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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TEXT  
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, AU, US  
SUBJECT: BERLIN DOCUMENT CENTER INFORMATION ON KURT  
- WALDHEIM

REF: VIENNA 5028

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. AFTER RECEIVING A "HEADS-UP" FROM A STAFF MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S OFFICE, CHARGE ON APRIL 4 RECEIVED CALL FROM MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR TSCHOFEN WITH REGARD TO APRIL 3 APPROACH ON BDC "CROWCASS" WALDHEIM ENTRY (REFTEL).
3. TSCHOFEN REPEATEDLY STATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO OFFICIAL GOA REQUEST TO BDC FOR SEARCH ON WALDHEIM. ACCORDING TO TSCHOFEN, DEPUTY HEAD OF AUSTRIAN WEST BERLIN MISSION HAD LEARNED OF NEGATIVE SEARCH RESULTS ON WALDHEIM DURING "PRIVATE" CONVERSATION HE HAD HAD WITH BDC'S DIRECTOR SIMON. SIMON REPORTEDLY VOLUNTEERED TO CHRISTIANI THAT SEARCH HAD BEEN

STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW  
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EO 12958, 25X  
IPS/CR/IR by SJ Date 5/2/01

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UNDERTAKEN AT REQUEST OF USG. SUBSEQUENTLY, WITHOUT PRIOR ADVICE, COPY OF RELEVANT WALDHEIM ENTRY FROM BDC'S "CROWCASS" LIST APPEARED IN CHRISTIANI'S MAIL. TSCHOFEN SAID MFA HAD NOT RECEIVED THIS COPY AND, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, IMPLIED THAT CHRISTIANI HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED NOT TO FORWARD IT.

4. COMMENT: AS INDICATED IN PARA 4, VIENNA 4683, WE FOUND SURPRISING REPORT IN USBERLIN 883 THAT AUSTRIANS HAD INQUIRED OF BDC REGARDING WALDHEIM. IN ANY EVENT, TSCHOFEN'S MESSAGE IS CONSISTENT WITH SINOWATZ AND GRATZ PUBLIC STATEMENTS THAT GOA WOULD NOT UNDERTAKE INVESTIGATION ON WALDHEIM, AS TO DO SO WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HIS GUILT. WHETHER THE AUSTRIANS ARE BEING CANDID WITH US CONCERNING THE BDC CHECK OR ARE DISSEMBLING IS, HOWEVER, SOMETHING WE ARE UNABLE TO DETERMINE ON THE BASIS OF THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE. BLOCH  
END OF MESSAGE CONFIDENTIAL