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TEXT
TAGS: PREL, YO, AU
SUBJECT: POST GETS FIRST IMPRESSION OF YUGOSLAV
ARCHIVAL HOLDINGS ON **KURT WALDHEIM**

REF: (A) BELGRADE 10843, (B) BELGRADE 10790

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

SUMMARY. ON NOVEMBER 26, POST BEGAN TO INVESTIGATE
POSSIBLE ARCHIVAL HOLDINGS ON **KURT WALDHEIM** IN THE
MILITARY HISTORICAL ARCHIVES OF YUGOSLAVIA, AND WILL
BEGIN SEARCHING THE ACTUAL DOCUMENTS DECEMBER 2.
THERE APPEARS TO BE VOLUMINOUS MATERIAL IN GERMAN
WAR RECORDS WHICH MAY BE RELEVANT TO WALDHEIM.
POST HOPES TO BEGIN INVESTIGATING RECORDS IN THE
ARCHIVES OF YUGOSLAVIA DECEMBER 2. END SUMMARY.

3. ON NOVEMBER 26, EMBOFF AND ARMY ATTACHE BEGAN

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SEARCHING FOR RECORDS ON **KURT WALDHEIM** IN THE MILITARY HISTORICAL ARCHIVES OF YUGOSLAVIA. IT SEEMS THERE IS NO "WALDHEIM FILE" AT THE MILITARY HISTORICAL ARCHIVES, RATHER THESE ARE VOLUMINOUS WARTIME RECORDS OF UNITS TO WHICH WALDHEIM WAS ATTACHED AT VARIOUS TIMES. EMBASSY OFFICERS EXAMINED THE DOCUMENT CARD CATALOG FOR ARMY GROUP "E" FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR THROUGH OCTOBER 16, 1944, THE 714TH INFANTRY DIVISION (LATER CALLED THE 114TH "JAEGER" DIVISION) FROM MARCH 1942 THROUGH OCTOBER 1944, AND THE 22ND INFANTRY DIVISION FROM SEPTEMBER 1944 THROUGH MAY 1945. THE SUBSTANTIAL RECORDS FOR ARMY GROUP "E" APPEAR TO CONTAIN MOSTLY ROUTINE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS; HOWEVER, OFFICERS SELECTED ROUGHLY FIFTY DOCUMENTS FOR FURTHER STUDY, INCLUDING AMONG OTHERS THE WAR "DIARY" KEPT BY THE HEADQUARTERS (A DOCUMENT RUNNING TO HUNDREDS OF PAGES), AND SOME INTELLIGENCE REPORTS. FROM THE EQUALLY NUMEROUS RECORDS OF THE 714TH INFANTRY DIVISION, OFFICERS MADE NOTE OF THOSE RECORDS WHICH CONTAIN INFORMATION ON THE ORGANIZATION, PERSONNEL AND DUTIES OF THE DIVISION, THE TREATMENT OF CIVILIANS AND CAPTURED PARTISANS, REPRISAL POLICY, AND THE OPERATIONS OF THE WESTERN BOSNIA BATTLE GROUP IN KOZARA IN THE SUMMER OF 1942 AND IN VRBANJE IN DECEMBER 1942. THE RELATIVELY SCANTY RECORDS OF THE 22ND INFANTRY DIVISION CONTAIN THE TESTIMONY OF GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR WHO DESCRIBED THE UNIT'S HISTORY AS IT TRAVELED ACROSS GREECE AND YUGOSLAVIA FROM OCTOBER 1944 TO MAY 1945.

4. POST HAS NOW IDENTIFIED APPROXIMATELY 100 DOCUMENTS WHICH MAY CONTAIN MATERIAL RELEVANT TO THE **KURT WALDHEIM** CASE. POST WILL BEGIN TO SCAN THE DOCUMENTS ON DECEMBER 2 FOR SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO WALDHEIM. THE MILITARY HISTORICAL ARCHIVES WILL PERMIT THE DOCUMENTS TO BE PHOTOCOPIED, AND POST WILL POUCH WHATEVER IT COPIES TO THE DEPARTMENT. BECAUSE OF THE POTENTIAL MAGNITUDE OF THE TASK OF SEARCHING ALL THESE RECORDS, SOME OF WHICH AMOUNT TO HUNDREDS OF PAGES, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER SENDING A RESEARCHER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE HISTORIAN OR THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. WE WILL MAKE A RECOMMENDATION ABOUT THIS WHEN WE HAVE HAD A BETTER LOOK AT THE MATERIALS.

5. JUST TODAY, NOVEMBER 26, POST WAS TOLD TO MAKE DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE ARCHIVES OF YUGOSLAVIA, RATHER THAN PROCEEDING THROUGH THE FEDERAL SECRETARIAT FOR INFORMATION, AS IT HAD BEEN TOLD EARLIER. BECAUSE THIS AFTERNOON BEGINS A LONG HOLIDAY WEEKEND IN THIS COUNTRY, POST WILL NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO APPROACH THE ARCHIVES UNTIL DECEMBER 2.

PRESEL

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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