LE TEMPS - Région parisienne: Le soleil apparaîtra au travers d'un ciel voilé. Il fera 18 cet après-midi.

SG/PRB/D(92)83

AFP: LE MONDE EN BREF

NEW YORK (Nations Unies) - Le secrétaire général de l’ONU, M. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, a demandé "à toutes les parties" concernées "de mettre fin à la violence" en Bosnie-Herzégovine, où de violents affrontements se sont poursuivis à Sarajevo ainsi que dans plusieurs villes de province.

BELGRADE - La présidence yougoslave (où ne siègent que la Serbie et le Monténégro), a décidé de rappeler de Bosnie-Herzégovine "tous les citoyens de la République fédérale de Yougoslavie (RFY, Serbie et Monténégro) faisant partie de l’armée fédérale yougoslave".

SARAJEVO - Le président de la Bosnie-Herzégovine, Alija Izetbegovic, a demandé "une aide militaire étrangère" pour son pays sans laquelle, a-t-il dit, "nous ne pourrons pas sauvegarder son intégrité et son indépendance".

BAKOU - Les combattants arméniens ont pour la première fois attaqué des villages azerbaidjanais au Nakhitchevan (république autonome azerbaidjanaise enclavée au sud-ouest de l’Arménie), faisant des morts et des blessés, selon Bakou, tandis que les forces azerbaidjanaises poursuivaient leur offensive sur Stepenakert, la capitale du Nagorny-Karabakh.

LOS ANGELES - La situation est pratiquement revenue à la normale lundi à Los Angeles où le couvre-feu a été levé, les écoles rouvertes et les transports en commun rétablis. Un nouveau bilan des émeutes raciales ayant éclaté mercredi, après l’acquittement de quatre policiers blancs accusés d’avoir molesté un automobiliste noir, faisait état de 58 morts et plus de 2.300 blessés.

STRIKES IN GERMANY

REUTER: Frankfurt airport closed

FRANKFURT - "West Germany’s public workers stepped up their nine-day-old strike on Tuesday, bringing Frankfurt’s busy international airport to a standstill. A spokesman for the German airline Lufthansa said Frankfurt airport - continental Europe’s busiest - had been declared closed from midnight Monday (2200GMT Monday) until midnight Tuesday (2200 GMT)... All of the airline’s 29 intercontinental flights due in early on Tuesday morning had been diverted... The Lufthansa spokesman said Hannover would be closed until Wednesday morning (0300 GMT), Berlin’s main airports would be shut until Tuesday (2200 GMT), and Hamburg would be closed until Tuesday (0800 GMT)."

UNITED KINGDOM

FINANCIAL TIMES: Cut in interest rates likely

LONDON - "Evidence of only a subdued recovery in UK consumer spending since the general election is behind the decision by Mr Norman Lamont, the chancellor, to seek a cut in base rates, which is expected to be announced later today... Together with other indicators showing little movement in consumer sectors such as the housing market, the retailing data appear to have persuaded Mr Lamont and his advisers not to wait for more comprehensive evidence about the economy before sanctionning a cut of up to half a point in base rates, which have been held at 10.5 per cent since September. A cut in base rates - the opportunity for which has been opened by the strength of the pound since the election - may be followed soon by reduced mortgage rates. That could trigger an uplift in consumer spending generally."

THE AFTERMATH OF THE L.A. RIOTS

HERALD TRIBUNE: Bleak economic future
LOS ANGELES - "California, already mired in a recession that was exposing jagged cracks in its ‘golden state’ facade, now faces an even bleaker economic future. The violence, looting and arson that swept wide areas of the second-largest US city last week destroyed thousands of small businesses. That disaster will cause the direct loss of more jobs and tax revenues from a state already enduring a hemorrhage of both, economists say. The stark image of a city out of control is likely to do little for the state’s efforts to persuade companies not to leave and other companies to open factories. Tourism, one of California’s most vibrant industries - providing 360,000 jobs and generating $7bn annually - seems certain to fall off, at least in the short run. And foreign investment in real estate and local industry is at risk... Last year alone, California lost 333,000 jobs or 2.6 percent of total nonagricultural employment, and in 1990, at least as many. The exodus reflects the high cost of doing business in the state... And the growth in per-capita income last year was 1.3 percent, far behind the national average of 2.1 percent."

