



	<b>GOLD</b>	<b>SILVER</b>	<b>PLATINUM</b>	<b>PALLADIUM</b>
<b>OPEN</b>	1244.40/60	16.30/32	927/29	849/51
<b>HIGH</b>	1246.80/00	16.39/41	929/31	851/53
<b>LOW</b>	1243.50/70	16.30/32	925/27	846/48
<b>LAST LEVEL</b>	1246.80/00	16.39/41	928/30	848/50

**Range Asian Hours (from Globex open)**

**MACRO:** Initial Jobless Claims in the U.S. eased during the week ended July 15, dipping to 233k (exp: 245k) from 248k previously. The print saw the four-week moving average decline by 2,250 to 243,750, while continuing claims increased 28k to 1.977 million (exp: 1.949 million) during the week ended July 8. The Philadelphia Fed Business Outlook declined to the lowest level since November during July, seeing the index slide to 19.5 (exp: 23.0) from 27.6 previously. The index for employment eased 5 points, however remained positive at 10.8, while the index for business activity jumped to 36.9 from 31.3 previously. The U.S. Leading Index increased to +0.6% in June (exp: +0.4%) from a downwardly revised +0.2% during May (prev: +0.3%). Equities in the U.S. ended mixed in quiet trade on Thursday, with Home Depot (-4.09%) weighing upon the DJIA to the tune of 46 points to have the bourse lower at the close. The DJIA ended the session -0.13% lower at 21,611.78 points to follow a fresh record close the session prior, while declines to materials (-0.83%) and industrials (-0.61%) offset gains to telecoms (+1.41%) too see the S&P 500 inch just -0.02% lower to 2,473.45 points. Meanwhile the Nasdaq Composite outperformed to books its tenth consecutive session gain, closing +0.08% higher at a fresh record close of 6,390.002 points. Oil futures pulled back on Thursday from the six-week high printed the session prior, with investor's turning focus to the upcoming OPEC meeting in Russia on Monday. WTI fell -0.7% to around USD \$46.79 per barrel, while Brent crude declined -0.8% to close below USD \$50 per barrel. The greenback traded under pressure on Thursday, collapsing over -1% intrasession as the euro ripped to a two-year high following the ECB unchanged rates announcement, even as ECB President Mario Draghi pledged to continue the central bank's asset purchase program. Draghi discussed the economic recovery of the region, however noted that it has yet to translate into higher consumer prices, "Basically inflation is not where we want it to be and where it should be" he said. The bank held back from discussions over the timing of reigning in quantitative easing, surprising some market participants who had expected some indication as to the path toward the normalisation of monetary policy. Markets across Europe ended Thursday's session lower, weighed down by a stronger euro and a dovish



Mario Draghi. The Stoxx Europe 600 ended the session -0.38% down after trading as much as +0.5% higher intrasession, while the German Dax eased just -0.04% as exporters suffered. In the U.K. the FTSE 100 climbed +0.77% to book the highest close in four-weeks, supported by strong corporate results and a softer sterling.

**PRECIOUS:** A mix of geopolitical risks and a leg lower to the USD supported bullion on Thursday, turning bid in New York to book the highest close since late June. The metal survived early European weakness that tested support toward USD \$1,235, before receiving a boost on the ECB related headlines that sent the euro soaring as high as 1.1658 from a session low of 1.1480. The metal saw a short squeeze through USD \$1,245 in New York to touch a USD \$1,248 high, before running into offers toward the 100 and 50 day moving averages around USD \$1,248 and USD \$1,249.30 respectively. Afternoon pricing saw gold ease back from the session high print as the greenback clawed back ground, closing around USD \$1,244 to book a +0.5% session gain. Asia traded with a modest bid bias on Friday, seeing firm interest around New York closing levels in early flows, before turning higher in afternoon pricing as the euro strengthened. China continued to support bullion, however with the on-shore premium easing marginally to around USD \$8 it was left to regional physical and spec interest to provide buoyancy, with volumes through Comex notably elevated. The dollar weakness should continue to support gold around current levels and we look to a break through the 100 and 50 day moving averages as a pivot point for further gains. Support for the metal is evident toward USD \$1,243, while below this USD \$1,235 should restrict declines. Silver was able to take out Wednesday's high print during New York trade on Thursday, recovering from an early break through the USD \$16.20 support level to print a USD \$16.41 high. The grey metal is encountering some resistance toward USD \$16.40, once again testing the figure during Asian trade on Friday, however unable to break through. The current large short positioning is likely weighing upon the metal, however a sustained move through USD \$16.40 to target USD \$16.69 may drive some liquidation to support further gains. Data releases today include Canadian CPI and Retail Sales.