

Market Commentary

- Two Federal Reserve policy makers discussed the possible need for a faster pace of interest-rate increases than currently mapped out by the U.S. central bank, as the economy progresses toward goals for full employment and 2 percent inflation. Federal Reserve Bank of Boston President Eric Rosengren argued Wednesday that four hikes in 2017 may be needed to guard against economic overheating, and San Francisco's John Williams said he "would not rule out more than three increases total for this year." The median estimate of Fed officials in their mid-March forecasts was for three quarter-point rate increases in 2017.
- Gains in riskier assets have pushed the value of global stocks to \$71 trillion, with shares heading toward a fifth month of gains, as the reflation trade triggered by Trump's election shows resilience. Stronger global growth has helped underpin the rally, even amid doubts about the U.S. president's ability to enact pro-growth policies. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 index climbed 0.4 percent, gaining for a third day to the highest since May 2015 as energy shares jumped. New Zealand's S&P/NZX 50 gained 0.5 percent. Futures on the S&P 500 Index increased 0.1 percent. The benchmark gauge rose 0.1 percent on Wednesday. The Stoxx Europe 600 Index added 0.3 percent to the highest since December 2015. Asian stocks fell as investors approached the end of the quarter. Japan's Topix fell 0.6 percent. The index is up 0.9 percent for the quarter, despite the yen's strengthening this year. Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 0.5 percent, and the Hang Seng China Enterprises Index lost 1 percent. The Shanghai Composite dropped 1.1 percent, falling for a fourth straight day.
- The Bloomberg Dollar Spot Index rose 0.1 percent. The yen slid 0.2 percent, paring its gain for the quarter to 5.2 percent. The Australian dollar lost 0.1 percent while the euro fell 0.1 percent, after declining 0.9 percent over the previous two days.
- Oil climbed 0.4 percent to \$49.73 a barrel, after surging 2.4 percent on Wednesday as a bigger-than-forecast decline in U.S. gasoline stockpiles countered an expansion of crude production to the highest level in more than a year. Bullish comments from producers in the U.A.E. and Azerbaijan on Tuesday have added to bullish sentiments. Libyan Supply outages further pushed oil prices higher as Libya crude output is said to drop to about 500k barrels per day.
- Angst over possible fallout from Brexit has crept back into the market, helping send gold toward its biggest quarterly gain in a year. With the U.K. on course for leaving the European Union in two years, demand for bullion as a haven has pushed gains on Gold to their highest since March 2016. Bullion futures traded in New York are poised for a 9.1 percent gain this quarter. Spot silver is set for the steepest quarterly advance since June, while palladium and platinum are also poised for quarterly gains.

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters

Currencies	
EUR/USD	1.0765
GBP/USD	1.2434
USD/JPY	111.10
AUD/USD	0.7657
NZD/USD	0.7023
USD/CHF	0.9961
USD/CAD	1.3334

Interbank Rates						
	USD	GBP	EUR	AED	SAR	BHD
1WK	0.94389	0.23469	-0.4064	0.8358	-	1.350
1MO	0.98222	0.25738	-0.3979	1.0517	1.3125	1.850
2MO	1.02056	0.30263	-0.3693	-	-	2.075
3MO	1.15222	0.34163	-0.3579	1.4683	1.735	2.300
6MO	1.42489	0.49894	-0.2501	1.6985	2.01	2.475
12MO	1.79817	0.73113	-0.119	2.1953	2.2075	2.975

Commodities	
Brent Crude	52.48
WTI	49.63
Gold	1251.31
Aluminum	1955.0
Copper	5907
Silver	18.19
Platinum	956.1
Palladium	787.9

Indices	
DJIA	20,659.3
S&P 500	2,361.1
DAX	12,203.0
NIKKEI 225	19,063.2
CAC 40	5,069.0
FTSE 100	7,373.7
DFM	3,453.2
TASI	6,949.0

Treasuries	
US2Y	1.2698
US10Y	2.3819
EU2Y	-0.7420
EU10Y	0.3480
GB2Y	0.1410
GB10Y	1.1500
SAR2Y	2.4750
SAR10Y	4.0260

Main Economic Indicators

Importance	Country	Indicator	Consensus	Previous
	CA	Industrial Product Price MoM (Feb)	0.40%	0.40%
	EC	Consumer Confidence (Mar F)	-5.0	-5.0
	GE	CPI YoY (Mar P)	1.80%	2.20%
	US	GDP Annualized QoQ (Q4 T)	2.00%	1.90%

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