THE INDEPENDENT: Criticism of the police escalates

LOS ANGELES - "Criticism of the police handling of the Los Angeles riots has escalated sharply as details emerge about how the city’s police chief, Daryl Gates, left his headquarters during the early stages of the unrest to go to a fundraising event to speak against proposals to reform his force. While Americans were watching live television pictures of motorists being beaten by youths, Mr Gates was motoring across Los Angeles for the meeting where he spent 20 minutes talking to his supporters, and reassuring them that the riots could be ‘cooled very, very quickly’... Mr Gates attempted to explain his decision to desert his post by claiming that he spent only ‘five minutes or so’ at the event, and was in radio contact with his headquarters while in his car. But a tape recording shows he spent 20 minutes talking to his supporters... Tom Bradley, the city’s mayor, joined the fray by saying that Mr Gates’ ‘personal ego’ may be preventing him from admitting that his force needed help from federal troops. The riots have added further strain to the relations between Mr Bradley and the police chief - they had not spoken for 13 months until last week. Meanwhile, federal authorities have said the FBI and the US attorney’s office are to investigate the burning of hundreds of Korean-owned businesses."

ASIE

AFP: Signes de reprise au Japon

HONG KONG - "Les dernières statistiques économiques publiées en avril montrent des signes de reprise de l’activité au Japon, a estimé mardi à Hong Kong le ministre japonais des Finances Tsutomu Hata. La baisse des stocks des entreprises comme la fin de la chute des chiffres du secteur de la construction montrent que ‘le fonds a été touché’, a déclaré M. Hata... M. Hata a encore laissé entendre que le yen était sous évalué: ‘le niveau actuel du yen ne reflète pas les données fondamentales de l’économie japonaise.’"

HERALD TRIBUNE: New group forms

HONG KONG - "Monetary officials from Japan, Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore held discreet talks Monday as a first step toward regular meetings on the four big Asia-Pacific markets, participants said. The talks were chaired by David Nendick, Hong Kong’s secretary for monetary affairs. They were held on the sidelines of the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank and followed a request from Japan, sources said... Tadao Chino, Japanese vice finance minister for international affairs, was quoted by a ministry official as saying the meeting was ‘only the first contact’ among the group of four countries. Separately, officials at the ADB meeting said Asian finance ministers would discuss a grouping modeled on the G7 industrial nations on Tuesday. Japan is the only G-7 member in the region."

POLAND

THE GUARDIAN: IMF credits hang on budget

WARSAW - "Talks began in Warsaw yesterday between the government and the IMF on renewal of the IMF credits suspended last year. But agreement will depend on budget plans which are in danger of being torpedoed by parliament while the IMF team is in the city. The deputy head of the IMF’s European Department, Michel Deppler, began the talks with the finance minister, Andrzej Olechowski, who hopes to restore Poland’s access to a
three-year $1bn (£900 million) facility - suspended last September due to
the previous government’s failure to meet agreed budget and inflation
targets - together with other credits."

ROUMANIE

AFP: Comptes en devises pour les entreprises

BUCAREST - "Les entreprises roumaines sont à nouveau autorisées à tenir
des comptes en devises fortes, a annoncé lundi à Bucarest le gouverneur de
la Banque nationale de Roumanie, M. Mugur Isarescu. Selon le nouveau
règlement bancaire entré en vigueur lundi, les entreprises roumaines à
capital d'État, mixte ou privé ont le droit d'avoir des comptes en devises
fortes dans les banques roumaines ou étrangères ayant des représentations
en Roumanie. Une restriction à cet égard avait été imposée en novembre
dernier, lorsque les entreprises roumaines avaient été obligées de verser
à la Banque nationale leurs réserves en devises, en échange de lei à un
cours officiel très différent de celui pratiqué sur le marché libre."