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world beat

Nakasone tells Japanese, 'Buy foreign-made goods'

TOKYO (AP) — Japan announced a three-year plan Tuesday to open its markets to foreign products. In a nationally televised address, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone urged his people to buy imported goods, saying a trade war would bring economic disaster upon them.

No quick results were expected from the Japanese plan, and initial reaction from the United States was muted. Congress, frustrated by a \$37 billion U.S. trade deficit with Japan in 1984, has demanded that the U.S. retaliate if Japan does not ease the trade barriers.

The Japanese also stressed the need to reduce the dollar's value against the yen, which contributes to the trade imbalance by making Japanese products cheaper to the consumer and U.S. goods more expensive.

Japan's three-year program deals with telecommunications, electronics and other major trade areas of most concern to the United States.

Nakasone said Japan must move rapidly toward freer trade because "terrible depression and unemployment" would result if such trading partners as the United States took protectionist measures. Japan has few natural resources and its economy is built on industrial exports.

Japan had an overall trade surplus of \$44.2 billion last year, \$36.8 billion of it with the United States. Congress has called for sanctions unless Japan makes it easier for American goods to enter its markets and redress the balance.

Nakasone used charts and graphs to illustrate his argument that Japan's tariffs are among the lowest in the world but that the Japanese people spend far less per person than Americans and Europeans on foreign manufactured goods.

He praised President Ronald Reagan for defending free trade and said it was his "intense desire that nothing happen to injure the foundation of friendly U.S.-Japan relations."

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Anthony Roberts, D.C.

Weaver still thinks town was poisoned

SALEM (AP) — Although state health officials have concluded otherwise, U.S. Rep. Jim Weaver says he still thinks someone intentionally caused the salmonella food poisoning outbreak in The Dalles last year.

At a Capitol news conference Tuesday, the Oregon Democrat said he has "no evidence to implicate anyone" in the outbreak, which caused more than 700 cases of food poisoning.

But Weaver said he remains convinced the food poisoning was the work of "somebody out there who's extremely dangerous."

"There's no question the town was deliberately poisoned," the congressman told reporters.

The Oregon Health Division, however, has blamed ill food handlers for the outbreak, and has said there's little evidence to support Weaver's theory that the food was deliberately contaminated.

The outbreak has been a source of friction between Weaver and followers of Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, who say Weaver has tried to link them with the food poisoning.

Earlier this year, Weaver discussed the food poisoning and the Rajneeshes during a speech on the House floor in Washington. But he since has refused to link the two topics.

Wallenberg gets memorial 'walk'

NEW YORK (AP) — Mayor Edward Koch on Tuesday dedicated part of First Avenue across from the United Nations in honor of Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who has been credited with rescuing thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazis.

"Raoul Wallenberg Walk" will serve as a reminder of a "modern saint," Koch said.

Wallenberg's story was told this week in a two-part television drama on NBC. A Swedish aristocrat, he worked in Hungary in the last year of World War II to save Jews there, and then was arrested by the Soviets.

The Soviet Union announced that he died in prison in 1947, but other prisoners who were later released reported seeing him in later years. Koch asked Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to personally find out if Wallenberg is alive and, if so, to free him.



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PANEL, 12 NOON, EMU FORUM / FILM: CHOOSING CHILDREN, 7pm
177 LAWRENCE HALL, FREE

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EMU / FILM: THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK, 5:00 GEOLOGY, 8pm, FREE

THURSDAY APRIL 11 PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS PANEL, 12 NOON, 101 EMU /
PRESENTATION BY CASCADE AIDS PROJECT, 7pm, EMU FORUM

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