
REUTER - WORLD NEWS SUMMARY

LONDON - Libya, facing U.N. sanctions for its alleged part in airliner bombings, has told the heads of mission of 6 European countries and Japan that it is expelling some of their embassy employees, Libyan radio said.

UNITED NATIONS - A new Security Council committee to monitor the sanctions is expected to consider emergency requests for flights to evacuate foreigners from Tripoli.

WASHINGTON - The United States said it expected U.N. member states to cancel all flights to and from Libya and send home many Libyan diplomats in response to the sanctions against Colonel Muammar Gaddafi’s government.

WASHINGTON - The United States, launching a diplomatic drive to stop fighting in the breakaway Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, threatened to make Serbia an international pariah unless it stopped the war.

LOS ANGELES - Los Angeles has chosen its first black police chief after the beating of a black motorist by policemen shocked the country and forced the resignation of the city’s top law officer.

PHILADELPHIA - Drug allegations returned to haunt Democratic presidential candidate Jerry Brown when a police officer went on record as saying cocaine and marijuana were repeatedly used in the former California governor’s home.

PETROLE

AFP: Bagdad accuse Ryad et Abou Dhabi d’inonder le marché pétrolier

Bagdad - "L’Irak a accusé l’Arabie saoudite et les Emirats arabes unis d’inonder le marché pétrolier au risque de provoquer un effondrement des prix, et affirmé que la production pétrolière irakienne reprendrait cette année son niveau d’avant la guerre du Golfe. Le ministre irakien du pétrole, M. Oussama Abdel Razzak al-Hitti, cité mercredi par le quotidien Al SAOURA, a affirmé que l’Arabie saoudite avait porté sa production de 5,38 millions de barils par jour (mbj) en 1990 à 8,66 mbj actuellement et que la production des Emirats, qui était de 1,5 mbj avant la guerre du Golfe, atteignait maintenant 2,3 mbj."

THE INDEPENDENT: Saudis warn oil companies on Yemen frontier

"Oil exploration in one of the world’s most promising new provinces is being threatened by a territorial dispute between Saudi Arabia and Yemen. The oil is in the northern part of the eastern extension of Yemen, close to the Empty Quarter where the border between the two countries has never been defined... Oil exploration has now been thrown into uncertainty by a warning from Saudi Arabia to at least four oil companies that they are trespassing on Saudi territory, according to the London-based weekly, MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC DIGEST. The Saudi warning came from the Foreign Ministry in Riyadh in the form of letters to the companies, including British Petroleum and Petro-Canada."

EX-USSR

THE GUARDIAN: IMF plans $200bn injection for CIS

Washington - "A global commitment of up to $200bn to the former Soviet republics over the next 4 to 5 years is now the basis of aid and investment plans by the IMF. It believes their successful transition to market economies could increase world growth by 2%... These figures are
far higher than anything so far openly discussed by leaders of the G7
group of major industrialised countries or other leading Western
institutions. They envisage $20bn a year being pumped into the 14 other
republics, as well as the $24bn Russian package already endorsed by the G7
nations and President Bush."

REUTER: France proposes science fund for ex-Soviet Union

PARIS - "France announced proposals on Wednesday for a foundation funded
by industrialised countries to stem a brain drain of civilian scientists
from the former Soviet Union by sponsoring basic science projects there.
Aides said President Francois Mitterrand wrote to EC partners and leaders
of the G7 countries this week suggesting a fund of an initial 50 to 100
million Ecu ($61.5 to 123 million)... Russian Science Minister Boris
Saltykov discussed the need for such a fund with science ministers from
the 24-nation OECD in Paris last month. Saltykov said top civilian
research scientists were being lured to the West by more attractive
salaries and working conditions."

GATT

F.T.: Japan criticises GATT delays: Tough letters to US and EC

TOKYO/BRUSSELS - "Japan has dispatched unusually tough letters to
Washington and Brussels expressing concern that the Uruguay Round of
multilateral trade negotiations is stalled because the EC and US have not
fulfilled their obligations. The Japanese government has become
increasingly frustrated by the failure of the EC and US to honour Uruguay
Round proposal deadlines under the GATT. This frustration has finally
surfaced in the 2 confidential letters sent by Mr Michio Watanabe, the
foreign minister and deputy prime minister."

