



January 20, 2015

Gold	Today	Change	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
	\$1,279.20	-\$1.10	\$1238.10	\$1,197.50	\$1254.75

Gold prices were marginally softer on Monday, after hitting multi-month highs last week in the wake of the announcement by the Swiss National Bank (SNB) to no longer maintain a cap on their currency. Volumes were light as the U.S markets were closed for the Martin Luther King holiday. Spot gold ended the day at \$1280.30 per ounce.

It is widely expected that the European Central Bank (ECB) will announce a 550 billion-euro (\$640 billion) bond-purchase program this week.

Meanwhile, Greek government debt prices fell, pushing 10-year bond yields almost one percentage point higher from a month ago at 9.20% ahead of next weekend's general election.

According to the German central bank or Bundesbank, the repatriation of its gold reserves from overseas storage was stepped up last year.

"The Bundesbank successfully continued and further stepped up its transfers of gold," the central bank said in a statement.

"In 2014, 120 tons of gold were transferred to Frankfurt from storage locations abroad: 35 tons from Paris and 85 tons from New York."

Germany's gold reserves are the second-biggest in the world after those of the United States and totalled 3,384.2 tons this month, according to the

latest data compiled by the World Gold Council.

For decades the Bundesbank's gold holdings have been kept in the treasuries of other central banks -- in Paris, London and New York.

Under the Bundesbank's new gold storage plan in 2013, it decided to bring back 674 tons from abroad by 2020 and store half of its gold in its own vaults.

"Implementation of our new gold storage plan is proceeding smoothly. Operations are running very much according to schedule," said Bundesbank executive board member Carl-Ludwig Thiele.

Since the transfers began in 2013, the Bundesbank said it has relocated a total of 157 tons of gold to Frankfurt -- 67 tons from Paris and 90 tons from New York.



About the author: David Levenstein is an independent precious metals market commentator with more than 30 years experience.

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