

.... October 18 Octobre 1990

.... LE TEMPS - Région parisienne: Périodes
de soleil et de nuages. Vents faibles.
Il fera 18'.

.... SG/PRB/D(90)171

REUTER - WORLD NEWS SUMMARY

UNITED NATIONS - The 5 permanent members of the U.N. Security Council agreed on a draft resolution that opens the door for nations and individuals damaged by Iraq's occupation of Kuwait to seek financial compensation.

BELGRADE - President Borisav Jovic said Yugoslavia could be headed for civil war and warned rebellious Slovenia and Croatia to step into line. Jovic said a flare-up in ethnic unrest as Yugoslavia tries to become a democracy after 45 years of communism had endangered security.

MWANZA, Tanzania - The President of Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania called for an immediate ceasefire in a civil war raging since Rwandan rebels invaded the remote central African state on October 1.

AFP: LE MONDE EN BREF

BONN - L'Irak a été informée tout au long du mois d'août des plans militaires des Américains et de leurs alliés dans le Golfe, grâce à un archiviste du ministère des affaires étrangères à Bonn, rapporte jeudi le quotidien allemand BILD.

PARIS - Le ministre israélien de l'Habitat Ariel Sharon considère comme acquis qu'un million de Juifs soviétiques "dans une lère étape" émigreront en Israël.

DOLLAR - AFP: "Le dollar a plongé de 1,55 yen jeudi sur le marché des changes de Tokyo, terminant la matinée à 124,25 yen, soit son plus bas niveau depuis 22 mois. REUTER: "... The dollar continued its slide, hitting an all-time low of 1.5038 German marks in European trading on Wednesday before regaining some strength to end higher at 1.5120 marks in New York, against Tuesday's 1.5105."

PETROLE

LE FIGARO: Les stocks débordent

"Situation paradoxale sur les marchés pétroliers. Alors que les cours évoluent toujours en dents de scie, tant à New York qu'à Londres, et que l'AIE a une nouvelle fois refusé d'entamer ses stocks de réserve, les réservoirs du marché libre de Rotterdam regorgent littéralement de pétrole... En septembre, indique un rapport du ministre néerlandais de l'Economie, Koos Andriessen, 'les 4,3 millions de barils par jour (mbj) correspondants à la production perdue d'Irak et du Koweït ont été compensés à hauteur de 3,7 mbj par une plus forte production des autres pays de l'OPEP, notamment Arabie Saoudite, Venezuela et Emirats Arabes Unis'."

HERALD TRIBUNE: IEA pledges to maintain oil stocks

JAKARTA - "The head of the IEA, Helga Steeg, in an effort to promote cooperation with oil producers and soothe world oil markets worried by the possibility of war in the Middle East, gave an assurance Wednesday that Western nations would immediately begin releasing stocks of oil 'if additional shortfalls develop'."

REUTER: Gulf oil losses nearly eliminated worldwide

WASHINGTON - "The world oil shortage caused by the loss of exports from Iraq and Kuwait has nearly been eliminated, the US Energy department said on Wednesday. The 4.3 million bpd loss of output that followed the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait is expected to drop below 500,000 barrels daily by year-end, or about 1% of non-communist world oil consumption, the

department said in its latest estimate."

HERALD TRIBUNE: Russian aide quits in protest

MOSCOW - "The co-author of the radical 500-day plan for transforming the Soviet economy submitted his resignation Wednesday to protest President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's abandonment of the program for a more conservative compromise plan. The co-author, Grigori Yavlinsky, deputy prime minister of the Russian Republic, told the Russian parliament that the compromise plan could lead the country to economic chaos."

EASTERN EUROPE

FINANCIAL TIMES: Romania: new foreign investment

"Many obstacles facing foreign companies investing in Romania under the former Ceausescu regime, have been, or will soon be, removed, following new legislation drawn up by the Romanian government. The legislation, aimed at attracting much-needed capital into a country starved of investments since 1982, will put foreign investors on an equal footing with their Romanian counterparts."

AFP: Hongrie: Optimisme pour 1991

BUDAPEST - "Le ministre hongrois des Finances, M. Ferenc Rabar, a présenté mercredi au cours d'une conférence de presse ses estimations quant à l'évolution de l'économie hongroise au cours de l'année 1991, prévoyant notamment une dévaluation de 15% du forint, un taux d'inflation de 32 à 35% et une chute de 5% du PNB et des exportations, a rapporté l'agence de presse MTI."

REUTER: EC to explore new E. Europe aid fund

BRUSSELS - "The European Commission, urgently trying to help Eastern European countries find \$7bn worth of financing, agreed on Wednesday to work with other wealthy nations to set up a fund for the plan. The Commission estimated that because of the Gulf crisis Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia faced a collective financial deficit of \$6.85bn next year."

FINANCIAL TIMES: Brussels to widen trade favours

BRUSSELS - "The European Commission decided yesterday to include Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Romania in its system for giving favourable trade terms to developing countries. The decision will bring these 3 states into line with Poland and Hungary, which were granted improved trade terms with the EC last December... The Generalised System of Preferences for 1991 will cover some Ecu28bn (£19bn) of exports from developing countries, and will save them some Ecu1bn in terms of waived EC import duties."

ENVIRONNEMENT

AFP: Atlantique du Nord-Est: traité anti-pollution

LISBONNE - "Un traité de coopération en matière de lutte contre la pollution dans l'Atlantique du Nord-Est a été signé mercredi à Lisbonne entre la France, l'Espagne, le Portugal, le Maroc et la CEE. Cet accord, dit Traité de Lisbonne, prévoit une assistance réciproque et une coopération internationale en matière de prévention et de lutte contre toute pollution dans cette zone de l'Atlantique due à des déversements accidentels d'hydrocarbures en mer."

OECD ECONOMIES

United States

REUTER: New home buildings: longest slide in 30 years

WASHINGTON - "The building of new homes in the US has ground to a recession-era pace, slumping for an 8 straight month, the longest slide in 30 years and a further indication of the US economy's downward spin. The US Commerce department said on Wednesday that total starts on single-family homes and apartments fell 0.6% last month after a revised 1% decline in August."

France

LA TRIBUNE: Révision à la baisse des prévisions

"Le Centre d'observation économique (COE) de la Chambre de Commerce de Paris révisé à la baisse ses prévisions de croissance pour 1991. 'La croissance serait de l'ordre de 2,5% en 1990 et de 2% en 1991', les bénéfices attendus de l'unification allemande 'tardant à prendre le relais d'une économie américaine très ralentie. Conséquence de cette conjoncture internationale pour le moins morose, les exportations de biens et services ne gagneraient que 4% l'an prochain, contre 11% en 1989 et 5,2% en 1990."

END-OF-TEXT