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TEXT
TAGS: PREL, PINR, PGOV, AU, IS, GE, LU, HU, NU, UN, XF, LY
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.119/86, FOR 06/30/86

RUMORS ABOUT AMB. LAUDER'S RESIGNATION

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

1. ACCORDING TO THE WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT OF THE "DIE

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PRESSE", "SOME U.S. DIPLOMATS" ARE "OUTRAGED" OVER AMBASSADOR LAUDER'S DECISION TO BOYCOTT PRESIDENT-ELECT **KURT WALDHEIM'S** INAUGURATION JULY 8. THE REPORT CITED "RUMORS", ALLEGING AMB. LAUDER MIGHT SOON WITHDRAW FROM HIS POST AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA. THOMAS KLESTIL, AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S., FORMER U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR, WILLIAM CLARK, AND HELENE VON DAMM-GUERTLER, LAUDER'S PREDECESSOR IN VIENNA, ARE REPORTEDLY ENGAGED IN MEDIATING THE AFFAIR. ---IN AN INTERVIEW, THE PRESIDENT OF AUSTRIA'S TRADE UNION, ANTON BENYA, SAID HE DID NOT CONSIDER AMB. LAUDER'S ABSENCE AN "AFFRONT". A "KURIER" EDITORIAL SHARPLY CRITICIZED LAUDER FOR NOT PLANNING TO ATTEND THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY. A NEWS ANALYSIS IN THE SOCIALIST "AZ" LIKEWISE MAINTAINED THAT LAUDER'S ABSENCE WAS NOT AN AFFRONT TOWARDS THE AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, INDEPENDENT KURIER, SOCIALIST AZ, JUNE 28,29)

WALDHEIM'S DOCTORAL THESIS

2. IN A JUNE 27 INTERVIEW IN THE HAGUE, LUXEMBOURG FM JACQUES POOS THOUGHT WALDHEIM WILL FACE NEW INTERNATIONAL EMBARRASSMENT BECAUSE OF HIS 1943 DOCTORAL THESIS. IN THE THESIS THE 25 YEAR-OLD WALDHEIM CALLED FOR THE ANNEXATION OF SWITZERLAND AND THE BENELUX COUNTRIES TO THE GERMAN REICH. LUXEMBOURG AND SWITZERLAND WILL EXAMINE THE DOCUMENT TO ASSESS THE CHARGES, REPORTS SAID. A SPOKESMEN OF MR. WALDHEIM'S VIENNA OFFICE DENOUNCED THE CHARGES AS "GROSS MISINTERPRETATIONS" OF HIS DISSERTATION. IN A LETTER TO WALDHEIM, 73-YEAR OLD GOTTFRIED REINHARDT, SON OF SALZBURG FESTIVAL FOUNDER MAX REINHARDT, URGED WALDHEIM TO REFRAIN FROM HIS PLAN TO VISIT MAX REINHARDT'S MEMORIAL IN SALZBURG. A JUNE 29 "DIE PRESSE" EDITORIAL SHARPLY CRITICIZED SPO LEGISLATORS, WHO, IN A PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE, HAD CALLED WALDHEIM'S ELECTION "A DISGRACE FOR AUSTRIA". (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, SOCIALIST AZ, ORF NEWS, JUNE 28-30)

COMMENTARY ON U.S.-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS

3. AN EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND ARTICLE IN THE CONSERVATIVE DAILY "DIE PRESSE" BY DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR E. WASHIETL CLAIMED POST-WW II U.S.-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS HAD NOT SEEN SUCH A "CRISIS OF UNDERSTANDING" AS EVIDENCED IN THE COURSE OF THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. THE PRESENT DIFFICULTIES MIGHT PRODUCE A MORE REALISTIC RE-EVALUATION OF U.S.-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS LEADING TO THEIR CREATIVE RECONSTRUCTION. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, JUNE 28,29)

