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DOCUMENT_ID: 23099122
INQNO: DOC2D 00790331
DOCNO: TEL 080448 86
PRODUCER: WASHDC
SOURCE: STATE
DOCTYPE: OUT
DOR: 19860504
TOR: 200028
DOCPREC: O
ORIGDATE: 198605042358
MHFNO: 86 0769904
DOCCLASS: C

HEADER
OO RUEAIIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
OO RUEHC RUEHCM RUEHVI
DE RUEHC #0206 1242357
ZNY CCCCC ZZH ZZK
O 042358Z MAY 86 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHCM/USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE 5997
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE 2233
BT

CONTROLS
C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 140206 TOSEC 080448

E.O. 12355: DECL OADR

TEXT
TAGS: PREL, AU, US
SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE ON AUSTRIAN
-- PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

1. THE FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE HAS BEEN
PREPARED ON MAY 4 AUSTRIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS:

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE OUTCOME OF THE MAY 4
AUSTRIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION?

A. WE UNDERSTAND THAT **KURT WALDHEIM** RECEIVED 49.6
PERCENT OF THE VOTE, WHILE HIS PRINCIPAL OPPONENT KURT
STEYRER RECEIVED 43.7 PERCENT. SINCE NEITHER RECEIVED
THE NECESSARY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY, THERE WILL BE A RUNOFF
ELECTION ON JUNE 8. IT IS UP TO THE AUSTRIAN VOTERS TO
MAKE THEIR CHOICE AT THAT TIME.

Q. IS THE US GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATING WALDHEIM'S WARTIME
ACTIVITIES?

A. YES. THE U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE SECRETARY OF
STATE HAVE JOINT STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY TO ENFORCE AND
ADMINISTER THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT OF 1952.
THIS ACT SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDES FROM THE US CERTAIN ALIENS

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WHO, IN CONNECTION WITH NAZI PERSECUTION DURING WORLD WAR II, "ORDERED, INCITED, ASSISTED, OR OTHERWISE PARTICIPATED IN THE PERSECUTION OF ANY PERSON BECAUSE OF RACE, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN OR POLITICAL OPINION." IN ORDER TO MAKE A DETERMINATION UNDER THIS SECTION THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND JUSTICE ARE INVESTIGATING AND ANALYZING THE AVAILABLE MATERIALS.

Q. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE JUSTICE AND STATE DEPARTMENTS' INVESTIGATIONS OF MR. WALDHEIM'S ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER THE US.? WILL THEY BE COMPLETED BEFORE JUNE 8?

A. YOU WILL HAVE TO ASK JUSTICE ABOUT ITS INVESTIGATION. AS FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT, WE PLAN TO CONTINUE OUR ANALYSIS OF THE MATERIALS AVAILABLE TO US WITH DUE DILIGENCE. WHITEHEAD
END OF MESSAGE

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