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TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PINR, PGOV, AU, PTER, SNAR, CSCE, UR, YO, IT, GR SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.59/86, FOR 03/28/86

KIRCHSCHLAEGER APPEALS FOR CAMPAIGN TRUCE

1. PRESIDENT RUDOLF KIRCHSCHLAEGER APPEALED TO THE POLITICAL PARTIES TO OBSERVE AN EASTER PEACE IN VIEW OF THE ESCALATING CONTROVERSIES OF THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. HE

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ALSO WARNED AGAINST HATRED AND ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE DEBATE OVER KURT WALDHEIM'S PAST. WHEN ASKED IN A TV NEWSCAST LAST NIGHT (MARCH 27) WHETHER HE CONSIDERS WALDHEIM UNACCEPTABLE FOR AUSTRIA, KIRCHSCHLAEGER REPLIED THAT IT IS ENTIRELY UP TO THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLE TO DECIDE WHO IS ACCEPTABLE OR NOT. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, ET AL., MARCH 28)

WALDHEIM ISSUE

2. IN INTERVIEWS WITH AUSTRIAN PAPERS, HERBERT WARNSTORFF, WALDHEIM'S IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR IN THE GERMAN ARMY GROUP E IN THE BALKANS, SUPPORTED WALDHEIM'S DEFENSE AGAINST WAR CRIMES CHARGES. HE SAID THAT WALDHEIM WAS MERELY A STAFF OFFICER WHO HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN COMBAT OPERATIONS OR PRISONER INTERROGATIONS. WALDHEIM'S MAIN FUNCTION HAD BEEN TO COLLECT INFORMATION COMING FROM SUBORDINATE UNITS AND DRAFT SITUATION REPORTS. (INDEPENDENT KRONEN-ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT KURIER, MARCH 28)

--- FOREIGN MINISTER LEOPOLD GRATZ ONCE MORE CONFIRMED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT TAKE ACTION AGAINST ALLEGED FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN THE WALDHEIM ISSUE, I.E. THE ALLEGATIONS OF THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS AND YUGOSLAV PRESS REPORTS. OVP DEPUTY CHAIRWOMAN MARGA HUBINEK HAD DEMANDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT MAKE AN OFFICIAL PROTEST. (SOCIALIST AZ, SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, MARCH 28) --- PROMINENT SOCIALISTS, INCLUDING CENTRAL SECRETARY PETER SCHIEDER, ASSERTED THAT WALDHEIM HAS ALREADY DISQUALIFIED HIMSELF AS A POSSIBLE AUSTRIAN CHIEF OF STATE IN THE EYES OF FOREIGN OBSERVERS AND URGED THE PEOPLE'S PARTY TO TERMINATE WALDHEIM'S CANDIDACY. (INDEPENDENT KRONEN-ZEITUNG, SOCIALIST AZ, MARCH 28)

AUSTRIA AND THE CSCE PROCESS

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3. HUMAN CONTACTS WILL BE THE TOPIC OF A CSCE EXPERTS CONFERENCE IN BERN APRIL 2-MAY 26. THE AUSTRIAN DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY RUDOLF TOROVSKY, WHO HEADS THE CSCE OFFICE IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, MARCH 28)

--- IN A SITUATION REPORT ON THE CSCE PROCESS, TOROVSKY EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE ON CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES AND DISARMAMENT WILL NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO SHOW IN TERMS OF CONCRETE RESULTS BEFORE THE VIENNA CSCE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE OPENS IN THE FALL. HE ARGUED THAT LACK OF AGREEMENT IN STOCKHOLM WOULD IMPAIR THE CHANCES OF SUCCESS OF THE VIENNA MEETING. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, MARCH 28)

AUSTRIAN INTERIOR MINISTER IN ATHENS

4. AUSTRIAN INTERIOR MINISTER KARL BLECHA CONCLUDED HIS

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THREE-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO GREECE ON MARCH 27, DURING WHICH HE REACHED AGREEMENT WITH HIS GREEK COUNTERPART ON CLOSER COOPERATION IN NARCOTICS CONTROL AND THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM. IN THIS CONNECTION IT IS REPORTED THAT AUSTRIA AND GREECE ARE JOINTLY SEARCHING FOR A FOURTH SUSPECT (REPORTEDLY THE LEADER) OF LAST DECEMBER'S VIENNA AIRPORT RAID. THE SUSPECT'S IDENTITY IS REPORTEDLY KNOWN UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 04796

STATE FOR EUR/CE, INR/WEA AND INR/P USIA FOR EU USDOC FOR IEP/EUR/OWE FOR P.COMBE STOCKHOLM FOR USDEL CDE

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ALREADY. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, SOCIALIST AZ, MARCH 28)

AUSTRIAN TELEVISION BROADCASTING FROM MOSCOW

5. AUSTRIAN TELEVISION'S PRESTIGIOUS "CLUB-2" DISCUSSION PROGRAM WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE FROM MOSCOW FOR THE FIRST TIME ON APRIL 1. THE PROGRAM, WHICH WILL BE FIMED IN CONNECTION WITH AN AUSTRIAN INDUSTRIAL EXHIBIT, WILL BE MODERATED BY PAUL LENDVAI WHO HEADS THE EASTERN AFFAIRS OFFICE OF AUSTRIAN TELEVISION. OTHER AUSTRIAN PARTICIPANTS WILL BE VIENNA VICE MAYOR ERHARD BUSEK, "KURIER" DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR HANS RAUSCHER AND ECONOMICS PROFESSOR KAZIMIERZ LASKI OF LINZ UNIVERSITY. THE MOST PROMINENT SOVIET PARTICIPANT WILL BE VALENTIN FALIN, FORMER SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO BONN. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, MARCH 28). BLOCH END OF MESSAGE