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TEXT

TAGS: NONE

SUBJECT: DAILY MEDIA REACTION REPORT

PARIS - THURSDAY APRIL 30

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LEADS: DEBATE AT FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY; POPE JOHN-PAUL II'S VISIT TO WEST GERMANY.

(A) STORIES COVERED IN REPORT:

1. NAKASONE'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND GEPHARDT'S PROPOSAL
2. DISARMAMENT
3. END OF SHAMIR'S VISIT TO PARIS AND INTERNATIONAL MIDEAST CONFERENCE
4. **KURT WALDHEIM**

(B) SUMMARY OF TYPE OF COVERAGE:

1. NAKASONE'S VISIT AND HOUSE VOTE OF GEPHARDT'S PROPOSAL GET FRONT-PAGE HEADLINES AND EDITORIAL COVERAGE. PRESIDENT REAGAN'S REMARKS THAT HE WILL VETO PROPOSAL IS NOTED. REPORTS TALK OF "GRAVEST CRISIS BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND TOKYO SINCE WW II." LIBERATION EDITORIALIST SEES CONFRONTATION BETWEEN "A DECLINING AND A GROWING COUNTRY."

2. LA TRIBUNE FRONTPAGES ARTICLE ON IISS REPORT THAT WEST MUST ENCOURAGE GORBACHEV WHILE REMAINING VIGILANT. REPORTS ON TALKS CONTINUE TO UNDERLINE WASHINGTON-MOSCOW EAGERNESS TO REACH ACCORD AND EUROPEAN RETICENCES AND CONCERN. FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER RAIMOND'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON TODAY IS MENTIONED.

3. END OF SHAMIR'S VISIT AND HIS MEETING WITH MITTERRAND YESTERDAY GET EDITORIAL AND FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE. REPORTS UNDERLINE SHAMIR'S OPPOSITION TO AN INTERNATIONAL MIDEAST CONFERENCE AND MITTERRAND'S REMARKS THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE CANNOT BE CONVENED AS LONG AS ISRAEL AND THE U.S. ARE OPPOSING IT.

4. EVENING TELEVISION NEWS AND SEVERAL PAPERS REPORT UNHAPPINESS IN AUSTRIA FOLLOWING U.S. DECISION AGAINST WALDHEIM. LES ECHOS SAYS SOVIET UNION IS ONLY COUNTRY REALLY SUPPORTING WALDHEIM CASE. OTTAWA'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE WILL NOT BE WELCOMED IN CANADA IS ALSO NOTED.

(C) HEADLINES:

1. NAKASONE'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON:
"PROTECTIONIST FUROR" (LA TRIBUNE)
"CONGRESS CHALLENGES EXECUTIVE TO IMPOSE PROTECTIONIST PROJECT" (LES ECHOS)
"U.S. CONGRESS LAUNCHES PROTECTIONIST OFFENSIVE" (LE MATIN)
"THE BIG SWITCH" (LIBERATION)

2. DISARMAMENT:

"IISS: TO ENCOURAGE GORBACHEV" (LA TRIBUNE)

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"TOPICS OF AGREEMENT LARGELY DOMINATE DISAGREEMENTS
BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW" (LE MONDE)
"WASHINGTON-MOSCOW MAKES BIG STEPS FORWARD BUT EUROPE
DRAGS ITS FEET" (LE MATIN)
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"DO YOU OR DON'T YOU?" (HUMANITE)

3. MIDEAST PEACE CONFERENCE:

"CONFERENCE BROKE DOWN" (FIGARO)
"A REARGUARD COMBAT" (LES ECHOS)
"MITTERRAND-SHAMIR DISAGREEMENT" (QUOTIDIEN)

4. KURT WALDHEIM:

"AUSTRIAN DIPLOMACY LOOKING FOR COMPROMISE" (LE MATIN)
"A CRUSHING DOSSIER" (LA CROIX)

(D) SUPPORTING TEXT:

1. NAKASONE'S VISIT"

TELEVISION ANTENNE-2 WITH VISUALS OF REPRESENTATIVE
RICHARD GEPHARDT SPEAKING: THE JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER
ARRIVED IN WASHINGTON AT A TIME WHEN THE CRISIS HAS
NEVER BEEN SO ACCUTE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND
IMMEDIATELY AFTER CONGRESS ADOPTED A PROTECTIONIST LAW
MAINLY DIRECTED AGAINST JAPAN."

