

### U.S. dollar goes farther in Europe

# Peking cheapest for tourists

By MURRAY J. BROWN

United Press International  
Would you believe that Bridgetown, the capital of the resort island of Barbados in the Caribbean, is the most expensive city in the world for the business traveler? Or that Peking is the cheapest?

So says an annual survey listing 100 business centers worldwide by the Financial Times of London's World Business Weekly released in early August. While aimed primarily at the people traveling mainly for business and not pleasure, the report could prove helpful to tourists planning their vacations.

The survey noted that the increased strength of the U.S. dollar in the past year has made European destinations cheaper for

sive than in recent years.

For instance, London, which topped the 1980 list, dropped to 26th place in 1981. Chicago, in 23rd place last year, jumped to 4th while New York went from 15th to 5th. Other U.S. cities making the list included Los Angeles 14th, Houston 19th and Atlanta 28th.

Peking kept its ranking as No. 100, indicating "that the Chinese have not raised prices despite the influx of foreign visitors," according to a release.

The survey, compiled with the help of Financial Times correspondents around the world, is based on three nights, bed and breakfast, in a first class hotel, three snack meals, two set menu dinners in a hotel, one dinner in a first class restaurant, three bottles of house wine, three beers, six whiskeys and six 3-mile taxi rides.

It listed the 10 most expensive cities as:

- Bridgetown, Barbados
- Abu Dhabi
- Paris
- Chicago
- New York
- Kinshasa, Zaire
- Hamilton, Bermuda
- Accra, Ghana
- Nassau, Bahamas
- Monte Carlo

The report said bed and breakfast cost a whopping \$155.36 in Bridgetown. Second most expensive in this category was Hamilton,

Bermuda, at \$132.33. These compared with \$122.33 in Chicago, \$120.39 in New York, \$116.10 in Paris, \$91.02 in London, \$94.87 in Tokyo and \$29.88 in Peking.

It said expensive individual items pushed some cities up into the higher rankings. It cited high food costs in Africa, which boosted Kinshasa into 6th place and Accra into 8th. A meal in a restaurant in

**The survey noted that the increased strength of the U.S. dollar in the past year has made European destinations cheaper for Americans — about 25 percent.**

Kinshasa, the capital of Zaire, cost \$53.64 (second only to \$63.86 in Paris) while a hotel dinner in Ghana's capital of Accra cost \$49.39 (or \$1.14 more than hotel and breakfast at \$48.25).

On the other hand, dinner in Dacca, Bangladesh, could be had for \$4.27, in Rangoon, Burma, for \$5.51 and for about \$6 in New Delhi, India; Ankara, Turkey, and La Paz, Bolivia.

A snack in Accra cost \$21.71 compared with 70 cents in Warsaw — presumably when the East European country is not suffering food shortages. House wine will set

the traveler back \$18.53 in Manamah, capital of Bahrein, but only \$2.33 in Paris, \$2.29 in Rome, and \$1.86 in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Accra also won the dubious title of most expensive when it comes to whiskey (\$8.61), beer (\$5.16) and 3-mile taxi ride (\$10.92). At the other extreme, whiskey in St. Helier in the Channel Islands sells for 68 cents a glass, beer in Peking is 50 cents and a taxi ride in Dacca is 54 cents. Curiously, a 3-mile taxi ride in Benghazi, in oil-rich Libya, costs \$10.20.

The first 10 in the 1980 survey were:

- London
- Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- Paris
- Frankfurt
- Brussels
- Abu Dhabi
- Dubai
- Manamah
- Tokyo
- Moscow

Tokyo ranked 13th on the 1981 list, Frankfurt dropped to 37th, Brussels to 30th, Manamah to 25th and Moscow to 67th. Jeddah and Dubai did not make the 1981 list.

Other popular foreign destinations included Geneva 27th, Amsterdam 35th, Madrid 42nd, Dublin 51st, Copenhagen 58th, and Rome 85th.

The release emphasized that the survey was based on the demands of the business traveler and does not include low-cost packages often available to tourists.



Photo by Jeri Jones

### Beware of the hare ...

Four-month-old Bruno the Bunny reluctantly poses for a picture session with his owner, Mary Ann Snowden, an agricultural journalism major from Arlington. Bruno

is a new breed of rabbits bred for dwarfism. His mature size will be about 1 1/2 pounds.

## Doctor says men, women react the same to assault

United Press International  
NEW YORK — Contrary to conventional wisdom, the psychological reaction of an assault victim is no different for a woman or a man, says a Michigan psychiatrist. Dr. Elissa P. Benedek says nothing in the psychiatric literature ties post-crime reactions to the victim's gender.

"Women give in to a mugger

more easily in some cases," the doctor says. "But all crime victims, male and female alike, blame themselves equally."

The psychiatrist and former head of the American Psychiatric Association's task force on the psychiatric aspects of terrorism expressed her views in an article in the September issue of Glamour magazine.

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## Small business center incorporates services

United Press International  
OKLAHOMA CITY — "A great idea can go down the drain because you couldn't get a loan to get the idea going," said David Henault, vice president of Control Data's Business Center Network. And that is something the only full-service business center in Oklahoma City was opened to prevent.

"The products and services are not new; they have been offered to large businesses and governments for years," Henault said. "What is new is that we are offering these services to small businesses." And why is Control Data Corp. interested in helping the small businessman? "Large corporations have got to have small businesses to survive," Henault said. "The new and innovative ideas come from small businesses."

The vice president was in Oklahoma City to launch Control Data's 43rd business center since the idea was first implemented in 1980. The concept of a small business center is to incorporate under one roof many of the services available to large corporations, Henault said. This includes financial planning, microcomputers, small business computer systems, training, seminars, and tax and insurance assistance.

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Located beside the Control Data Center is the Commercial Credit Co., a financial services subsidiary, which provides financial assistance to small businesses. If a small business needs to train an employee, or if a person wants to go into business for himself, the training center at Control Data is the place to go. Here a terminal linked with the main computer in Minneapolis gives the employee or potential business person access to educational courses ranging from "Accounts Receivable Collection Techniques" to "Building Your Own Business." The student communicates with the computer using a simple keyboard, and the machine responds with the student's name incorporated in the program. American Airlines in Dallas uses the Control Data system to train pilots, Henault said. The student can schedule training, which ranges from the computerized courses to audio-visual demonstrations, to fit his own free time. Besides business training, the Control Data center also offers basic skills courses for third graders through high school students to brush up on academics. The cost of the training ranges on the average, from \$80 to \$350, Henault said. And the average cost of a business computer system is around \$5,000. They discourage anyone from spending less for a system because a cheaper system would not be able to accommodate an entire business, Henault explained. The Minneapolis-based company chose Oklahoma City as the site for their 43rd business center because of "the growth of the Oklahoma City small business community," Henault said.

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