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TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PINR, PGOV, AU, PTER, ENRG, UR, IAEA, EEC, IS, PARM
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.91/86, FOR 05/16/86

CHANCELLOR ADDRESSES NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON CHERNOBYL

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1. IN HIS REPORT TO THE AUSTRIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MAY 15, CHANCELLOR FRED SINOWATZ ANNOUNCED AUSTRIA'S DECISION TO GIVE UP THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. THE CHANCELLOR REPRIMANDED SOVIET AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR DELAYED AND TIGHT-LIPPED INFORMATION POLICY REGARDING THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER. AUSTRIA IS CONSIDERING CLAIMING DAMAGES FROM THE SOVIET UNION, SINOWATZ SAID. THE GOVERNMENT WILL USE THE IAEA AND THE VIENNA CSCE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE AS FORA TO CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS REGARDING NUCLEAR POWER. LOSSES SUFFERED BY AUSTRIAN FARMERS IN THE WAKE OF THE DISASTER WILL BE COMPENSATED, THE CHANCELLOR STATED. --- IN VIENNA, AN ESTIMATED 12,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED AN ANTI-NUCLEAR POWER DEMONSTRATION. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, MAY 16)

MBFR TALKS RESUME ON DISAPPOINTING NOTE

2. THE MBFR TALKS RESUMED IN VIENNA MAY 15. BOTH SIDES BLAMED EACH OTHER FOR NOT LIVING UP TO THE HIGH EXPECTATIONS RAISED BY THE GENEVA SUMMIT MEETING. THE WEST REITERATED ITS DEMANDS FOR COMPREHENSIVE VERIFICATION MEASURES, WHILE NEGOTIATORS OF THE WARSAW PACT UNDERLINED THEIR DEMANDS FOR PERSONNEL AND ARMS REDUCTIONS IN EUROPE. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, MAY 16)

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATES CHARGES AGAINST WALDHEIM

3. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS, THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT IS INVESTIGATING FORMER UN SECRETARY-GENERAL **KURT WALDHEIM'S** WARTIME PAST. DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN WHITEHEAD CALLED THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST WALDHEIM "VERY SERIOUS". MEANWHILE, THE U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CONCLUDED ITS INVESTIGATION AND RECOMMENDED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL EDWIN MEESE IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSED ENTRY BAN AGAINST WALDHEIM. IN LONDON, PRIME MINISTER MARGRET THATCHER SAID THAT 45 MPS HAVE CALLED FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF MR. WALDHEIM'S WARTIME ACTIVITIES. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT KURIER, ET. ALL. MAY 16)

VICE CHANCELLOR CONSIDERS AUSTRIAN-EC MEMBERSHIP

4. IN A SPEECH TO GERMAN INDUSTRIALISTS IN WEST GERMANY, VICE CHANCELLOR NORBER STEGER SAID AUSTRIA CONTINUES TO CONTEMPLATE POSSIBLE EC MEMBERSHIP. HOWEVER, SUCH A STEP COULD ONLY BE TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE UNCLASSIFIED WITH AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY PRINCIPLES. STEGER WARNED AGAINST EUROPEAN FRAGMENTATION INTO ECONOMIC BLOCS.

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WHILE IN GERMANY, STEGER MET FRG FOREIGN MINISTER HANS
DIETRICH GENSCHER TO DISCUSS THE AUSTRIAN PERCEPTION OF
THE CONTROVERSIAL NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT AT
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 07339

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WACKERSDORF. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, ORF
NEWS, MAY 16)

AUSTRIAN PRODUCER OF PLASTIC PISTOLS BEFORE U.S. HOUSE
SUBCOMMITTEE

5. AUSTRIAN RADIO REPORTED TODAY THAT A U.S.
CONGRESSIONAL SUBCOMMITTEE IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING A
BAN OF THE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF PLASTIC GUNS. THE
PRODUCER OF AUSTRIAN-MADE GLOCK HANDGUNS VOWED BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE THAT HIS FIRM IS NOT SELLING ANY PLASTIC
PISTOLS TO EAST BLOC COUNTRIES. THE WEAPONS CAN BE
EASILY DETECTED BY AIRPORT SECURITY, THE AUSTRIAN
BUSINESSMAN ASSERTED. (AUSTRIAN RADIO (ORF) BROADCAST,
MAY 16)

FARMERS' PROTESTS CCNTINUE

6. AUSTRIAN FARMERS HAVE STEPPED UP THEIR ROAD BLOCKADES
TO PROTEST AGAINST AGRARIAN POLICIES OF THE AUSTRIAN
GOVERNMENT. THE FARMERS ARE CALLING FOR THE RESIGNATION
OF AGRICULTURE MINISTER GUENTER HAIDEN. (ALL PAPERS,
E.G. SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT DIE
PRESSE, INDEPENDENT KURIER, MAY 16). LAUDER
END OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED