# Fullermoney Plus 137 12 February 2001

Global Strategy and Investment Trends by David Fuller

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# NASDAQ and all other stock markets indices need upward dynamics to reaffirm support from early-January lows

"Don't fight the Fed" versus profit contraction - Most stock market indices rebounded following Greenspan's first rate cut of the year on 3rd January. Bullish technical action included a dramatic key day reversal for the NASDAQ Composite Index shown below. However the rallies petered out in late January and reactions have followed. Are these consolidations prior to further strength, or are most share indices likely to resume previous declines and/or erode underlying support? Will rate cuts by the Fed and other central banks be the key factor, supporting share prices, or will falling corporate profits drag most stocks lower? I suspect interest rates will be the dominant influence, as so often in the past but I want to see further evidence on the charts. Specifically, more upward dynamics are required near or above the January lows, helping to push indices over their recent highs. Even in this event I expect plenty of ranging and would not chase any share.

## OPEC's latest supply cuts are bad for global GDP growth

- The general expectation that energy prices are heading lower is likely to be wrong, at least for a few more months, due to OPEC's reduction of production quotas by 1.5 million barrels a day. Moreover they will cut again if prices slip below their benchmark. Eventually, high prices will attract more oil and natural gas supplies from other sources, and consumption is likely to decline. Meanwhile, energy costs remain a problem for the global economy.

# Currencies are strengthening against the yen once again

- Following orderly reactions from their January highs, a firmer tone against the Japanese currency has been evident recently. While the US dollar led this renewed strength, other reserve currencies have participated, including sterling shown below. I suspect we saw their reaction lows against the yen last week, in what will prove to be no more than brief consolidations prior to further and substantial gains. Sustained breaks under the following levels are necessary to challenge this hypothesis: USD 114.35, EUR 106.15, GBP 167.15, CHF 69.915 and AUD 62.121.

The Chart Seminar will next be held on 10th & 11th May, in London. Please email sarahhewett@fullermarkets.com for further details and reservations.

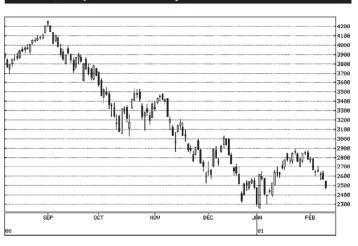
### Best regards - David Fuller

FullerMarkets a division of Stockcube Research Limited Suite 1.21 Plaza 535 Kings Road London SW10 0SZ UK Website: www.fullermarkets.com Email: research@fullermarkets.com Tel: +44 (0) 20 7351 5751 Fax: +44 (0) 20 7352 3185

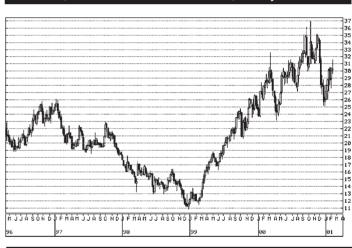
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NASDAQ Composite Index - Daily 2470.S97



### Crude Oil (2nd Month Continuation - NYME) Weekly \$30.37



### Sterling/Yen - Daily ¥170.90

