9-7-1989

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Mexico: More On Japanese Prime Minister's Visit

by John Neagle
Category/Department: General
Published: Thursday, September 7, 1989

On Sept. 6, unidentified Mexican officials told AFP that during Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's two-day visit in Mexico City, he discussed with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari a $2 billion loan to Mexico, and the renewal of a five-year contract to import Mexican oil. (See also Chronicle 09/05/89.) Kaifu confirmed that Japan plans to grant Mexico a $2.05 billion loan over the next three years, of which $1.4 billion could be made available immediately. The Bank of Japan is Mexico's second-largest single creditor, holding $15 billion in debt contracts. The oil contract for about 180,000 barrels of oil daily make Japan Mexico's second largest oil customer after the US. Among other issues addressed by the Japanese delegation was anti-pollution aid for Mexico City. Kaifu said 15 Mexican projects were under study, for which "aid depends on how we evaluate these projects." (Basic data from AFP, 09/06/89)

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