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0930 :tokyo stock market hits record high:
tokyo, jan 24 - share prices rose sharply
on the tokyo stock exchange today with the
market average gaining nearly 53 points to a
record 6,746.93.

a total o 470 mln shares changed hands.
dealers reported active demand for shares
in defence-related companies with non-ferrous
metal, chemical, machinery and shipping
shares also higher.

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0934 :zurich gold pool curtails precious
metals dealing hours:

zurich, an 24 -- the three swiss banks
forming the zurich gold pool announced
precious metals trading today and tomorrow
will end early at 1230 local time (1130 gmt)
for administrative reasons.

trading normally lasts until 1630 local
time (1530gmt).

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0936 :oteiba says oil prices bound to rise
by mid 1980:

abu dhabi, jan 24 - united arab emirates,
uae, oil minister mana said al-oteiba was
quoted today as saying oil prices are bound
to rise again by the middle of this year.

in an interview with the newspaper
al- ajr, oteiba said the lack of a unified
oil price following the last opec meeting in
caracas in december has caused chaos on
world oil markets, which, in turn, put
pressure on producers to raise prices.

oteiba said oil producers will inevitably
raise prices by the middle of this year
but not all at the same time and not by
the same amount.

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