

.... September 26 Septembre 1990

.... LE TEMPS - Région parisienne: Ciel
nuageux avec éclaircies. Nuages plus
abondants cet après-midi. 20'.

.... SG/PRB/D(90)154

REUTER - WORLD NEWS SUMMARY

WASHINGTON - The United States is stepping up its campaign to secure a multi-billion dollar rescue package for states hit by the Gulf crisis and has called a first meeting of a special task force.

WASHINGTON - South African President F.W. de Klerk went the furthest ever towards the principle of one person, one vote for his nation and won possibly the strongest endorsement yet of his racial reforms during his 3-day visit to Washington.

PASADENA, California - After weeks of breakdowns, the Magellan spacecraft has beamed back to earth spectacular pictures of Venus showing a planet scarred by vast craters, huge lava rivers and parallel fractures resembling a road network.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE GULF CRISIS

REUTER: Major nations should retain oil stocks -- OECD chief

WASHINGTON - "Major industrial nations should maintain their oil stocks fully as long as there is a risk of war in the Middle East, OECD Secretary General Jean-Claude Paye said. He told reporters he would not be surprised if the US did not want to release its stocks. Especially if it felt there was an increasing risk of war in the Middle East... Paye said OECD studies show that growth in the 24-nation group will slow to an annual rate of 2.0% to 2.5% over the next 18 months, assuming crude oil is priced at \$25-30 a barrel. Originally, OECD projected an annual growth rate of 3.0% for its members. The inflation rate will be around 5.5% instead of 4.5%, Paye said."

AFP: AIE: le marché toujours convenablement approvisionné en brut

PARIS - "Le marché pétrolier est convenablement approvisionné en brut même si la situation est tendue sur les produits raffinés, estime-t-on auprès de l'Agence Internationale de l'Energie, alors que certains cours du brut ont cassé lundi la barre des \$40 par baril. 'Sept semaines après le début de la crise dans le Golfe, l'approvisionnement en brut demeure suffisant, même s'il n'est pas confortable', a indiqué un haut responsable de l'AIE. Le secrétariat de l'AIE ne devrait pas proposer de puiser dans les stocks stratégiques de brut, lors de la prochaine réunion de ses 21 pays membres vendredi à Paris. L'AIE ne touchera aux stocks stratégiques ou contrôlés par les gouvernements que s'il y a une réelle pénurie de brut et non pour réguler les fluctuations du marché pétrolier, a souligné le responsable de l'AIE."

HERALD TRIBUNE: UN extends embargo to air

UNITED NATIONS - "The UN Security Council overwhelmingly approved a resolution on Tuesday expanding its mandatory arms and economic embargo against Iraq to cover air traffic. The 14-to-1 vote - with only Cuba voting against - came in a special meeting of Foreign ministers of the 15-member council... Resolution 670 also called on all states to detain any Iraqi registered ships that enter their ports and that are found to be in violation of the UN embargo."

FINANCIAL TIMES: Iran lines up with Syria in opposing Iraq

CAIRO - "Iran yesterday strongly backed an emerging anti-Iraq front in the Gulf crisis, pledging its support for efforts by Syria's President Hafez al-Assad to co-ordinate opposition to the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait. Iran's President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani went out of his way to express unanimity of views with Mr. Assad, who had travelled to Tehran to lobby for Iranian co-operation."

ANNUAL IMF-WORLD BANK MEETING

FINANCIAL TIMES: Conable outlines action on poverty

WASHINGTON - "Mr. Barber Conable, president of the World Bank, yesterday urged the international community to make as big an effort combating poverty as it had in dealing with the Gulf crisis... He said it was possible to reduce the number of poor people in developing countries by at least 300 million by the year 2000... Mr. Conable said encouragement of economic growth and better directed educational and health services were at the core of the bank's anti-poverty strategy. The World Bank was rapidly increasing its lending for primary education, basic health care and family planning."

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

REUTER: EC grants \$50 million to help job creation, training

BRUSSELS - "The EC said on Tuesday it was granting \$521 million to France, Italy, West Germany and Britain to help create jobs and train people in regions of industrial decline or persistent unemployment. The 391.6 million Ecu (\$521 million) payment from the 12-nation community's Social Fund will be supplemented by grants from the 4 governments concerned, the EC's executive commission said in a statement."

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

WALL STREET JOURNAL: OECD study: Iceland has lowest phone bills

"A new study shows people in Scandinavian countries have among the lowest telephone bills in the developed world. Comparing costs for identical telecommunications services around the world, the OECD study finds that Icelandic and Danish businesses pay the least -58% less than the average, Spanish businesses pay the most, 45% above average. Calls in Portugal, Italy, West Germany, Ireland, Austria and Japan also are high-priced."

OECD ECONOMIES

United States

WALL STREET JOURNAL: Economy grew 0.4% in 2nd period

WASHINGTON - "The US economy slowed to a near standstill in the second quarter, growing at a frail 0.4% annual rate, revised government figures show. The performance, far weaker than the 1.2% increase the government estimated in 2 earlier reports, is of particular concern because the US economy has since been socked by soaring oil prices in the aftermath of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait Aug. 2. Yesterday's report, made by the Commerce department after reviewing new data, means that the nation's real GNP was barely rising even before the jump in oil prices piled new burdens on businesses and consumers."

United Kingdom

THE GUARDIAN: Environment plan to make polluters pay

"Chris Patten, the Environment Secretary, yesterday produced a plan to clean up Britain which he said gave the country its first coherent environment strategy on which there could be no going back... A £28 billion bill to clean up water and sewage will be picked up by the consumer. Industry will be forced to cut waste by the threat of punitive charges. Public transport will be encouraged. Stricter MOT tests aimed at cutting pollution will be enforced. Provisions to cut noise from vehicles, and car and burglar alarms will be introduced. Air pollution will be monitored daily for the first time."

France

LE FIGARO: Déficit commercial: 5,3 mrds en août

"La balance commerciale de la France a enregistré un déficit de 5,343 mrds de francs en août, selon les données provisoires et corrigées des variations saisonnières publiées hier par la direction des Douanes... Sur les 8 premiers mois de l'année, le déficit atteint 23,274 mrds de francs... La ventilation par grands secteurs d'activité montre un léger

repli de l'excédent agroalimentaire, qui passe de 4,94 à 4,33 mrds en août. De son côté, le déficit énergétique s'est alourdi, augmentant de 6,17 à 7,60 mrds de francs."

LE FIGARO: Chômage: on repasse sous la barre des 2,5 millions

"Le nombre des demandeurs d'emploi a diminué au mois d'août de 0,7% en données corrigées des variations saisonnières. On repasse ainsi au-dessous de la barre des 2,5 millions de chômeurs, mais le taux de chômage reste inchangé depuis 3 mois à 8,9% de la population active."

END-OF-TEXT