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TEXT
TAGS: PREL, PINR, PGOV, AU, IS, GR, YO
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.105/86, FOR 06/10/86

CHANCELLOR SINOWATZ RESIGNS

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1. CHANCELLOR FRED SINOWATZ RESIGNED JUNE 9 IN THE AFTERMATH OF **KURT WALDHEIM'S** ELECTION AS PRESIDENT. FINANCE MINISTER FRANZ VRANITZKY WILL BE SWORN IN AS THE NEW CHANCELLOR JUNE 16. IT WAS ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT FM LEOPOLD GRATZ WAS TO STEP DOWN. THE PRESS SPECULATED THAT AGRICULTURE MINISTER GUENTER HAIDEN WOULD BE REPLACED AS WELL. THE CHANGES IN THE CABINET ARE DESIGNED TO PROMOTE GOVERNMENT POLICIES MORE EFFECTIVELY, SINOWATZ SAID. HE HIMSELF WILL RETAIN HIS POST AS SPO CHAIRMAN. IN VARIOUS PRESS COMMENTARIES, THE CHANCELLOR-DESIGNATE IS DESCRIBED AS A CHARISMATIC "LIBERAL PRAGMATIST" WITH GOOD CONTACTS TO THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLES PARTY (OVP). (ALL PAPERS, JUNE 10)

CHANCELLOR-DESIGNATE VRANTIZKY ON CURRENT ISSUES

2. IN A FIRST STATEMENT AFTER HIS NOMINATION, VRANITZKY EXPRESSED HIS COMMITMENT TO PROFIT-ORIENTED MANAGEMENT OF AUSTRIA'S AILING NATIONALIZED INDUSTRIES. HE FURTHER STRESSED THAT AUSTRIA'S ECOLOGICAL CONCERNS AND THE NECESSITY TO EXPLOIT THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY WERE NOT MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE ISSUES. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, JUNE 10)

VRANITZKY TO CONDUCT UPCOMING U.S. VISIT

3. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS, CHANCELLOR-DESIGNATE FRANZ VRANITZKY WILL TRAVEL TO THE U.S. LATER IN JUNE IN PLACE OF CHANCELLOR SINOWATZ. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT KRONENZEITUNG, JUNE 10)

REACTION TO GOVERNMENT RESHUFFLE

4. OVP LEADER ALOIS MOCK SAID THE CHANGES INDICATE "CRISIS AND PANIC" IN THE SPO. FPO CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHANCELLOR NORBERT STEGER EXPECTS MORE LIBERAL ELEMENTS IN GOVERNMENT POLICIES. IN THE AUSTRIAN PRESS THE RESHUFFLE IS WIDELY INTERPRETED AS A DIRECT CONSEQUENCE OF THE ELECTION OUTCOME, WHICH WAS COMMONLY SEEN AS A SWEEPING DEFEAT FOR THE SOCIALIST PARTY. CRITICAL COMMENTATORS OBSERVED THAT HASTY PERSONAL CHANGES IN THE SPO CANNOT OFFSET AN EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR CONSERVATIVE POLICIES BY THE AUSTRIAN ELECTORATE. (ALL PAPERS, JUNE 10)

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REACTION TO WALDHEIM VICTORY

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5. INTERNATIONAL OFFICIAL AND MEDIA REACTION TO
WALDHEIM'S LANDSLIDE VICTORY IN THE JUNE 8 RUN-OFF
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 08450

STATE FOR EUR/CE, INR/WEA AND INR/P
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ELECTION WAS WIDELY NOTED IN THE AUSTRIAN PRESS.
ACCORDING TO AUSTRIAN NATIONAL RADIO, ISRAELI PRIME
MINISTER SHIMON PERES CALLED THE OUTCOME "A DANGER FOR
THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLE". "THERE ARE SIGNS OF ANTI-SEMITISM
IN AUSTRIA" PERES WAS REPORTED AS SAYING. THE RECALL OF
THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR IN VIENNA IS SEEN AS A SUBDUED
MEASURE OF DIPLOMATIC PROTEST. THE U.S. STAND ON
WALDHEIM'S VICTORY IS OBSERVED WITH GREAT PUBLIC
INTEREST. ACCORDING TO A VIENNA CORRESPONDENT,
INDIVIDUAL U.S. MEMBERS OF CONGRESS CONTINUE TO URGE
OFFICIAL MEASURES AGAINST WALDHEIM. THE STATEMENT BY
WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN LARRY SPEAKES, WHICH STRESSED
CONTINUED FRIENDLY U.S.-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS, WAS WIDELY
NOTED. THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT HAS REPORTEDLY DECIDED TO
SNUB WALDHEIM BY ITS DECISION NOT TO SEND A
CONGRATULATORY NOTE. AUSTRIAN NATIONAL RADIO ALSO QUOTED
THE NEW YORK TIMES AS REPORTING THAT "AUSTRIA ELECTED A
FLAWED FIGURE". CORRESPONDENTS OF AUSTRIA'S INDEPENDENT
"DIE PRESSE" REPORT "MIXED" REACTION BY EUROPEAN
GOVERNMENTS AND PREDOMINANTLY CRITICAL COMMENTS IN
FOREIGN MEDIA. MEANWHILE, PRESIDENT-ELECT WALDHEIM
SAID HE WOULD WELCOME A PROPOSED INVESTIGATION OF HIS
WARTIME ACTIVITIES BY INTERNATIONAL HISTORIANS AND WOULD
CONFRONT THE RESULTS "WITH COMPOSURE". (ALL PAPERS,
E.G. SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT DIE
PRESSE, INDEPENDENT KURIER, SOCIALIST AZ, JUNE
9,10). LAUDER
END OF MESSAGE

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