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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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USEUCOM FOR J-2 (BGEN HAYDEN), USIA FOR RES (PINCUS),

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TEXT
TAGS: PINR, PGOV, PREL
COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJECT: INR ANALYSIS: EUROPE DEALING WITH NAZISM

USIA FOR MCINTOSH, R/RUC/NSC FOR VERSCHBOW, BEERS,
FRIED, ALSO FOR OVP (FUERTH) AND FOR PFIAB, CIA FOR
DI/EURA, DO/EUR (WILEY), NIC (COOPER), ISC,
DDI, ADDI, CRES, DIA FOR DIO KNOPP, DSP-2D, VP-D, DB,
DE, J2I-2, NSA FOR SINLO/EUR COONEY, A-04, A132, FBIS
FOR EO/WEB, SECDEF FOR OUSD/P/SEE, OADSD/RUE,
OADUSD-SEE, SAF/IA, LAX, LAPS, JCS FOR J-5-OSD/ISA/GEORGE

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT. OADR--BASED ON
COMMENTARY ON AND EVALUATION OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND
LEADERS.

2. THE ATTACHED INR ANALYSIS, PRODUCED ON 09/04/95 15
FORWARDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION, UAMARY. THIS SUMMER HAS
SEEN MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN GERMAN, FRENCH, AND ITALIAN
EFFORTS TO COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM AND DEAL WITH THE NAZI

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

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PAST. TRANSITION STATES IN EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE, HOWEVER, ARE MUCH MORE HESITANT TO FACE THE ISSUE, FEAR THE POLITICAL AND FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF PLEDGING COMPENSATION FOR JEWISH LOSSES, AND EXHIBIT MORE OPEN, WIDESPREAD ANTI-SEMITISM.

GERMANY ON THE OFFENSIVE

3. GERMAN AUTHORITIES HAVE GONE TO GREAT PAINS TO ERASE THE BLOT CAUSED BY NEO-NAZI, SKINHEAD RIOTS IN ROSTOCK SEVERAL YEARS AGO AND BY CONTINUING ATTACKS ON FOREIGNERS AND JEWISH CEMETERIES. LAST WEEK, AFTER YEARS OF EFFORTS TO BRING AN AMERICAN NEO-NAZI PROPAGANDIST TO JUSTICE, GERMANY WON A DANISH SUPREME COURT DECISION UPHOLDING HIS EXTRADITION TO FACE VARIOUS NAZI-RELATED CHARGES. THE DANES ON SEPTEMBER 1 REJECTED THE AMERICAN'S LAST-DITCH EFFORT TO CLAIM ASYLUM IN DENMARK AND TRANSFERRED HIM TO GERMAN CUSTODY ON SEPTEMBER 6.

4. A GERMAN COURT HAS SENTENCED A 29-YEAR-OLD GERMAN TO THREE YEARS' CONFINEMENT FOR DENYING THE OCCURRENCE OF THE HOLOCAUST, ONE OF MANY NAZI-RELATED CRIMES SPECIFICALLY PROSCRIBED BY GERMAN LAW. THE SENTENCE WAS HANDED DOWN AMID CONTINUING CONTROVERSY OVER THE APPROPRIATENESS OF VARIOUS HOLOCAUST MEMORIALS PLANNED FOR BERLIN AND ELSEWHERE.

SEEKING PRIEBKE

5. BOTH ITALY AND NOW GERMANY HAVE REQUESTED ARGENTINE EXTRADITION OF 81-YEAR-OLD, FORMER SS-CAPTAIN ERICH PRIEBKE TO FACE CHARGES FOR ATROCITIES COMMITTED DURING WORLD WAR II NEAR ROME. LAST WEEK AN ARGENTINE APPEALS COURT DENIED THE ITALIAN PETITION, CITING A 15-YEAR STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR HOMICIDE AND REJECTING A WAR CRIMES READING BASED ON THE LACK OF ITS INCLUSION IN THE BILATERAL EXTRADITION TREATY. AFTER IMMEDIATE PROTESTS FROM EUROPE AND WITHIN **ARGENTINA**, GERMANY ACTIVATED ITS OWN EXTRADITION REQUEST, MAKING POSSIBLE PRIEBKE'S REARREST PENDING ITALY'S APPEAL TO THE HIGHEST ARGENTINE COURT.

CONTRITE CHIRAC

6. WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF BECOMING FRANCE'S PRESIDENT, JACQUES CHIRAC IN JULY PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGED - THE FIRST TIME BY A FRENCH LEADER AT HIS LEVEL - FRENCH COLLABORATION WITH, AND COMPLICITY IN THE CRIMINAL ACTS OF, THE **NAZIS** DURING THE OCCUPATION, ADDING HIS APOLOGY FOR THOSE ACTS. REACTION IN FRANCE WAS BROADLY POSITIVE, PERHAPS OPENING POSSIBILITIES FOR EVENTUAL WIDENING OF PUBLIC DEBATE AND OPEN ARCHIVAL RESEARCH.

AND, IN THE EAST?

7. ANTI-SEMITISM REMAINS A MAJOR CHALLENGE IN MOST

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CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN SOCIETIES. THE QUESTION OF COMPENSATION FOR CRIMES AND FORCED EXPROPRIATIONS AGAINST JEWS IS DISCOMFITING TO ALL GOVERNMENTS, STRAPPED AS THEY ARE FOR FUNDS AND SENSITIVE TO PUBLIC OPINION OFTEN FLAVORED WITH ANTI-SEMITISM. LEADERS SUCH AS THE CZECH REPUBLIC'S KLAUS SEEK TO LIMIT THE GOVERNMENT'S FINANCIAL LIABILITY AS WELL AS TO AVOID PRECEDENTS FOR OTHER RELIGIOUS AND POPULATION GROUPS - CATHOLICS AND SUDETEN GERMANS IN PRAGUE'S CASE.

8. EVEN IN AUSTRIA, IT WAS NOT UNTIL THIS YEAR THAT PARLIAMENT APPROVED AN INITIAL SUM FOR COMPENSATION - AT THE PALTRY LEVEL OF \$50 MILLION. BUT PERHAPS THE YEAR'S WORST DISPLAY OF POLITICAL INSENSITIVITY TO ANTI-SEMITISM CAME IN POLAND WHEN WALESKA REQUIRED A WEEK'S DELAY AND CONSIDERABLE EXTERNAL PRESSURE BEFORE PUBLICLY DISTANCING HIMSELF FROM ANTI-SEMITIC COMMENTS BY A PRIEST WHOSE SERMON HE HAD ATTENDED.
CHRISTOPHER

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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