
AFP: LE MONDE EN BREF

LIBREVILLE - M. Diouri, l’écrivain marocain expulsé de France jeudi, a, dans une déclaration radio-télévisée dimanche soir à Libreville, affirmé qu’il n’était "pas en prison" et qu’il était "en bonne santé".

JERUSALEM - Un jeune Palestinien de 18 ans a été tué dimanche soir par les tirs de soldats israéliens à Hébron (Cisjordanie occupée), selon des sources militaires à Jérusalem.

LUXEMBOURG (CEE) - Les 12 pays de la CEE ont décidé dimanche à Luxembourg de ne pas reconnaître l’indépendance de la Slovénie ou de la Croatie, si ces 2 républiques décidaient unilatéralement de quitter la fédération yougoslave. Ils ont également convenu, le cas échéant, de "refuser tout contact à haut niveau" avec ces républiques.

BELGRADE - La Croatie et la Slovénie proclameront simultanément leur indépendance, a déclaré dimanche le président slovène Milan Kucan, à 3 jours de la date prévue pour la proclamation de l’indépendance de la Slovénie, le 26 juin.

ATHENES - Cinq policiers ont été blessés, dont un grièvement, par l’explosion d’une bombe à retardement dimanche soir à Athènes, entre l’École Polytechnique et le musée archéologique.

MADRID - Cinq policiers ont été blessés, dont l’un assez sérieusement dimanche matin par l’explosion d’un véhicule piégé devant un commissariat de police à Madrid.

G7 MEETING IN LONDON

THE INDEPENDENT: Ministers threaten to act on $

LONDON - "Finance ministers and central bank governors of the 7 leading industrial countries last night threatened to intervene directly against the dollar, in response to international concern that it has risen too fast in recent months... In their final statement the ministers gave an upbeat assessment of a global economy which they said showed ‘increasing signs’ of recovery. But heated discussion of the dollar took up much of the morning session on economics of the meeting of the Group of Seven finance ministers and bank governors, which was held in London. Afterwards the ministers and bank governors reaffirmed their commitment ‘to cooperate closely, taking account of the need for orderly markets, if necessary through appropriately concerted action in exchange markets’. The reference to concerted action did not explicitly mention the dollar but was clearly aimed at the US currency. It means central banks may sell dollars to drive their value lower. The threat was absent from the last Group of Seven statement, in Washington in April. That referred only to the commitment to co-operate on the foreign exchanges. Since then the dollar has strengthened. There have been fears that the weakness of the mark would prompt a rise in German interest rates, which would pose new problems for the British government in reducing base rates fast enough to get the economy going again in time for the election. The agreement to intervene against the dollar if necessary may help to defuse the German problem."

THE TIMES: No big aid for Soviets

LONDON - "Finance ministers from the Group of Seven industrialised countries agreed unanimously yesterday that the Soviet Union should be offered associate membership of the International Monetary Fund. But they made it clear that President Gorbachev cannot expect any big aid package when he attends the economic summit in London next month... The ministers emphasised that any Western help to the Soviet Union was conditional on continuing Soviet reform. ’Only the Soviet Union itself can bring about
change and reform. Massive aid itself is not the answer’, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, said afterwards. There was disagreement on whether Moscow
should be allowed to borrow more from the European Bank for Reconstruction
and Development. Its borrowing limit is set at 6%, the same as its
sharing interest in the bank. Nicholas Brady, the American treasury secretary,
yesterday reiterated American opposition to any raising of the borrowing
limit. But he admitted that other countries wanted to reconsider this.”

REUTER: Japan pleased with meeting

LONDON - "Japan appeared to get what it wanted out of the London meeting
of the world’s 7 leading industrial democracies. The communique released
after Sunday’s session of the Group of Seven indicated Tokyo had not been
isolated over a policy on Western aid to Moscow. Japan had also wanted the
G7 to sanction coordinated currency intervention to stem further rises of the
dollar to the yen – just as the meeting agreed to do... ‘Things went rather smoothly... We believe the final communique was more or less
in line with what we had originally wanted’, a senior Japanese official
said. Japan sought to avoid any clear G7 commitment on financial aid to
Moscow, the officials said... ‘We (G7 nations) had a consensus that we
shouldn’t consider any major financial aid pending concrete Soviet
reform’, Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto told reporters after
the meeting... Tokyo’s reluctance to agree to any cash-for-economic reform
programme is largely due to its dispute with Moscow over 4 islands off
northern Japan which Soviet troops captured at the end of World War two.”

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

THE TIMES: UK battles to slow reforms

BRUSSELS - "An attempt by the Luxembourg government to force the pace of
this week’s European Community summit on political and monetary union was
rebuffed at a meeting of the 12 foreign ministers yesterday... Jacques
Poox, the Luxembourg foreign minister and chairman of yesterday’s meeting,
said that the summit of EC leaders could take definite decisions on creat-
ing a common foreign policy and granting extra powers to the European
Parliament. He said that the summit should work towards ‘concrete results’
and give ‘precise guidelines’ to the treaty draftsmen. A number of
countries, including Germany, agreed with Britain, however, that the
Luxembourg summit should be no more than ‘stock taking’. Hans-Dietrich
Genscher, the German foreign minister, told the meeting that it was too
soon for decisions to be taken on individual elements of the negotiations
and the summit should not try to pre-empt decisions due to be taken at the
December summit in Maastricht. In addition, Britain, Portugal, Ireland and
Denmark were reported to have rejected proposals that EC foreign policy
should be decided by a majority, rather than a unanimous vote, and for the
European parliament to be given the power to veto community laws."

WALL STREET JOURNAL: US, EC agree on standards

WASHINGTON - "The US and the European Community agreed to step up their
efforts to harmonize the industrial standards to be followed by
manufacturers in the US and Europe. US Commerce Secretary Robert
Mosbacher, who signed a joint communique with EC Commission Vice President
Martin Bangemann, said the effort may require each party to ‘withdraw
conflicting national standards when consensus international standards are
developed’. The communique called on standards-setting organizations on
both sides of the Atlantic to recommend various ways in which this
harmonization can be achieved.”

PAYS DE L’OCDE

France

LE FIGARO: Les comptes de la nation pour 1990

PARIS - "La France à l’épreuve des turbulences mondiales’: tel est le
titre choisi pour les Comptes de la nation 1990, que l’INSEE publie
aujourd’hui. En 400 pages, les comptables nationaux tirent le bilan d’une
année marquée par la crise du Golfe, tout en précisant bien que le
‘ralentissement était déjà à l’œuvre’. Après 2 années exceptionnelles
pour l’économie française, où la croissance avait atteint 4% en 1988 et
3,7% en 1989, l’activité mesurée par le produit intérieur brut (PIB) n’a
progressé que de 2,6% en 1990... Sur l’ensemble de l’année 1990, le rythme
de croissance de la consommation a pratiquement pas, ‘il reste
stabilisé autour de 3% depuis 1987, témoignant d’une certaine inertie face
aux variations de l’activité’. Au contraire, l’investissement productif,
qui s’était accru de 8,5% l’année précédente, ne progresse plus que de 4,5% en 1990, à l’exception notable de l’industrie qui maintient son rythme d’investissement, en dépit du net ralentissement de sa production.

REUTER: "Germany’s equal"

BONN - "France must be Germany’s economic equal in the European Community if political union is to succeed, French Prime Minister Edith Cresson told the German newspaper DIE WELT. She also said in an interview to be published on Monday that the EC should not admit new members until it was united... Cresson said time was running out for the EC to achieve its goal of union and no new members, rich or poor, should join until it was politically and economically one. ‘Imagine if the EC had to give a helping hand to countries like Romania and Bulgaria as it does today to Portugal or Greece’, she said. Cresson also said Germany’s decision to reinstate Berlin as its capital would change the country’s image abroad. ‘Bonn was a low-profile city’, she said. ‘Now the time for a high profile has begun’.”

Australia

AUSTR. FIN. REVIEW: Mining banned from Kakadu

SYDNEY - "Federal Cabinet has decided to ban mining at the Coronation Hill gold-mine in the Kakadu Conservation Zone, after the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, overruled his Cabinet. The decision is a major defeat for the Government’s economic ministers, including the new Treasurer, Mr Kerin, who had publicly supported a decision in favour of mining... Under the decision, the Kakadu Conservation Zone containing the proposed mine will be incorporated into Kakadu National Park, and mining prohibited."

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END-OF-TEXT