

.... June 25 Juin 1990

.... LE TEMPS - Région parisienne: Le ciel  
est quasiment bleu. Vent calme. Il fait  
14° ce matin. Cet après-midi: 27°.

.... SG/PRB/D(90)113

AFP: LE MONDE EN BREF

BERLIN-EST - Le front constitué face à l'URSS par les puissances alliées occidentales et les 2 Etats allemands dans les négociations "2+4" sur les aspects extérieurs de l'unification allemande s'est fissuré pendant le week-end, avec une prise de position de la RDA critiquant l'inflexibilité trop grande de ses partenaires occidentaux. Le ministre est-allemand des Affaires étrangères, Markus Meckel, a regretté que les pays occidentaux présents - USA, France, Grande-Bretagne, RFA - aient rejeté une proposition soviétique de démilitarisation totale de Berlin faite vendredi par son homologue, Edouard Chevardnadze.

ROUDBAR (Iran) - Un nouveau violent tremblement de terre de magnitude 5,7 sur l'échelle de Richter, selon l'Institut de géophysique de l'Université de Téhéran, s'est produit dimanche dans la province de Ghilan (200 kilomètres à l'ouest de Téhéran). Le dernier bilan des victimes s'élèverait à 50.000 morts.

CANADA'S CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS

FINANCIAL TIMES: Canada moves to calm markets

CALGARY/MONTREAL - "Canada's Finance minister appealed yesterday to foreign investors not to allow the collapse of the Meech Lake constitutional accord to overshadow their perception of the country's economic strengths. Mr. Michael Wilson said in an interview yesterday that 'while there is likely to be some uncertainty, we must balance that against the more fundamental performance of the Canadian economy and our economic policies'... Ottawa's efforts to reassure foreign investors, which included a 2-page statement by Mr. Wilson outlining the government's economic priorities and achievements, came as Canadian banks called in extra foreign exchange traders last night as a precaution against a turbulent reaction in international financial markets to the collapse of Meech Lake."

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OCDE - COMITE D'AIDE AU DEVELOPPEMENT

AFP: Baisse de l'aide OCDE au Tiers-Monde

PARIS - "L'aide publique au développement (APD) des grands pays industrialisés a subi une réduction notable en 1989 alors que le Japon a dépassé les Etats-Unis comme principal pays donneur en termes absolus, indique l'OCDE dans un rapport publié dimanche à Paris. Selon ce rapport, faisant état de données encore provisoires, les versements nets d'APD par les 18 pays membres du CAD se sont élevés l'an dernier à 46,5 mrds de dollars, en retrait de 1,6 mrd par rapport au montant de 48,1 mrds enregistré en 1988... Le président du CAD, M. Joe Wheeler, a souligné en présentant le rapport que la moitié des membres du CAD ont augmenté leur APD l'an dernier, avec en tête la France (+ 545 M de dollars hors DOM/TOM), devançant la RFA (+ 437 M), le Japon (+ 366 M) et la Suède (+ 233 M)."

ASAHI EVENING NEWS: Japan tops aid donations league

"Japan has become the biggest aid donor in the world for the first time ever, with contributions of around \$9bn in 1989, the Foreign Ministry said Friday. Quoting statistics compiled by the Paris-based OECD, the ministry said Japan extended \$8.96bn in official development assistance (ODA) last year, a 1.9% drop from \$9.13bn the year before. The United States, the top donor in 1988, dropped to second place, with \$7.66bn, followed by France, whose disbursement totaled \$7.47bn." (Several articles in the press today: FINANCIAL TIMES, HERALD TRIBUNE, JAPAN TIMES, YOMIURI SHIMBUN, LES ECHOS, FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, SUDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG).

CEE

LE FIGARO: Dublin: Trois tests pour l'Europe

"Triple épreuve pour les Douze: l'aide à l'Union Soviétique, l'unification allemande et l'union politique de l'Europe sont au menu du sommet de Dublin, qui débute aujourd'hui. Trois dossiers intimement liés: aider l'URSS, c'est aider l'Allemagne, donc aider l'Europe."

