
IL N’Y AURA PAS DE REVUE DE PRESSE DEMAIN JEUDI 30 AVRIL

AFP: LE MONDE EN BREF

KABOUL - Les combats ont repris mardi à Kaboul, moins d’une heure après la passation des pouvoirs entre les dirigeants de l’ancien régime communiste et le gouvernement islamique formé vendredi dernier au Pakistan. Le président Mojaddedi a annoncé une amnistie générale pour les membres de l’ancien régime. Il a cependant laissé entendre que le président déchu Najibullah ne bénéficierait pas de cette mesure, en déclarant que son sort serait décidé par le peuple afghan lui-même.

BONN - Le ministre allemand de la justice Klaus Kinkel a été désigné comme successeur du ministre des Affaires étrangères, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, par la direction élargie de son parti libéral (FDP), qui a ainsi renversé la décision prise lundi par l’exécutif du parti en faveur de Mme Irmgard Schwaetzer, ministre de la Construction.

PHILADELPHIE - Le président George Bush a écrasé mardi son rival Pat Buchanan au cours de l’élection primaire républicaine de Pennsylvanie, tandis que le gouverneur de l’Arkansas Bill Clinton remportait largement celle des démocrates, selon les premiers résultats partiels.

LONDRES - Le peintre britannique Francis Bacon, 82 ans, est mort à Madrid des suites d’une crise cardiaque, a annoncé à Londres la galerie de peinture Marlborough Fine Art.

PARIS - Le compositeur et organiste, patriarche de la musique française Olivier Messiaen, est mort à l’âge de 83 ans, dans un hôtel parisien, a-t-on appris auprès de ses proches.

IMF: TRADE, EASTERN EUROPE

WASHINGTON - "Fearing deep setbacks for world trade if GATT talks fail, the IMF and US trade officials put out urgent calls for a settlement of the trade liberalization talks by the time of the World Economic Summit in July. 'The electoral year has not been very good for negotiations in the Uruguay Round of the GATT', said Carlos Solchaga, the Spanish minister of finance and economics and current chairman of the IMF Interim Committee... US Trade Representative Carla Hills on Tuesday warned that the GATT negotiations could lose momentum if major trading nations can't find common ground in time for the meeting of the leaders of the G7 major industrialised nations in Munich in early July... A completion of the GATT round, already delayed by 16 months, is 'within the realm of the possible', Mrs Hills said in Tokyo, where she and other leading trade negotiators searched for ways to break the deadlock."

AFP: M. Paye: l’ex-bloc soviétique doit s’initier à l’économie de marché

WASHINGTON - "L’apprentissage technique et intellectuel du système d’économie de marché est, pour les pays de l’ancien bloc soviétique, la clé de la réussite de leurs programmes de réformes, a estimé mardi M. Jean-Claude Paye. L’assistance financière occidentale, bien qu’à absolument nécessaire, n’est qu’une partie de la solution (et) ne sera utile et productive que si elle est mise en oeuvre sur un terrain fertile’, a-t-il observé lors d’une rencontre avec la presse à Washington. Ces pays, a expliqué M. Paye ne disposent pas du cadre légal et de l’environnement culturel indispensable au bon fonctionnement d’une économie de marché. Mais selon lui, contrairement à l’assistance financière qui est facile à mettre en oeuvre, l’apprentissage et le changement des mentalités prendra ‘au mieux quinze ans’ dans ces pays, surtout dans l’ex-Union Soviétique."
FINANCIAL TIMES: Gloomy outlook for the Baltics

WASHINGTON - "The IMF has delivered a grim prognosis for the economies of the three Baltic republics. In separate studies of the three newly independent countries, the IMF describes the economic outlook for Latvia and Lithuania this year as 'bleak', while it calls Estonia's economic situation 'precarious'. Latvia faces a drop in real GDP of as much as 30 per cent this year after an 8 per cent decline in 1991... The IMF expects Lithuania's output to decline by at least 15 per cent... Estonia's situation has been exacerbated, the IMF says by the dislocation of its trade with other former Soviet republics and the shock caused by the higher cost of imports at world market prices."

WALL STREET JOURNAL: IMF plays down remarks from Yeltsin

WASHINGTON - "The IMF sought to play down potential conflicts after Russian President Boris Yeltsin reportedly said that he would not take 'direct orders' from the IMF on economic reforms... Russia is set to receive a $24 billion credit - and currency-stabilization package, plus IMF stand-by credits, beginning this summer. The condition is that Moscow agrees to - and follows - an IMF-approved recipe for uprooting 70 years of communism with tough free-market reforms. This could expose Russia's struggling reform government to domestic charges that it is being controlled by Western governments and financial institutions. Mr Yeltsin was quoted on Tuesday by the Russian Interfax news agency as saying: 'We do not intend to work under the direct orders of the IMF... we do not agree completely with this organization's viewpoint and we still stick to our point of view.' IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus was unruffled by the remarks, claiming that he doesn't see potential for a conflict between Russian plans and the IMF conditions for funding... 'It means that President Yeltsin has perfectly understood what are the methods of the IMF, never to dictate, but to agree with a country on a program which is basically the program of the country. This is what we have done so far, this is what we intend to with Russia'."
NEW YORK – "The US economy finally swung into recovery this year, the Commerce Department reported Tuesday, making the United States the only one of the world’s three major economies with a definite upward tilt. The government estimated that during the first quarter the GDP grew at a real annual rate of 2 percent. Economists were sharply divided on how strongly it would continue even at this subdued pace. Still, it was the best growth rate after a long drought of three years... The recovery — with less than half the steam of a traditional upturn — was fueled by a spurt in consumer spending of 5.3 percent, a level no economist believes can continue unless the economy starts providing far more new jobs than it has for several years."

New Zealand

FINANCIAL TIMES: NZ budget deficit doubles

WELLINGTON – "The New Zealand government yesterday announced a projected doubling in its budget deficit for the year to June 30 to NZ$3.4bn (£1.02bn), raising questions over its pledge to balance the books in the current parliamentary term. However, Ms Ruth Richardson, finance minister, expressed confidence that increasing economic growth would deliver the revenue she needed. She said the government remained committed to holding down spending. The rise was primarily due to a fall in revenue due to the deep economic recession, with business tax being much lower than expected."