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

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PINR, PGOV, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.95/86, FOR 05/23/86

SINOWATZ: NO REASON TO RESIGN

1. IN A PRESS INTERVIEW, CHANCELLOR FRED SINOWATZ DENOUNCED RUMORS ABOUT HIS POSSIBLE RESIGNATION IN THE EVENT OF A WALDHEIM VICTORY. THE CHANCELLOR ADMITTED

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THAT THE SPO IS UNDERGOING A NECESSARY PROCESS OF INNER REFORM WITHOUT CHANGING ITS BASIC IDEOLOGICAL OUTLOOK. (INDEPENDENT KURIER, MAY 23)

AUSTRIAN REACTION TO RENEWED ISRAELI AND U.S. CHARGES AGAINST WALDHEIM

2. IN RESPONSE TO RECENT SERIOUS ISRAELI AND U.S. CHARGES AGAINST KURT WALDHEIM, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF AUSTRIA'S PEOPLES PARTY (OVP), WHICH SUPPORTS WALDHEIM , CALLED THE LEGISLATORS IN ISRAEL AND THE U.S. "MINIONS OF THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS". FM LEOPOLD GRATZ DEPLORED THAT THE ISRAELI JUSTICE MINISTER DID NOT HEED ISRAELI PRESIDENT HERZOG'S APPEAL FOR NON-INTERFERENCE IN AUSTRIAN AFFAIRS. --- IN A WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE, AUSTRIA'S AMB. KLESTIL REPORTEDLY UNDERSCORED AUSTRIA'S POST-WAR EFFORTS TO DENAZIFY THE COUNTRY AND STRESSED AUSTRIA'S LIBERAL ASYLUM POLICY. IN AN INTERVIEW IN AN ISRAELI PAPER, WALDHEIM CONTINUED TO REJECT ALL CHARGES AGAINST HIM. ACCORDING TO AUSTRIAN AND ITALIAN JOUNALISTS, U.S. MEDIA COVERAGE ON THE ISSUE IS "BIASED AND BADLY RESEARCHED". (ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, INDEPENDENT KRONENZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT KURIER, AUSTRIAN NATIONAL RADIO ORF, MAY 23)

AUSTRIA'S DEFENSE MINISTER IN PRAGUE

3. DEFENSE MINISTER HELMUT KRUENES HAD A WORKING MEETING WITH HIS CZECHOSLOVAK OPPOSITE NUMBER IN PRAGUE MAY 22. LATER HE WILL CONTINUE TO EAST BERLIN TO MEET WITH THE EAST GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTER. KRUENES IS SCHEDULED TO GO TO MOSCOW THIS FALL, PAPERS REPORT. (PROVINCIAL INDEPENDENT TIROLER TAGESZEITUNG, MAY 22)

PRAVDA CRITICISM OF WEINBERGER VISIT TO VIENNA

4. TODAY'S AUSTRIAN PAPERS REPRINT, WITHOUT COMMENT, EXCERPTS FROM PRAVDA CRITICIZING WEINBERGER'S VISIT TO VIENNA. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT KURIER, MAY 23)

FPO LEADERSHIP RECONCILED WITH HAIDER - NEW CRITICISM BY PROVINCIAL LEADER

5. IN A MEETING BETWEEN FPO CHAIRMAN NORBERT STEGER AND PROVINCIAL PARTY REBEL JOERG HAIDER, BOTH SIDES APPARENTLY AGREED ON A COMPROMISE. THERE WILL BE NO CHANGES IN THE FPO LEADERSHIP, STEGER SAID. MEANWHILE, ANOTHER PROVINCIAL FPO CHAIRMAN CRITICIZED

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STEGER FOR HIS SUPPORT OF FORMER FLOOR LEADER FRIEDRICH PETER'S NOMINATION AS BOARD MEMBER OF A LEADING NATIONALIZED HOLDING COMPANY. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, INDEPENDENT KURIER, SOCIALIST AZ, ORF MIDDAY NEWS, MAY 23) UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 07673

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NEW AUSTRIAN AMBASSADORS IN COPENHAGEN AND MADRID

6. GERHARD GMOSER, NEW AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO DENMARK, PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO QUEEN MARGARETE II, MAY 16. IN MADRID, OTTO MASCHKE, AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN, SUBMITTED HIS LETTER OF ACCREDITATION TO KING JUAN CARLOS, MAY 13.

FINNISH AGRICULTURE MINISTER VISITS AUSTRIA

7. ON THE INVITATION OF AUSTRIAN MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE GUENTER HAIDEN, FINNISH AGRICULTURE MINISTER TOIVO YLAEJAERVI STARTED A 3-DAY VISIT TO AUSTRIA MAY 23. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, MAY 23, 17)

POPE TO VISIT AUSTRIA A SECOND TIME SEPTEMBER 1988

8. THE AUSTRIAN BISHOPS CONFERENCE HAS PROPOSED TO THE VATICAN THAT THE PLANNED SECOND VISIT OF THE POPE TO AUSTRIA TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER 1988. ACCORDING TO THE ITINERARY, THE POPE WILL STAY IN SALZBURG AND VISIT THOSE DIOCESES NOT COVERED DURING HIS FIRST TOUR. (MOST PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, MAY 23). LAUDER

END OF MESSAGE

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