AFP: Appel au déblocage des négociations

PARIS - "Le blocage prolongé des négociations commerciales du GATT
contribute à la 'déterioration du climat économique', au retard des
investissements et à 'l'aggravation du sous-emploi', estiment 120
dirigeants mondiaux d’entreprises dans un appel à leurs gouvernements,
publié mercredi à Paris. 'Nous sommes inquiets de voir les dates limites
successives fixées à l’aboutissement de l'Uruguay Round tour à tour
dépassées', écrivent les signataires de cet appel lancé à l’initiative de
la Chambre de Commerce Internationale (CCI).... Les signataires attribuent
la récession dont souffrent les pays industrialisés 'à un manque
généralisé de confiance des milieux économiques qui détourn de
l’investissement et retarde la reprise'."

HERALD TRIBUNE: US steel petitions draw EC warning

BRUSSELS - "On the eve of a crucial trip to Washington by its top
officials, the European Community warned the United States on Wednesday
that complaints filed by US steelmakers against steel imports from the
Community could severely exacerbate trade tensions. The EC Commission said
the unfair trade petitions, if upheld by US officials, could lead to a
renewed battle under the GATT at a sensitive point in negotiations for a
new world trade treaty. The commission urged the United States to be
'severe' in examining the complaints by 2 large US steel companies. Those
complaints, the EC executive body said, could obstruct legitimate trade
and herald 'a return to the practices of harassment bitterly experienced
by US trading partners' in the early 1980s, a period of frequent
trans-Atlantic steel disputes."

SYSTEME MONETAIRE EUROPÉEN

LES ECHOS: Pâques: Livre et peseta dans la bande étroite du SME?

"... La City ne bruissait hier que de rumeurs concernant l’entrée
conjointe, dès ce week-end, de la livre sterling et de la peseta dans la
bande de fluctuations étroite du SME. Sur le marché des changes londonien,
la spéculait allait bon train, les opérateurs jouant à la hausse la
livre (qui était proche de son plancher, bien qu’elle se soit raffermie
depuis la victoire des conservateurs aux élections), et la peseta (qui
collait au plafond du SME) à la baisse. La devise espagnole est tombée de
62,52 à 62,85 pesetas pour 1 deutsche mark et la livre est restée ferme
autour de 2,9150 marks hier après-midi."

PAYS EN DEVELOPPEMENT
LE FIGARO: La Banque Mondiale optimiste pour le tiers monde

"La Banque Mondiale se montre optimiste sur les perspectives de croissance des pays en développement (PED) durant les années 90, en estimant que la croissance du PIB de ces pays atteindra 4,9% en moyenne durant cette décade, contre 3,2% pendant les années 90. Dans un rapport intitulé ‘Perspectives économiques globales et pays en développement’, la Banque souligne également qu’une issue positive aux négociations ferait ‘une grosse différence’ pour les PED. Une réduction de 50% des barrières commerciales de la CEE, des États-Unis et du Japon aurait pour effet d’augmenter le montant total des exportations des pays en développement de plus de 50 mrsd de dollars par an, soit presque autant que l’ensemble de l’aide internationale au développement en 1991."

OECD ECONOMIES

United States

WALL STREET JOURNAL: Industrial production grows 0.2%,

WASHINGTON - "Production at US factories, mines and utilities rose 0.2% last month, according to a report reflecting a sluggish economic recovery. The slight rise in the Federal Reserve’s industrial-production index followed a 0.5% advance in February, the first back-to-back gains since June and July of last year."

Japan

THE TIMES: Japan expected to show fall in output

"Industrial output in Japan, manufacturing power-house of the Asia-Pacific region, suffered its first annual decline since the mid-Eighties in the fiscal year that ended last month, figures from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry in Tokyo are expected to show. Output is believed to have declined 0.4% after expanding 5.6% in 1990-1. The MITI forecast is based on its latest estimate for March."

END-OF-TEXT