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Kurt WALDHEIM  
(Phonetic: VALThime)

AUSTRIA

Permanent Representative  
to the United Nations

Addressed as:  
Mr. Ambassador



Kurt Waldheim, 52, returned to the United Nations as Austria's Permanent Representative in October 1970. He previously served in the same capacity from 1964 to 1968. He has attended all sessions of the General Assembly since his country was admitted to the United Nations. During the past several months Waldheim has quietly been taking soundings toward developing support for his possible candidacy to succeed U Thant as Secretary General.

Earlier this year Waldheim made an unsuccessful bid for the Austrian Presidency. Despite a lack of experience in running for political office, he waged an aggressive campaign and displayed a good deal of political charm.

During Waldheim's first tour at the United Nations he served as Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and in 1968 was elected president of the First UN Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. From January 1968 to April 1970 he served as Austrian Foreign Minister. In June 1970 Waldheim was elected Chairman of the Safeguards Committee of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

A thoughtful and dignified man, Waldheim is usually frank and open in manner. He is a devoted friend of the United States and has been very cooperative in promoting US interests. Waldheim is married and has three children. He speaks excellent English.

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