

HD RPT-New Zealand/Australia Morning Call-Global markets

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(Repeats to additional subscribers)
-----(07:19 / 1919 GMT)------
Stock Markets
                                      5,114.24 -1.15
S&P/ASX 200 5,518.86 +7.56 NZSX 50
      17,126.07 +65.39
D.TT A
Nikkei
          15,379.30 -15.86
.....υAQ
S&P 500
          4,429.54 +13.15 FTSE 6,784.67 +74.22
1,980.59 +7.31 Hang Seng 23,523.28 +63.32
SPI 200 Fut 5,494.00 +20.00 TRJCRB Index
                                        296.79
                                                +0.77
Bonds AU 10 YR Bond 3.444 +0.018 US 10 YR Bond
                                             2.538 -0.012
NZ 10 YR Bond 4.400 -0.020 US 30 YR Bond
                                        3.348 -0.018
Currencies (Prev at 7pm NZST)
AUD US$ 0.9358 0.9341 NZD US$
                                       0.8705 0.8692
EUR US$
             1.3521 1.3559 Yen US$
                                        101.70 101.64
Commodities
                     Silver (Lon)
Light Crude
Gold (Lon) 1301.00
                                        20.700
            1294.10
Gold (NY)
                                        101.27
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Overnight market action with latest New York figures.

EQUITIES

NEW YORK - U.S. stocks edged up on Wednesday with the Dow industrial average hitting a new intraday high, buoyed by the latest merger news.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 74.87 points or 0.44 percent, to 17,135.55, the S&P 500 gained 8.82 points or 0.45 percent, to 1,982.1 and the Nasdaq Composite added 19.91 points or 0.45 percent, to 4,436.29.

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LONDON - Britain's top share index hit a one-week high on Wednesday, with engineering **firm** Meggitt surging on bid speculation and miners rallying after a strong update from Rio Tinto and encouraging economic growth data from **China**.

The FTSE 100 advanced 1.1 percent to 6,784.67 points. The FTSE 350 $\frac{\text{mining}}{\text{mining}}$ index rose 2.7 percent to a 4-1/2-month high, making it the sector that gained the most in the FTSE 350 index, which climbed 1.1 percent.

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TOKYO - Japan's Nikkei share average edged down on Wednesday after staying nearly flat for most of the session as investors Page 204 of 248 © 2018 Factiva, Inc. All rights reserved.

took profits from gains the previous day, while China's economic data received a muted reaction from the market.

The Nikkei ended 0.1 percent lower at 15,379.30 after it closed at a 1-1/2-week high the previous day.

The broader Topix was flat at 1,273.59, and the JPX-Nikkei Index 400 was also flat at 11,588.37.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE

NEW YORK - The dollar gained on Wednesday on modest rises in U.S. Treasury yields and market speculation Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen is leaning toward tightening monetary policy that has kept interest rates at record lows.

The dollar index, a grouping of six currencies traded against the greenback, was up 0.2 percent to 80.556 after touching its highest level in a month.

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TREASURIES

NEW YORK - U.S. benchmark Treasury yields edged higher for a third straight session on Wednesday, boosted by yet another piece of data suggesting the world's largest economy is on solid footina.

In mid-morning trading, the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note was down 1/32 in price to yield 2.554 percent, slightly up from 2.554 percent late on Tuesday. The 30-year bond was also down 1/32 in price, to yield 3.368 percent.

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COMMODITIES

GOLD

NEW YORK - Gold rebounded on Wednesday after two consecutive days of sharp losses, but a strong U.S. economic outlook and fears that the Federal Reserve could raise U.S. interest rates limited gains for the safe haven.

Spot gold rose 0.2 percent to \$1,296.94 an ounce by $2:16 \text{ p.} \frac{m}{m}$ EDT (1816 GMT), after losing 3.3 percent in the last two sessions, its biggest two-day loss since Oct 1.

U.S. gold futures for August delivery settled up \$2.70 at \$1,299.80 an ounce, with trading volume about 20 percent below its 30-day average, preliminary Reuters data showed.

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BASE METALS

LONDON - Aluminium touched the highest levels in 16 months on Wednesday after data showed stronger economic growth in top metals consumer **China** amid producer cutbacks and eroding inventories.

Benchmark three month aluminium on the London Metal Exchange surged to a session high of \$1,993 a tonne, the strongest since March 13, 2013, before closing at \$1,972 a tonne, up 0.6 percent.

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OIL

NEW YORK - U.S. crude oil rose more than \$1 on Wednesday, rebounding from recent steep losses after government data showed crude stockpiles in the world's largest oil consumer fell sharply last week.

U.S. crude for August delivery was up \$1.26 at \$101.22 a barrel at 1:21 p.<mark>m.</mark> EDT (1721 GMT).

The Brent contract for August rose 14 cents to \$106.16 a barrel ahead of expiry at the close of the session. The September contract gained 58 cents to \$107.46 a barrel.

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