MORNING REPORT

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Web: www.equity.co.nz / E-mail: Info@equity.co.nz / Tel: +64 (9)304 0145 / Address: Level 7, 12-26 Swanson Street, Auckland, NZ

Top News

U.S. Stocks Gain Amid Mideast Calm; Dollar Rises: Markets Wrap

U.S. stocks rose as investor appetite for risk returned after America and Iran stepped back from the brink of war. The dollar advanced.

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The S&P 500 headed for another record as the conflict between the U.S. and Iran, which drove futures down as much as 1.7% Wednesday, hasn't escalated. Tech led gains. Oil fell below \$60 a barrel in New York, gold declined for a second day and the Japanese yen dropped to a two-week low versus the dollar.

The greenback gained against major currencies for a third straight day after jobless claims fell by more than expected, adding to signs of economic strength ahead of the U.S. payrolls report Friday. Ten-year Treasury yields declined following a government auction.

In company news, retail took a hit from signs of poor sales before earnings ramp up next week. Bed Bath & Beyond Inc. slid 19% after results missed analyst estimates, while Kohl's Corp. also slumped following a disappointing holiday season.

"Things have calmed down a bit and with the market hitting new intra-day highs today it seems investors are willing to buy the very little dip we got due to these geopolitical issues," said Jennifer Ellison, principal at San Francisco-based BOS. "Markets go up and down despite what happens geopolitically, and in many cases geopolitical issues like this really don't have a direct economic impact."

If the relative geopolitical calm holds, it will allow traders to switch focus to HANG SENG INDEX the next clue on the health of the world's biggest economy, which will come with the non-farm jobs report. Adding to sentiment, the partial trade deal between the U.S. and China looks locked in as China's vice premier will visit Washington next week for a signing ceremony.

Elsewhere, the pound touched its lowest in two weeks after Bank of England Governor Mark Carney said policy makers are debating merits of more monetary stimulus. European and emerging-market shares rose.

Boeing Shares Rise on Speculation Missile Downed Ukrainian Jet

oeing Co. shares rose on reports that an accidental missile strike or terrorist bomb, rather than mechanical mishap, may be responsible for the crash of Ukrainian jet near Tehran on Wednesday.

Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752 disappeared from radar screens at 8,000 feet, and witnesses said they saw it on fire in the air, according to Iran's Civil Aviation Organization. The flight-data and cockpit-voice recorders were damaged but their core memory appears to be accessible, a report by the aviation organization said.

The findings are the first officially released from a probe fraught with difficulty amid heightened U.S.-Iranian tensions. Ukraine added to confusion around the crash, saying it's looking at whether the jet was downed by a missile or bomb after Iran had insisted it fell victim to a technical failure or engine fire.

| | NZX Index | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|--------|--------------|-------|
| Index | Last | (| Change | e |
| S&P/NZX All Index | 12,494.71 | 18.25 | ↓ | 0.15% |
| S&P/NZX 50 Index | 11,537.68 | 19.30 | \mathbf{V} | 0.17% |
| S&P/NZX MidCap Index | 32,973.06 | 240.75 | ↑ | 0.74% |
| S&P/NZX SmallCap Index | 66,551.58 | 232.09 | ↑ | 0.35% |

INVESTMENT ADVISERS

| | ASX Inde | x | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|-------|--|
| Index | Last | | Change | | |
| ASX All Ordinaries | 6,991.40 | 61.30 | | 0.88% | |
| er s&P/ASX 200 | 6,874.20 | 56.60 | | 0.83% | |
| ASX Small Ordinario | s 2,981.20 | 41.10 | | 1.40% | |
| S&P/ASX MIDCAP 5 | 0 7,423.30 | 100.80 | | 1.38% | |
| S&P/ASX 20 | 3,772.20 | 23.20 | | 0.62% | |

| For | eign Markets | Index | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|-------|
| | Last | (| Change | 9 |
| S&P 500 | 3,271.37 | 18.32 | | 0.56% |
| Dow Jones Industrial Average | 28,938.59 | 193.50 | | 0.67% |
| NASDAQ Composite | 9,191.55 | 62.30 | | 0.68% |
| DAX PERFORMANCE-INDEX | 13,495.06 | 174.88 | | 1.31% |
| ASX All Ordinaries | 6,991.40 | 61.30 | | 0.88% |
| NIKKEI 225 | 23,739.87 | 535.11 | | 2.31% |
| HANG SENG INDEX | 28,561.00 | 473.08 | | 1.68% |

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|-----|-----|--------------------|----------|--------|-------|
| | | Currencies (per NZ | \$ 1.00) | | |
| e | | Last | | Change | |
| ill | AUD | 0.9647 | -0.0036 | - | 0.37% |
| | USD | 0.66 | -0.0041 | - | 0.62% |
| | CNY | 4.5810 | -0.0380 | - | 0.83% |
| | EUR | 0.60 | -0.0037 | - | 0.62% |
| | CAD | 0.8643 | -0.0026 | - | 0.30% |
| | GBP | 0.51 | -0.0016 | - | 0.32% |
| | JPY | 72.3590 | -0.1955 | - | 0.27% |

| JPY | 72.3590 | -0.1955 🔻 0.2 | 27% | | |
|--|-------------------|---------------|-----|--|--|
| | NZ Interest Rates | | | | |
| | Last | Change | | | |
| NZ OCR | 1.00 | | | | |
| 3m Bank Bill | 1.22 | | | | |
| 5y Swap | 1.31 | | | | |
| 10y Swap | 1.64 | | | | |
| Commodities Futures (Spot Price \$USD) | | | | | |
| | Last | Change | | | |
| Gold | 1,553.70 | 6.50 🔻 0.4 | 42% | | |
| Silver | 17.95 | 0.22 🔻 1.3 | 19% | | |
| Crude Oil | 59.58 | 0.03 🔻 0.0 |)5% | | |

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