

.... July 18 Juillet 1990

.... LE TEMPS - Région parisienne: Après la  
rapide dissipation de quelques  
formations de brumes il fera beau et  
chaud. 28°.

.... SG/PRB/D(90)130

REUTER - WORLD NEWS SUMMARY

PARIS - The 5 permanent members of the U.N. Security Council ended 2 days of talks on Cambodia with a terse statement that they had agreed to continue efforts to end one of the world's longest-running conflicts.

NICOSIA - Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, in a fiery speech to the nation, accused Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates of stabbing Baghdad 'in the back with a poisoned dagger' by conspiring with Washington to undermine world oil prices and weaken Iraq.

MANILA - Hundreds of Philippine workers and foreign managers and technicians remain trapped beneath the rubble of 5 quake-hit factories in the northern city of Baguio, Industry department officials said. Rescue workers reported the lack of heavy equipment was hampering rescue operations."

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UNITED GERMANY: POLISH BORDER DEADLOCK IS BROKEN

HERALD TRIBUNE: Border secured by pact of war victors

PARIS - "Foreign ministers of the 4 victorious World War II powers, the two Germanys and Poland announced Tuesday that they had reached agreement settling a dispute on the German-Polish border. They also set in motion plans to end 4-Power rights by the end of this year, clearing an important obstacle to German reunification. 'Today will go down in history as the day on which the Polish border has been settled to the satisfaction of our Polish friends', said Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign minister."

GATT

AFP: Renforcement des règles du GATT: CEE divisée

BRUXELLES - "La France s'est opposée mardi à Bruxelles à ses partenaires de la CEE, en rejetant l'idée que le GATT puisse abandonner la règle du consensus dans ses décisions. La Commission européenne a fait cette proposition devant les ministres du Commerce des Douze, affirmant qu'il fallait améliorer le fonctionnement du GATT pour appliquer correctement les nouvelles règles commerciales internationales actuellement élaborées dans les négociations dites de l'Uruguay Round. La France, soutenue par l'Irlande, 'n'est pas d'accord' avec la proposition de la Commission, a affirmé devant la presse son ministre du Commerce extérieur Jean-Marie Rausch."

HERALD TRIBUNE: EC agrees to defend farm line

BRUSSELS - "The European Community will reject demands from trading partners for concessions on agriculture and other issues at crucial negotiations on world commerce next week, EC Trade ministers decided on Tuesday. The Italian Foreign Trade Minister, Renato Ruggiero, who chaired the meeting, said the Community did not have 'excessive hopes' for the outcome of the talks in Geneva on the GATT between senior negotiators from more than 100 countries... Mr. Ruggiero said 'The negotiations will not end at that meeting. They will really start there'."

YOMIURI SHIMBUN: Rice tariff rejected

GENEVA - "Aart de Zeeuw, chairman of the farm trade panel of the Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations, rejected the Japanese government's demand that he amend his proposal to replace nontariff farm trade barriers with tariffs, it was learned Tuesday. Japan's request was intended to exclude rice from the proposed program to convert all import restrictions in farm trade into tariffs. De Zeeuw's proposal states that a limited number of

farm products could be considered as special cases through negotiations between individual countries. However, the draft reportedly does not make reference to specific products or to the concept of food security."

CEE

AFP: Visite du président de la Commission à Moscou

BRUXELLES - "Le président de la Commission européenne Jacques Delors se rend mercredi à Moscou pour s'entretenir pendant 3 jours avec les dirigeants soviétiques de la possibilité d'une aide financière des Douze à l'URSS. Il s'agit de la 1ère visite en URSS d'un président de la Commission, l'exécutif de la CEE. M. Delors devrait notamment rencontrer vendredi le président Mikhaïl Gorbatchev."

WALL STREET J.: SWA:EC-Wide impact of Belgian ruling

BRUSSELS - "A seemingly obscure ruling by a Brussels court against Sabena World Airlines could alter the course of competition among EC airlines. The Brussels Commercial Court yesterday found SWA guilty of violating an EC competition law that prohibits concerted practices that prevent, restrict or distort competition. SWA, the new Brussels-based joint venture between Sabena, British Airways and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, has a virtual monopoly on traffic rights from Belgium to other countries. In its decision, the court prohibited SWA from winning new takeoff and landing slots at Brussels airport for an indefinite period. The airline would be fined 100,000 Belgian francs (\$2,930) for each breach of this order."