CORRESPONDENT JACQUES ABOUCHARD: "A TRUE PROTECTIONIST
DECLARATION OF WAR...A BOMB IN THE LEGS OF NAKASONE
UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON. HE CAME TO SMOOTHEN THE
ANGLES AND TO DEFEND JAPANESE INTERESTS...NOW NAKASONE
WILL HAVE TO PROVIDE EVIDENCES THAT THE JAPANESE MARKET
WILL OPEN ITS DOORS TO U.S. PRODUCTS AND THAT HE WILL
ADOPT DECISIONS TO STIMULATE JAPANESE DOMESTIC
CONSUMPTION."

LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION EDITORIAL BY COMMENTATOR
PIERRE BRIANCON: "THE FACT THAT THE IMAGES OF THE TWO
LEADERS MEETING TODAY HAVE DETERIORATED IS NOT

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IMPORTANT. THE MEETING IS THAT OF TWO POWERS AND NOT OF INDIVIDUALS....WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT ONE POWER IS GROWING AND THE OTHER IS DECLINING AND THAT THEIR POWERS ARE NOW APPROXIMATELY AT THE SAME LEVEL....IF THE U.S. ASKS JAPAN TO BE THE 'LOCOMOTIVE' OF THE WORLD, IT'S ALSO AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ITS WEAKENING....WHAT ABOUT EUROPE IN ALL THAT? THE FACT THAT IT IS NOT PRESENT IS A CLEAR ANSWER."

ECONOMIC LES ECHOS ON PAGE 4 BY REPORTER XAVIER GAUTIER: "MR REAGAN IMMEDIATELY DID NOT WAIT TO SAY THAT HE WILL OPPOSE HIS VETO TO THE TRADE LAW VOTED BY CONGRESS....AFTER IMPOSITG TOUGH TAXES ON JAPANESE PRODUCTS, THE WHITE HOUSE IS NOW SOFT PEDALLING."

FINANCIAL LA TRIBUNE FRONT-PAGE REPORT BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT CLAIRE LEPRETRE: "THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE EXPRESSION 'DIPLOMATIC VISIT' APPEARS INACCURATE. SUCH IS THE CASE FOR THE VISIT OF THE JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER....THERE IS GROWING FRUSTATION IN CONGRESS OVER WHAT IS SEEN AS JAPAN BAD WILL TO OPEN ITS MARKET TO U.S. PRODUCTS AND OVER THE GRWOING U.S. TRADE DEFICIT....AS IF THE DECISION TO IMPOSE TOUGH TAXES ON JAPANESE PRODUCTS WAS NOT SUFFICIENT, CONGRESS VOTED A TRADE LAW OPENLY PROTECTIONIST....IN THIS CONTEXT, EVEN IF NAKASONE ARRIVES IN WASHINGTON WITH NEW PROMISES, HE HAS LITTLE CHANCE OF BEING HEARD....THE WHITE HOUSE CLEARLY SOFTENED ITS TONE IN RECENT DAYS TO AVOID A UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 PARIS 21869

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CONFRONTATION. LAST SATURDAY, IN HIS WEEKLY RADIO MESSAGE, REAGAN HIMSELF SAID THAT PASSAGE OF THE TRADE LAW WOULD TRIGGER A VETO."

PRO-SOCIALIST LE MATIN ON PAGE 3: "JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER'S PROMISES OF TRADE OPENING RISKS BEING JEOPARDIZED BY THIS PROTECTIONIST ARDOR."

2. DISARMAMENT:

INFLUENTIAL LE MONDE ON PAGE 5 BY COMMENTATOR MICHEL

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TATU: "OBUKHOV'S CLARIFICATIONS IN GENEVA ON THE DRAFT TREATY PRESENTED BY THE SOVIETS SHOWS THE EXTENT OF THE RAPPROCHEMENT WHICH HAS TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW IN THE RECENT WEEKS. POINTS OF ACCORD ARE LARGELY DOMINATING...NEW DISAGREEMENTS MIGHT EMERGE WHEN THEY DEBATE THE DETAILS OF THE DRAFT TREATY BUT, FOR THE TIME BEING, THEY APPEAR SECONDARY IN COMPARISON WITH THE POINTS OF AGREEMENT. IF OBSTACLES ARE REMOVED--AND THEY SHOULD BE REMOVED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR GIVEN THE U.S. DESIR TO REACH AN ACCORD--THOSE WHO WANT TO PREVENT TOTAL DENUCLEARIZATION OF EUROPE WILL HAVE TO CLING TO SHORT-RANGE WEAPONS. . THE AMERICANS INSIST THAT THERE ARE MORE THAN 4,000 WAR-HEADS BUT THEY FORGET TO RECALL THAT THEIR TARGETS--GIVEN THEIR VERY SHORT-RANGE (LESS THAN 100 KILOMETERS) AND EVEN LESS THAN 20 KILOMETERS FOR 80 PERCENT OF THESE ARMS--WILL BE WESTERN EUROPE ITSELF."

