

.... November 6 Novembre 1990

.... LE TEMPS - Région parisienne: Après
dissipation des brumes, le ciel se
dégagera rapidement. Il fera 7'.

.... SG/PRB/D(90)183

NICOSIA - The United States and Saudi Arabia defined their military command structure for any fighting against Iraq, hours after the exiled ruler of Kuwait made an impassioned plea for the swift liberation of his country.

NEW DELHI - Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh battled to stay in office for one more day after party rebels threatened his plan to embrace parliamentary defeat and go down as a crusader for Indian secularism.

WASHINGTON - Americans, edgy with economic worry and war jitters, elect a new Congress and state leaders in voting likely to weaken President George Bush's hand as he nears some fateful decisions.

THE GULF CRISIS

THE GUARDIAN: EC strives to hold line on Iraq

BRUSSELS, BONN - "Foreign ministers of the EC met in emergency session last night to work out an agreed strategy over hostages in Iraq after signs of a crumbling in the Western stand in the confrontation with President Saddam Hussein. The Italian government, which currently holds the presidency of the European Community, hastily arranged the meeting in Rome following requests from Belgium, Holland and Germany... The Dutch and Belgian governments have been angered by what they see as the semi-official status of the visit to Iraq by the former German Chancellor, Willy Brandt.

HERALD TRIBUNE: US to call up combat reserves

WASHINGTON - "The Defense department has decided to call up major combat units from the reserves totaling thousands of men to join the force in the Gulf in the next few months, officials said... The reservists are expected to be among as many as 100,000 additional troops the Pentagon has said it will send to the Gulf in coming weeks."

LA TRIBUNE: Treize milliards de dollars aux pays les plus touchés

"Vingt-quatre pays figurant au nombre des plus riches du monde se sont officiellement engagés à apporter 13 mrds de dollars d'ici à la fin de 1991 aux pays financièrement les plus touchés par la crise du Golfe, et notamment ceux de 'la ligne de front' (Egypte, Jordanie et Turquie). La décision a été prise par ce 'Groupe de coordination financière' mise en place lors de la dernière assemblée annuelle du FMI fin septembre... Il est convenu que les 3 Etats du Golfe (Arabie Saoudite, Qatar, Emirats arabes unis), ainsi que le gouvernement koweïtien en exil, apporteront la plus grosse part du paquet d'aide, soit 8,4 mrds de dollars. La CEE, qui avait annoncé jusque-là un apport de 2 mrds de dollars, a accepté d'en porter le montant à 2,2 mrds. La contribution japonaise sera de 2 mrds."

OIL

YOMIURI SHIMBUN: Demand to decline slightly

TOKYO - "World crude oil demand in the October-December quarter will amount to 54.1 million barrels per day, slightly down from 54.4 million bpd in the fourth quarter of 1989, the IEA predicted in a report released in Tokyo on Monday... The fourth quarter-year-on-year slowdown in crude oil consumption is 'a result of lower economic growth and higher oil prices', said the agency... The world's crude oil supply in October amounted to 53.4 million bpd, up 600,000 from September. The increase was due primarily to production boosts by non-OPEC countries."

AFP: Réunion d'experts de pays producteurs et consommateurs de pétrole

GENEVE - "Des experts de pays producteurs et consommateurs de pétrole se réuniront mardi aux Nations Unies à Genève pour débattre durant 3 jours des problèmes d'énergie pétrolière. Les bouleversements sur les marchés pétroliers provoqués par la crise du Golfe fournissent une toile de fond nouvelle à cette réunion prévue depuis longtemps et organisée sous l'égide des Nations Unies, et à laquelle participera également un observateur de l'OPEP. L'AIE qui avait aussi été contactée n'a pas l'intention d'y être représentée... Il s'agira avant tout d'une rencontre entre techniciens qui échangeront des informations entre pays producteurs et consommateurs sur des questions telles que l'offre pétrolière, les problèmes de financement et d'investissements ou de transferts technologiques."