ANTI-SEMITISM AND AUSTRIA'S IMAGE

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4. AUSTRIAN INTERIOR MINISTER KARL BLECHA ANNOUNCED ANOTHER ROUND OF STRICTER LAWS REGARDING NEO-NAZI ACTIVITIES. ANTI-SEMITIC SENTIMENTS SHOULD NOT BE DENIED BUT FOUGHT COLLECTIVELY, THE MINISTER STRESSED. AN EDITORIAL IN THE INDEPENDENT DAILY "KURIER" CRITICIZED THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLES PARTY (OVP) AND WALDHEIM FOR UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 VIENNA 09574

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"FANNING THE FLAMES" OF ANTI-SEMITISM DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN AND ADVOCATED "SINCERE" EFFORTS TO SEEK RECONCILIATION WITH THE JEWISH MINORITY IN AUSTRIA. ACCORDING TO AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR KLESTIL AS WELL AS NUMEROUS ARTICLES, THE JUNE 30 OPENING OF THE "VIENNA - 1900" EXHIBITION IN NEW YORK WILL HELP CORRECT AUSTRIA'S DAMAGED IMAGE IN THE U.S. MORE ANTI-AUSTRIAN DEMONSTRATIONS ARE EXPECTED IN THIS CONNECTION, REPORTS INDICATED. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, INDEPENDENT KURIER, SOCIALIST AZ, INDEPENDENT KRONENZEITUNG, JUNE 28-30)

BAVARIA CLOSES BORDER TO AUSTRIAN ANTI-WACKERSDORF
PROTESTERS

5. AT SEVERAL AUSTRIAN-GERMAN BORDER CHECKPOINTS, AUSTRIAN ANTI-WACKERSDORF PROTESTERS WERE REFUSED ENTRY INTO GERMANY JUNE 29. THE DECISION BY THE BAVARIAN INTERIOR MINISTER WAS CONDEMNED BY THE AUSTRIAN PRESS. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT KRONENZEIUNG, INDEPENDENT KURIER, JUNE 29,30)

AUSTRIA OPENS DIPLOMATIC OFFICE IN NICARAGUA

6. ON JULY 1 AUSTRIA WILL OPEN ITS FIRST DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE OFFICE IN MANAGUA.
--- SPO MP NEDWED AND A NUMBER OF NEWSPAPER COMMENTATORS CRITICIZED THE RECENT DECISION OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO GRANT AID TO THE NICARAGUAN "CONTRAS". (SOCIALIST AZ, SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, INDEPENDENT KRONENZEITUNG, JUNE 28,29)

HUNGARIAN ENVIRONMENTALISTS CRITICIZE AUSTRIAN
PARTICIPATION IN HUNGARIAN POWER PLANT PROJECT

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7. IN A PETITION TO THE AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT, HUNGARIAN INTELLECTUALS AND ENVIRONMENTALISTS CALLED ON AUSTRIA TO WITHDRAW ITS FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANT PROJECT AT NAGYMAROS. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, INDEPENDENT KRONENZEITUNG, JUNE 29,30)

VIENNA CONFERENCES ON PALESTINIANS

8. VIENNA'S INTERNATIONAL CENTER WILL HOST 2 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ON THE SITUATION OF THE PALESTINIANS. THE CONFERENCES WILL MEET ON JUNE 30-JULY 1 AND JULY 2-4, RESPECTIVELY. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, JUNE 29)

NEW AUSTRIAN AMB. TO LIBYA

9. CHARGE D'AFFAIRES DR. EWALD JAEGER WAS APPOINTED NEW AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, JUNE 29)

SPO APPEALS TO SALVADORAN PRESIDENT TO RELEASE PRISONER

10. IN A TELEGRAM TO SALVADORAN PRESIDENT NAPOLEON UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 VIENNA 09574

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DUARTE, LEADING SPO POLITICIANS DEMANDED THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST LAURA PINTO. (SOCIALIST AZ, SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, JUNE 28) BLOCH

END OF MESSAGE

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