WEEKLY NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR ON PAGE 88 BY REPORTER FRANCOIS SCHLOSSER: "NATO IS SLIDING TOWARD A MORE CONVENTIONAL AND LESS NUCLEAR DEFENSE. DESPITE THEIR CONCERN, THE BEST THE EUROPEANS CAN DO WILL IS TO DELAY THIS EVOLUTION. SHULTZ BROUGHT BACK GOOD NEWS TO THE PRESIDENT...FOR THE WHITE HOUSE, AFTER THE DARK HOURS OF IRANGATE, IT'S LIKE SPRING. HAWKS IN THE PENTAGON FAVOR THIS SPECTACULAR PEACE GESTURE. IT WILL BE A GOOD TRUMP TO OBTAIN FUNDS FROM CONGRESS FOR SDI...THE ONLY PROBLEM IS THE RETICENT ATTITUDE OF EUROPE. PROTESTS ARE HEARD IN NATO CORRIDORS AGAINST A DENUCLEARIZATION OF EUROPE. HOW TO FACE THE WARSAW PACT CONVENTIONAL SUPERIORITY?...U.S. OFFICIALS ARE DIVIDED BETWEEN IRRITATION AND BENEVOLENT CONDESCENDENCE. THIS TIME RICHARD PERLE FEELS THAT THE EUROPEANS ARE EXAGGERATING. THE HUGE MAJORITY OF U.S. NUCLAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE WILL NOT BE INVOLVED IN THE ACCORD...BUT THESE ARGUMENTS ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO CALM THE EUROPEANS. WHETHER WE WANT IT OR NOT, IT'S THE WHOLE STRATEGY OF EUROPEAN SECURITY WHICH IS CHANGING...DENUCLEARIZATION MEANS THAT EUROPE WILL HAVE TO SPEND A LOT OF MONEY FOR CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENT. THE SOVIET-U.S. ACCORD ON MISSILES WILL BE FOLLOWED BY INCREASED PRESSURE FROM WASHINGTON ON THE ALLIES TO MAKE THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL SACRIFICES. BUT WHAT WILL BE THE PACE AND THE EXTENT OF THIS 'CHANGE OF PRIORITY' BETWEEN NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE? IT DEPENDS ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS PROPOSED BY GORBACHEV. EUROPE FEARS THAT THEY WILL GO TOO FAR AND TO FAST. EUROPEANS STILL HAVE A MAJOR ARGUMENT. NOTHING FORCES NATO TO DISARM HASTILY AND TO FOLLOW THE PACE OF MOSCOW'S SURPRISE PROPOSALS. IT'S THE U.S.S.R. WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THE OVERARMAMENT OF EUROPE IN THE RECENT PAST. NOTHING INDICATES THAT UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 05 PARIS 21869

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GORBACHEV'S SUCCESSOR WILL NOT REVERSE THE TREND. CAUTION IS JUSTIFIED. IF GORBACHEV TRULY INTENDS TO CALM THE TENSION IN EUROPE, HE LOGICALLY CANNOT REACH AN ACCORD WITH THE U.S. WHICH WOULD CREATE A FEELING OF INSECURITY IN EUROPE. IF HE DOES, THEN WE CAN HAVE DOUBTS ON HIS REAL INTENTION."

PRO-SOCIALIST LE MATIN ON PAGE 7 BY REPORTER LAURENT MUNNICH: "WHILE U.S. AND SOVIET POSITIONS SEEM TO BE COMING CLOSER, THE EUROPEANS SEEM DESIROUS TO WAIT SOME TIME BEFORE ADOPTING A COMMON POSITION. THE WEU MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG REVEALED DIFFERENCES WHICH THE ALLIES WILL HAVE TO ELIMINATE BEFORE GIVING AN ANSWER TO WASHINGTON...DIFFERENCES ALSO APPEARED IN FRANCE BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER. MATIGNON DISPLAYS AN INTRANSIGENT ATTITUDE BUT THE ELYSEE FEELS IT IS IMPORTANT NOT TO COMPROMISE THE FRAGILE SOVIET PROCESS. THE SEVEN EUROPEANS ARE ALSO CONCERNED NOT TO ENDANGER NATO POLITICAL UNITY IN ADOPTING POSITIONS TOO OPENLY OPPOSED TO U.S. POLICY...FEELING NOW IS THAT THEY HAVE ENTERED A PHASE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ESSENTIALLY DEVOTED TO DETAILS AFTER A SETTLEMENT OF THE MAIN ISSUES. THIS IS WHY THE EUROPEANS SHOULD DECIDE A JOINT POLICY ON DEFENSE IF THEY WANT TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE AT THE BIG NATO MEETING IN REYKJAVIK IN JUNE."

