourg court's decision paves the way for a wholly new constitutional and legal experience for the UK legal system, strengthening the hand of businesses and individuals to seek effective justice under Community law in the British courts. One Luxembourg source said yesterday that it amounted to a rewriting of the British constitution. It means that claimants able to show prima facie breaches of EC law will be entitled to seek immediate injunctions to prevent hard-ship pending rulings on their cases... Yesterday's decision stemmed from litigation against the government by the Spanish fishing industry over the Merchant Fishing Act 1988, which introduced a ban on so-called 'quota hopping' by Spanish-owned vessels fishing in British waters under British flags."

ECONOMIES OCDE

Yougoslavie

LES ECHOS: OCDE: Le pays doit continuer la lutte contre l'inflation

"La Yougoslavie, engagée comme les autres pays d'Europe de l'Est dans une tentative de rupture avec son passé socialiste mais qui connaît également de graves difficultés régionales, doit s'attaquer avant tout à l'inflation, estime l'OCDE dans sa dernière étude consacrée à ce pays. Pour les experts du Château de la Muette, une baisse durable de l'inflation est la condition sine qua non de la réussite du programme de réformes économiques en cours. Selon cette étude, 'des risques de chocs susceptibles de perturber le processus de désinflation subsistent et appellent à une surveillance rigoureuse' pour éviter le retour au cercle vicieux de stagflation et de problèmes de balance des paiements."

Germany

HERALD TRIBUNE: Bonn parties want all-German vote Dec. 2 or 9

BONN - "Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his coalition partners agreed Tuesday that all-German elections should be held on Dec. 2 or 9 and that East-West reunification should occur immediately after the polls close, coalition sources said. The coalition, meeting 2 days after East Germany flirted with the idea of announcing an instant merger, agreed that the elections should replace the West German elections planned for Dec. 2... Mr. Kohl said he wanted to have the question of a united Germany's military ties solved in time for a planned November summit meeting in Paris of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe."

Japan

YOMIURI SHIMBUN: GNP up 5% in fiscal '89

"Led by robust domestic demand, the nation's economy in the January-March quarter this year jumped an inflation-adjusted 2.5%, or 10.4% at a yearly rate, over the previous 3-month period, bringing the real-term gross national product growth for fiscal 1989 to 5.0%, the government said Tuesday... The preliminary report on the national economy, released by the Economic Planning Agency, said fiscal 1989 marked the third consecutive year in which the nation's GNP - total output of goods and services - expanded at a year-on-year rate of 5% or more in real terms. Agency officials said the healthy growth of the national economy was due mainly to the continued uptrend in consumer spending and to corporate investment in plants and equipment."

Italy

FINANCIAL TIMES: Unions call July strike after wage discussions

ROME - "Italy's 3 union confederations will tomorrow call a general strike for July in their first trial of strength with private sector employers in more than 5 years. The call, for both public and private sector workers to stop work between July 10 and July 15, followed fruitless discussion on employers' demands for wage moderation. In turn, Confindustria, the manufacturers association which represents Italian private industry, will formally withdraw from the 'scala mobile' wage indexation system in the next few days."

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