REUNION JEUDI A PARIS SUR L'EUROPE DE L'EST

AFP: Réunion pour évaluer les besoins de l'Europe de l'Est

PARIS - "La France a invité 7 pays d'Europe de l'Est, dont l'URSS, ainsi que les grandes institutions financières internationales, à participer à une réunion jeudi prochain à Paris pour évaluer les besoins de ces pays, a-t-on appris de source officielle. Le président de l'exécutif de la CEE, la Commission européenne, M. Jacques Delors et M. Pablo Pomicino, ministre du Budget, représentant l'Italie qui assure actuellement la présidence tournante de la CEE, ont également été invités... Le directeur général du FMI, M. Michel Camdessus, et le président de la Banque Mondiale, M. Barber Conable, sont attendus à cette réunion qui devrait permettre de faire le point sur les réformes économiques en Europe de l'Est. Le Secrétaire Général de l'OCDE, M. Jean-Claude Paye, ainsi que M. Jacques Attali, président désigné de la BERD, doivent également être présents."

MONNAIES

LE FIGARO: Le dollar poursuit son dérapage

"Le dollar a poursuivi hier la glissade entamée vendredi... La baisse a été spectaculaire encore à Francfort, où le billet vert a cassé, pour la 1ère fois, la barre des 1,50 DM. Il a coté hier au fixing 1,4923 DM contre 1,5015 DM à la fin de la semaine dernière, sans que la Bundesbank daigne intervenir. A Paris, le dollar a coté dans l'après-midi à son plus bas niveau depuis 9 ans et demi, 'fixant' à 5,0135 F, tandis qu'à l'ouverture à New York il perdait encore un peu de terrain hier après-midi, à 1,4930 DM."

GATT NEGOTIATIONS

WALL STREET JOURNAL: Cairns group threatens to quit

WASHINGTON - "A group of 14 agricultural-exporting nations said international trade negotiations are 'in a state of crisis' and threatened to quit the talks by mid-month 'unless significant progress is achieved'. The warning from the so-called Cairns Group was directed at the European Community, which has been reluctant to negotiate cuts in farm subsidies... The Cairns Group said the round 'wouldn't conclude without a satisfactory package of reforms on agriculture', adding that 'unless significant progress is achieved by mid-November, all participants in the negotiations would need to assess the implications for the conduct of the round, and for the future of the entire multilateral trading system'."

FINANCIAL TIMES: EC no nearer accord on farm subsidies

BRUSSELS - "Hopes of an early breakthrough in the EC's vital farm policy negotiations were quickly dashed in Brussels last night. EC Agriculture and Trade ministers - meeting for the seventh time in just over a month - emerged deeply divided after discussing a new compromise proposal... The compromise did not alter the basic European Commission offer of a 30% cut in farm supports over the 10 year period 1986-96 - but it included a declaration from the Brussels executive designed chiefly to reassure the French and the Germans that key principles of the Common Agricultural Policy would be retained."

ASIA-PACIFIC COUNTRIES

HERALD TRIBUNE: Wealth seen matching Europe

SINGAPORE - "Asia-Pacific countries together will be as rich as Western Europe by the year 2000 and as rich as the United States by early in the next decade, the chairman of the Singapore Economic Development Board, Philip Yeo, said Monday. Mr. Yeo said the combined gross national products of Japan, the newly industrialized countries of Hong Kong, Taiwan, South

Korea and Singapore, and members of the Association of South East Asian nations is 68% that of Western Europe and 64% that of the United States. ASEAN groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Singapore."

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

FINANCIAL TIMES: Undersea cable project planned

"British Telecom and MCI Communications, the second largest US long-distance telecommunications network after AT&T, are planning to build the largest undersea communications cable ever laid at a cost of up to £250m. The 2 companies have signed an agreement to plan to build a fibre optic cable - called TAT-X - which will be capable of handling 150,000 telephone calls simultaneously. It will operate at a transmission rate of 2.5bn bits of information transmitted every second."

EUROPEAN INDUSTRY

FINANCIAL TIMES: South Europe urged to go high-tech

BRUSSELS - "Southern Europe should modernise itself by moving higher up the technological ladder, rather than trying to reinforce its comparative edge in traditional, labour-intensive sectors that are under increasing competitive threat from the Third World. This is one of the conclusions of a 340-page study released yesterday by the European Commission on the effect of the '1992' programme on European industry... The capital goods industry, far more important in the north, faces greater competition through the opening of public procurement to cross-border bidding. In response, companies are cutting capacity and linking up."

END-OF-TEXT