BUSINESS

FINANCIAL T.: The French lead in cross-border mergers

PARIS/LONDON - "French state-controlled companies have made many more cross-border mergers and acquisitions in Europe since the start of last year than nationalised groups from any other European country, according to a survey. They were particularly active in the first quarter of this year, making 40 European deals with a disclosed value of Ecu2.52bn (\$3.12bn) - 58% of the value of all French deals in Europe, according to European Deal Review by Translink, a small group specialising in data on cross-border deals."

THE INDEPENDENT: Record 87,000 new businesses in UK

"More new businesses were set up last year than ever before, despite high interest rates and a harsher economic climate, according to government figures published yesterday. As measured by Vat registrations, an average of 1,700 businesses started up each week - a total of 87,000 during 1989. The previous record, set in 1988, was for 1,250 new businesses a week."

FINANCIAL T.: Building exports at highest since 1982

"The value of world construction export orders rose by almost a fifth last year to stand at their highest level since 1982, according to a survey of the largest 250 international contractors. Construction exports which had fallen sharply following the collapse in oil prices during the mid-1980s have risen by more than 50% since the end of 1987. The latest survey shows international contractors won \$112.6bn in foreign contracts last year compared with \$94.1bn in 1988 and \$73.9bn in 1987. Last year's total was still below the \$123bn of foreign contracts won by the top 250 international contractors in 1982... The strength of developing Asian economies in countries such as Korea and Malaysia has encouraged contractors, notably from Japan and the US, to forge joint ventures with local construction companies."

OECD ECONOMIES

United States

HERALD TRIBUNE: Trade gap swells as oil imports jump

WASHINGTON - "The US trade deficit swelled by a sharper-than-expected 5.8% in May while industrial production rose 0.4%, the government reported Tuesday. A jump in imports, including oil and automobiles, was the driving force behind the increase in the trade gap to \$7.73bn from a revised \$7.31bn in April, the Commerce department said. The US import bill climbed

by 2.9% in May, to \$40.52bn from \$39.36bn in April. Total exports also rose in May, but by a smaller 2.3%, to \$32.79qbn from \$32.06bn in April. The resulting May deficit was moderately higher than economists' expectations for a gap of \$7.5bn."

WALL STREET J.: June industrial output rose modestly

WASHINGTON - "The nation's industrial production rose modestly last month, bolstered by a jump in utility output during a torrid heat wave in late June, the Federal Reserve reported. Industrial output grew 0.4% in June following a 0.6% increase in May. With the increase in production, the country's factories, utilities and mines used more of their capacity in June: 83.5%, up from 83.3% in May."

France

LA TRIBUNE:Recul du chômage et des statuts précaires

"Le chômage baisse et les statuts précaires reculent au profit des emplois stables: selon l'enquête sur l'emploi réalisée chaque année par l'INSEE. De 2.308.000 en mars 1989, le nombre de chômeurs au sens du BIT est passé à 2.222.000 fin janvier, soit 9,1% de la population active contre 9,5% l'an dernier. Cette enquête devrait permettre, selon le ministère des Finances, de réviser à la baisse le dernier taux de chômage mensuel connu (mai 1990), qui serait de 8,9% au lieu de 9,3%."

Finlande

AFP: Inflation de 0,3% en juin, 5,6% sur 12 mois

HELSINKI - "Les prix à la consommation ont augmenté de 0,3% de mai à juin, soit 5,6% sur 12 mois, a indiqué mardi l'office des statistiques finlandais. les principales hausses sont le fait de la licence de télévision (+9,3%) ainsi que des primes d'assurance et de l'essence. Sur un an, ce sont les prix des services sanitaires qui ont le plus augmenté (+9,6%) et ceux des denrées alimentaires qui ont le moins progressé (+3%)."

END-OF-TEXT