TRADE TALKS: JAPAN-US

FINANCIAL TIMES: Japan's concessions on eve of talks

TOKYO - "Japanese officials are preparing this weekend for what they hope will be the final round of negotiations with the US to remove so-called 'structural impediments' to trade and reduce the country's \$49bn bilateral trade surplus. Keen to be seen to be doing their bit, Japanese ministries this week have produced a flurry of apparent concessions to US demands, and a package of suggested reforms will be delivered when the talks begin in Tokyo on Monday. The government's annual white paper on trade, released yesterday, described the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) talks as 'epoch-making'. In emphasising that the talks are meant to be a '2-way street', the paper characterised as 'dramatic' the US willingness to take some of the trade blame."

LES ECHOS: A nouveau prêts à en découdre

"... Les négociateurs américains abordent ce nouveau round avec une idée très précise en tête: obtenir de Tokyo des garanties chiffrées et un calendrier précis de mise en oeuvre des réformes annoncées... Le point de friction le plus attendu concerne le débat sur l'accroissement des dépenses publiques japonaises. Actuellement fixées à 6,3% du PNB celles-ci devraient selon les Etats-Unis progresser jusqu'à 9% ou 10% d'ici à 1995... En contrepartie, le Japon propose un objectif en termes absolus: 400.000 à 415.000 mrds de yen (environ 2.700 mrds de dollars) pourraient être débloqués dans les 10 prochaines années soit à peu près le double des investissements publics réalisés au cours de la décennie passée... Si le climat n'est pas au beau fixe, les 2 partenaires ont toutefois l'intention de boucler le rapport final de leurs discussions au plus tard avant le sommet de Houston des 9 et 10 juillet prochains."

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

HERALD TRIBUNE: Debt payment strategy unveiled

CARACAS - "Latin American and Caribbean countries have announced a common strategy for reducing by 75% their annual payments on the region's \$440bn foreign debt. The strategy was approved Saturday at the end of a ministerial meeting of the 26-member Latin American and Caribbean Economic System, known as SELA. SELA countries last year paid out more than \$40bn to service their debts, according to the organization's permanent secretary, Carlos Perez del Castillo."

OECD ECONOMIES

United Kingdom

FINANCIAL TIMES: May exports reach record £8.9bn

"Further evidence that the domestic slowdown in demand is freeing capacity for exports is provided by the latest trade statistics that show record British exports of £8.9bn in May. When oil and erratic items are stripped out, export volumes between March and May showed a 1.5% rise over the previous 3 months, and were 11% higher than the same period last year. The volume of manufactured goods exported in the 3 months rose to a level 14% higher than in the same period last year. However, May imports of £10.4bn, little changed from April, indicate that the economy is still strong enough to absorb imports at a significant rate... Higher May exports and stable imports produced a visible trade deficit of £1.52bn in May, £0.3bn lower than the April figure of £1.32bn was also lower than the revised £1.6bn deficit in April."

THE TIMES: Shortage of orders 'forces curb on prices

"A growing shortage of orders, which are at their lowest level for 8 years, is finally forcing manufacturers to curb price rises. The prediction, in the latest monthly trends survey by the Confederation of British Industry, suggests that the Chancellor's painful anti-

inflationary policy has at last begun to work through to prices. The survey, regarded as an accurate predictor of short-term trends, shows that 17% more firms expect to raise prices over the coming 4 months than to cut them. But this is the lowest figure since October 1986."

United States

WALL STREET J.: Rally in stocks: higher economic index

NEW YORK - "A surging US stock market probably helped push a prominent economic index into the positive zone in May, but economists caution against being overly optimistic. The index of leading economic indicators, the US government's chief economic forecasting gauge, is believed to have risen as much as 0.7% in May, following a decline of 0.2% in April. But the outlook for the week's only other major report, May new home sales, calls for continued weakness."

WALL STREET JOURNAL: Manufacturing sector stabilizing

WASHINGTON - "The jump in orders for big-ticket goods last month in the US suggests to some analysts that the manufacturing sector may be beginning to stabilize. Orders received by makers of durable goods - factory equipment, planes, cars, appliances and other items intended to last at least 3 years - leaped 3.9% in May, to \$128.19bn, after dropping 4.2% in April and soaring 6.7% in March, the US Commerce department said."

Denmark

HERALD TRIBUNE: Rates cut to curb strong krone

COPENHAGEN - "Denmark's central bank cut its key interest rates Friday by half a percentage point because of a substantial foreign currency inflow and the krone's relatively strong position in the European Monetary System. The rate on loans to financial institutions moves to 10.5%, and the deposit rate becomes 9.5%. The bank said it is also raising the little-used discount rate by half a point to 8.5%."

END-OF-TEXT