

Clinton says Japanese trade war possible

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration decided Monday to authorize sanctions against Japan on cellular phones, increasing pressure on the Japanese after the collapse of trade talks.

quickly on last Friday's failed trade talks at a summit between Clinton and Japanese President Morihiro Hosokawa. "We haven't ruled anything out," Clinton declared.

Although the cellular-phone case, stemming from complaints by Motorola Inc., had been in the works for some time, the administration found it fit conveniently into its efforts to ratchet up pressure on Tokyo.

tend Japan deliberately ignored the bargain, holding the company's percentage of business under 5 percent. On Tuesday, the administration will declare that Japan violated the agreement, the first step in a process that could lead to stiff tariffs on Japanese-made cellular phones, administration officials said.

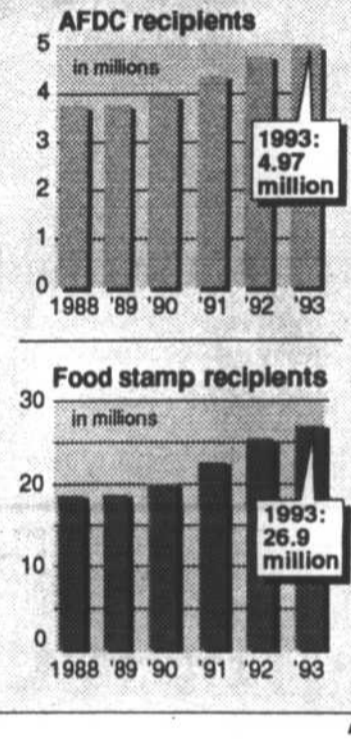
Department study of anti-competitive practices of Japanese auto companies to give closer scrutiny to tax records of Japanese companies. The United States is also considering bringing a broad complaint in Geneva against Japanese trade practices under the General Agreement on Tariffs and trade, officials said.

Tax force considers welfare funding

WASHINGTON—The Clinton administration may finance new programs for training and child care by wringing billions of dollars from the welfare system through cost cutting and taxes on benefits, officials say. The administration's welfare reform task force is considering limits on federal cash payments to the growing number of elderly people who immigrate to the United States legally and then retire on Supplemental Security Income, a senior administration official said.

for the new investments in child care, education and training," the official said. President Clinton's welfare reform legislation, to be introduced this spring, will seek to limit welfare benefits to single mothers to 24 months. Women would be given the training and day care they need to get a job and after two years, would be required to find a job in the private sector.

Welfare crisis The food stamp program and Aid to Families with Dependent Children have both increased in number of recipients since the 1980s.



Clinton forecasts growth in economy

WASHINGTON — President Clinton used his first annual economic report Monday to proclaim his policies had put the country on track for rising prosperity for years to come. Clinton forecast that the economy would keep growing through the rest of this decade and the pace would be fast enough to meet his campaign pledge of 8 million new jobs during his first term.

"For too long and in too many ways, our nation has been drifting," Clinton said in a message transmitting the report to Congress. "For 12 years a policy of trickle-down economics built a false prosperity on a mountain of federal debt." Clinton praised his \$500 billion deficit reduction plan, half of which comes from raising taxes, for putting the country on a sounder economic footing in just one year by lowering interest rates and thus spurring a boom in sales of big-ticket items such as homes and cars.

Speedskater, luger fail to capture the Olympic gold

LILLEHAMMER, Norway — Valentine's Day brought nothing but heartbreak for two guys who are used to it: speedskater Dan Jansen and luger Duncan Kennedy. A slip for Jansen, a skid for Kennedy—it was enough to deny both a first Olympic medal. Jansen, 28, slipped on the home turn Monday and watched his medal hopes disintegrate in the 500 meters. His Olympic career totals: 10 years, four Games, zero medals. He has one last shot in the 1,000 meter Friday. Kennedy finished with his blue USA uniform and his bronze medal hopes in tatters after skidding out of control. He hoped for a record-setting run and came up empty. Kennedy is 0-for-3 in the Olympics. Jansen said, "There's not really many more chances for me. I'll have to live my life without an Olympic 500-meter gold medal." He wound up in eighth place Monday at the same rink where he set a world record in December, watching as Russian Aleksandr Golubev won in an Olympic record 36.33 seconds. "It wasn't nerves," said Jansen, of West Allis, Wis. "I felt fine. ... Everybody knows I'm the best, but I wasn't today." "It's a bit of a shock to me," he said. "I would have won by quite a bit if I didn't slip." The Norwegians picked up two



more medals before a crowd of 60,000 on the cross-country skiing course. Norway has collected five of the first 18 medals awarded, two gold and three silver, the most of any country. "I'm still in shock," said Kennedy, of Lake Placid, N.Y., after his sled wiped out near the bottom of the Hunderfossen track. "I was going for the track record. ... I knew it was going to be tough to beat (Georg) Hackl and (Markus) Prock." Hackl of Germany and Prock of Austria repeated their one-two finish of Albertville as the German became the first man ever to repeat as luge winner. Armin Zoggeler of Italy finished third, while Kennedy's teammate Wendel Suckow was fifth after an impressive second day—the highest Olympic finish ever for a U.S. men's luger. Kennedy said his sled turned "light and squirrely" on a turn near the end of his run. He was focusing on the 1998 Nagano Games: "Life goes on. I still want to go to Japan." Skier Tommy Moe, winner of America's first Alpine gold medal in 10 years, was in position for a second medal after finishing third Monday in the downhill portion of the men's combined. U.S. teammate Kyle Rasmussen of Angels Camp, Calif., was in second place, behind Lasse Kjus of Norway. The combined medals are based on aggregate results of a downhill race and a slalom set for Feb. 25. Moe of Palmer, Alaska, finished fourth in both World Cup combined races this year and remains a definite medal threat. More than 60,000 people, including Norwegian King Harald V, packed

Fans, athletes shiver at coldest Olympics

LILLEHAMMER, Norway — Fans risk frostbite. Biathletes' rifles are freezing to their cheeks. It's almost too cold to allow cross-country ski races. Lillehammer may look charming, but it's playing host to the most frigid Winter Games ever. Temperatures overnight have been dropping to minus-10 degrees and only barely edging above zero during the day. The International Olympic Committee's research department confirmed what spectators could feel in their fingers and toes: This is the coldest Winter Games yet, colder on a sustained basis than the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid. Events have been canceled at other Winter Games because it was

too warm, too windy or too snowy, but never because it was too cold. So far, that record is holding — barely. Under international regulations, major cross-country races cannot start when the temperature is under minus 4. The temperature at Birkebeineren Ski Stadium at 7:30 a.m. Monday, three hours before the men's 30-kilometer race, was minus 18. At 10 a.m., it was still below the limit, but officials queried the racers, got positive responses, and decided to start on time. When the first racer set off at 10:30, it was zero at the starting line, but still under minus 4 at one of the checkpoints on the course. Race officials said they were

confident, based on the trend of previous days, that the temperature would rise during the race. But Norwegian team doctor Kjell Eystein Rokke said the start should have been delayed. "Ski racing in very cold weather can lead to injury of sensitive windpipes," Rokke said. Most of Norway's Olympic racers used asthma medicines, which make them less vulnerable to the effects of the cold, according to Rokke. On Monday, Norwegians took the gold and silver medals. Dr. Ingar Lerem, chief medical officer for the Games, said several spectators at skiing events, as well as some nighttime merrymakers in downtown Lillehammer, have suffered frostbite.

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