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LA English

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(Adds to additional subscribers)
----- (07:22 / 1922 GMT) ------
Stock Markets
                                     5,258.17 +16.73
S&P/ASX 200 5,375.77 -39.96 NZSX 50
      17,219.63 +163.76
D.TT A
Nikkei
         16,167.45 -38.45
NADUAQ
S&P 500
         4,554.49 +45.80 FTSE
1,999.20 +16.43 Hang
                                      6,706.27
                          Hang Seng 23,921.61
SPI 200 Fut 5,407.00 +28.00 TRJCRB Index
                                        280.38
Bonds AU 10 YR Bond 3.608 +0.003 US 10 YR Bond
                                            2.567 +0.034
NZ 10 YR Bond 4.210 -0.005 US 30 YR Bond
                                        3.281 +0.030
Currencies (Prev at 7pm NZST)
AUD US$ 0.8878 0.8883 NZD US$
                                      0.8071 0.8084
EUR US$
             1.2783 1.2850 Yen US$
                                       108.95 108.61
Commodities
Gold (Lon) 1217.25
                    Silver (Lon)
Light Crude
                                       0.000
            1222.69
Gold (NY)
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Overnight market action with latest New York figures.

EQUITIES

NEW YORK - U.S. stocks were near session highs in the latter stages of trading on Wednesday, led by healthcare stocks after the S&P 500 successfully tested a key support level following three sessions of declines.

The Dow Jones industrial average was rising 121.17 points, or 0.71 percent, to 17,177.04, the S&P 500 was gaining 11.45 points, or 0.58 percent, to 1,994.22 and the Nasdaq Composite was adding 36.10 points, or 0.8 percent, to 4,544.79.

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LONDON - Britain's top share index ended higher on Wednesday, with gains from BHP Billiton BLT.L on its plan to list a spin-off **company** also in London and supportive comments from ECB chief Mario Draghi underpinning the market.

The FTSE 100 finished 0.5 percent higher at 6,706.27 points after staying almost flat during most of the session. It gained in the last hour of trading, tracking higher U.S. stocks.

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TOKYO - Japanese shares stepped back on Wednesday, after Page 137 of 221 © 2018 Factiva, Inc. All rights reserved.

U.S. air strikes in Syria dampened risk sentiment and curbed the yen's fall - the main driver of the market's rally in the past several weeks.

Returning on Tuesday from a market holiday, the Nikkei average fell 0.2 percent to 16,167.45, though the fall was limited partly because of buying ahead of Thursday, which is half-year dividend record date for many Japanese shares.

The broader Topix fell 0.3 percent while the new JPX-Nikkei Index 400 dipped 0.3 percent.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE

NEW YORK - The dollar rose again on Wednesday, wiping out early gains in the yen against the greenback coming after Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe voiced concern about the economic impact of the Japanese currency's fall to a six-year low

The dollar index gained 0.40 percent and touched highs last seen in July 2010, while the euro sank 0.4 percent to a new 14-month low under \$1.28 and was last at \$1.2788.

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TREASURIES

NEW YORK - U.S. Treasuries yields were little changed on Wednesday on a lack of clarity surrounding Federal Reserve monetary policy, while easing concerns over U.S. strikes in Syria prevented safe-haven bids.

Benchmark U.S. 10-year Treasury notes were last down 1/32 in price to yield 2.54 percent, from a yield of 2.53 percent late Tuesday. U.S. 30-year Treasury bonds were last up 1/32 to yield 3.25 percent, roughly unchanged from late Tuesday's level.

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COMMODITIES

GOLD

NEW YORK - **Gold** fell on Wednesday as the dollar climbed to levels not seen in four years and global shares rebounded, while investors remained cautious ahead of U.S. economic data due later in the week.

Spot **gold**, stronger initially, fell to a session low of \$1,215.60 an ounce. It was down 0.5 percent at \$1,216.66 an ounce by 2:07 p. \mathbf{m} . EDT (1807 GMT), less than \$10 above an 8-1/2-month low of \$1,208.36 reached in the previous day.

U.S. COMEX **gold** futures for December delivery settled down \$2.50 at \$1,219.50 an ounce, with trading volume in line with its 30-day average, preliminary Reuters data showed.

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BASE METALS

LONDON - Nickel rose on Wednesday as investors saw a recent slide in prices as a buying opportunity ahead of expected shortages, while **copper** recovered after hitting a fresh three-month low as uncertainly about global growth weighed on markets.

Three month nickel on the London Metal Exchange gained 1.61 percent to end at \$17,400 a tonne, after touching \$16,483 on Tuesday, the lowest in more than five months.

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OIL

NEW YORK - Brent crude oil futures dropped below \$96 a barrel on Wednesday to a two-year low as rising supply from Africa and Iraq offset mounting tensions in the Middle East and stronger-than-expected growth expectations in China.

Brent crude for November delivery was down 70 cents at \$96.15 a barrel by 12:51 EDT (1651 GMT) after hitting a session low of \$95.60, its lowest since July 2012. It was down more than 6.5 percent for the month so far, the biggest monthly drop since April 2013.

U.S. crude rose by 8 cents to \$91.64 a barrel as the unexpected drawdown in weekly U.S. stocks offset earlier losses that had dragged it down to \$91.12.

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- RF Released: 2014-9-24T20:24:36.000Z
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