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According to a report by the US Department of Commerce released Feb. 17, the US trade deficit for 1988 totaled \$137.34 billion. US trade partners registering the largest surpluses were Japan, \$55.435 billion; Canada, \$10.572 billion; South Korea, \$9.919 billion; Brazil, \$5.587 billion; Italy, \$5.493 billion, Hong Kong, \$5.119 billion; and, Mexico, \$2.901 billion. (Basic data from Notimex, 02/17/89)