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TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PINR, PGOV, AU, OAU, GE, MARR, WA, IS, IT, UN  
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.122/86, FOR 07/03/86

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WJC SECRETARY-GENERAL ON WALDHEIM AFFAIR  
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1. IN A NEW YORK INTERVIEW FOR THE AUSTRIAN DAILY  
"KURIER", ISRAEL SINGER, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE

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WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS, SAID HE NEVER INTENDED TO PREVENT **KURT WALDHEIM** FROM BEING ELECTED PRESIDENT OF AUSTRIA. HOWEVER, "AS DIRECTOR OF A HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION", HE WAS SHOCKED ABOUT WALDHEIM'S PAST. IN SINGER'S VIEW, THREE FACTORS ACCOUNTED FOR WALDHEIM'S ELECTION VICTORY: THE POSITION OF OUTGOING PRESIDENT KIRCHSCHLAEGER, STATEMENTS MADE BY NAZI-HUNTER SIMON WIESENTHAL, AND THE "COVER-UP" IN THE AUSTRIAN PRESS. SINGER SAW WALDHEIM'S VICTORY AS A "TERRIBLE DEFEAT FOR AUSTRIA'S IMAGE", AND CHARGED THAT ANTI-SEMITISM AND XENOPHOBIA WERE USED INTENTIONALLY IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT AUSTRIA WOULD OVERCOME ITS DAMAGED IMAGE. SINGER SAID HE STILL LIKED AUSTRIA, BUT NOT ITS PRESIDENT.

--- ACCORDING TO AUSTRIAN NATIONAL RADIO, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CATHOLIC, PROTESTANT AND JEWISH FAITHS IN THE U.S. ARE TO TRAVEL TO VIENNA TO CONDUCT A HUNGER STRIKE PROTESTING WALDHEIM'S INAUGURATION. (INDEPENDENT KURIER, JULY 3, ORF NEWS,)

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UPCOMING NAMIBIA CONFERENCE IN VIENNA  
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2. ALL UN MEMBER STATES AND UN ORGANIZATIONS, MANY NGO REPRESENTATIVES, OAU-RECOGNIZED LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND POLITICAL FIGURES, AMONG THEM PLO LEADER YASSIR ARAFAT AND FORMER AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY, HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 4-DAY NAMIBIA CONFERENCE. UN SECRETARY-GENERAL JAVIER PEREZ DE CUELLAR IS TO OPEN THE CONFERENCE IN VIENNA JULY 7. THE CONFERENCE IS DESIGNED TO GENERATE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR NAMIBIA'S FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, JULY 3)

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AUSTRIAN-BAVARIAN DISCORD OVER WACKERSDORF CONTINUES  
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3. ACCORDING TO A MEMBER OF THE BAVARIAN GOVERNMENT, GERMANY MAY ADOPT MUCH STRICTER STANDARDS CONCERNING AIR SPACE VIOLATIONS BY AUSTRIAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT BOUND FOR SALZBURG AIRPORT. THE ANNOUNCEMENT APPARENTLY CAME AS A REACTION TO OFFICIAL AUSTRIAN CRITICISM OF BAVARIA'S BORDER CLOSING TO AUSTRIAN ANTI-WACKERSDORF PROTESTERS. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, INDEPENDENT KURIER, JULY 3)

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GOVERNMENT PRESENTS OPTIMISTIC ECONOMIC OUTLOOK  
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4. IN PARLIAMENT YESTERDAY, CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY OUTLINED ENCOURAGING DATA REGARDING AUSTRIA'S ECONOMY. THE CHANCELLOR ANNOUNCED HIS RESOLVE TO INCREASE THE INFLUENCE OF MARKET FORCES ON AUSTRIA'S NATIONALIZED INDUSTRIES. VRANITZKY REPEATED HIS CALL FOR A

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MODERNIZATION OF AUSTRIA. FINANCE MINISTER FERDINAND LACINA CONFIRMED THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO THE WELFARE STATE, EMPHASIZING POLICIES CONCERNING JOB PRESERVATION. THE OVP CRITICIZED THE GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC REPORT. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. SOCIALIST AZ, JULY 3)

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AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR AND ITALIAN PM MEET AT BORDER  
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5. CHANCELLOR FRANZ VRANITZKY AND ITALIAN PM BETTINO CRAXI WILL MEET TODAY AT THE AUSTRIAN-ITALIAN BORDER CHECKPOINT IN THE PROVINCE OF CARINTHIA TO OPEN THE FINAL STRETCH OF ONE OF THE MAJOR HIGHWAYS CONNECTING THE NORTH OF EUROPE WITH THE SOUTH. FM PETER JANKOWITSCH REPORTEDLY WILL DISCUSS AUSTRIAN DEMANDS CONCERNING THE RIGHTS OF THE GERMAN-SPEAKING AUSTRIAN MINORITY IN SOUTH TYROL. (ALL PAPERS, ORF NEWS, JULY 2,3). BLOCH  
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