FINANCIAL LA TRIBUNE FRONT-PAGE REPORT BY REPORTER JEAN-MARIE MACABREY: "WHILE REMAINING VIGILANT, THE WEST MUST ENCOURAGE THE REFORMS STARTED IN THE U.S.S.R. BY GORBACHEV. THIS IS THE CONCLUSION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT PREPARED BY THE IISS...BUT IISS HAS NO ILLUSION ON THE FUNDAMENTAL INTENTIONS OF THE SOVIET LEADER."

3. SHAMIR'S VISIT TO PARIS:

ECONOMIC LES ECHOS EDITORIAL: "IN CHOSING PARIS TO UNVEIL HIS DIFFERENCES WITH HIS FOREIGN MINISTER, SHAMIR SEEMED TO CONDUCT A REARGUARD COMBAT. THERE IS EVERY INDICATION THAT HE IS GOING AGAINST THE CURRENT, AND THAT HE IS ALONE AGAINST THE FLOW. WHEREVER WE

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LOOK, INCLUDING WASHINGTON, THERE ARE CALLS IN FAVOR OF A CONFERENCE....WITH HIS OBSTINATION TO REFUSE AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, SHAMIR SEEMS TO BE HEADING TO A CONFRONTATION WITH PERES. EVEN IN PARIS, SHAMIR WAS TOLD THAT CHIRAC WAS FAVORABLE--UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS--TO A CONFERENCE EVEN THOUGH HE DID NOT BELIEVE--ACCORDING TO SHAMIR--THAT IT WILL TAKE PLACE. AFTER PICKING UP THE WRONG TIME, SHAMIR PERHAPS PICKED UP THE WRONG PLACE AND REALIZED THAT FRANCE DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE A MIDEAST POLICY BUT THAT IT HAS INTERESTS THERE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE."

RIGHT-OF-CENTER QUOTIDIEN ON PAGE 19: "MITTERRAND TOLD SHAMIR OPPOSITION BY THE U.S. AND ISRAEL WILL PREVENT THE CONVENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BUT THAT 'DIRECT CONTACTS' WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE EITHER UNDER THESE CONDITIONS. MITTERRAND ADDED: 'WE WILL REMAIN IN A STATE OF NOTHINGNESS WITH ALL THE RISKS INVOLVED'."

5. KURT WALDHEIM:

EVENING CATHOLIC LA CROIX ON PAGE 5 BY REPORTER VINCENT UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 05 PARIS 21869

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DE FELIGONDE: "IN JULY 1944, HE SIGNED REPORTS DEALING WITH THE DEPAORTATION OF 48,000 JEWISH PEOPLE FROM SALONIQUE...WE HEAR THAT EDWARD MEESE WAS HANDED A 200-PAGE DOSSIER. ENOUGH TO JUSTIFY HIS BANISHMENT FOR U.S. OFFICIALS. WITHIN ONE YEAR, A PAST OF 40 YEARS AGO HAS CAUGHT UP WITH WALDHEIM AND THIS IS QUITE RIGHT."

ECONOMIC LES ECHOS: "THE U.S. DECISION PROVOKED INDIGNATION IN AUSTRIA...THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT FOR WALDHEIM WAS THAT OF THE U.S.S.R. WHICH SEES THE AFFAIR AS THE RESULT OF A DIFFAMATORY CAMPAIGN ON THE PART OF U.S. ZIONISTS."

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INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE - THURSDAY APRIL 30

FRONT-PAGE ARTICLES: WP FROM WASHINGTON: "U.S. HOUSE ADOPTS PLAN TO CUT TRADE IMBALANCE;" NYT FROM WASHINGTON: "U.S. TREASURY CHIEF'S POLICIES ELICIT A NEW SKEPTICISM;" NYT FROM NEW YORK: "HOW HIGH THE YEN, HOW LOW THE DOLLAR: REAGAN ADVISERS SPLIT;" IHT FROM LONDON: "IN LONDON, AN ECONOMY OUTSIDE THE TAX ROLLS."

EDITPAGE: IHT: "A TALE OF TWO BUDGETS;" NYT: "MEESE'S BRAVE STANCE;" WP: "TRASH WITHOUT A COUNTRY."

COLUMNS: SCHMIDT: "THE ZERO OPTION WOULDN'T LEAVE THE WEST UNCOVERED;" FRASER: "AN ASIAN-PACIFIC TRADE GROUP MIGHT BETTER SURVIVE THE CROSSFIRE;" MERRITT: "THE DANGER OF AN EC SNUB TO TURKEY;" OBERDOFER: "GLASNOST: AN ACCIDENT OR A REWRITE OF MARX?" COURTNEY

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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