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TEXT
TAGS: PREL, PINR, PGOV, AU
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.232/86, FOR 12/18/86

CSCE: CHIEF U.S. DELEGATE ZIMMERMANN SUMS UP VIENNA
DEBATE

1. REVIEWING THE VIENNA CSCE TALKS IN A "KURIER"
INTERVIEW DECEMBER 18, U.S. AMBASSADOR WARREN ZIMMERMANN
SAID THE U.S. HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN A "STRAIGHTFORWARD AND
CANDID" DEBATE OVER CSCE NON-COMPLIANCE. WHILE NOTING
OCCASIONAL "IRRITATED AND ANGERED" EASTERN REACTION TO
CRITICISM, AMBASSADOR ZIMMERMANN CREDITED THE SOVIETS
WITH A "CONSTRUCTIVE" APPROACH TO THE IMPLEMENTATION

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DEBATE. BUT HE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT OVER SOVIET FAILURE TO RESPOND TO MANY U.S. QUESTIONS. DUE TO INCREASED EAST-WEST DIALOGUE THE WORLD-CLIMATE HAS CLEARLY IMPROVED SINCE MADRID, HE OBSERVED. GORBACHEV HAS A MORE "OPEN" AND "FLEXIBLE" APPROACH, THE U.S. AMBASSADOR SAID. AT THE SAME TIME ZIMMERMANN DEPLORED THAT THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAS ONLY SEEN "PROMISES" SO FAR AND THAT MOSCOW'S FAILURE IN THIS MATTER UNDERMINED THE ENTIRE CSCE PROCESS. AMONG U.S. EXPECTATIONS FROM THE DEBATE THE U.S. AMBASSADOR LISTED "MORE STABILITY" REGARDING CONVENTIONAL ARMS, IMPROVED CONDITIONS FOR EAST-WEST TRADE, MORE COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF NUCLEAR SAFETY, AND STRICT SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS. AUSTRIA AND OTHER NNA COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN PLAYING A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE CSCE PROCESS, THE AMBASSADOR STRESSED. (INDEPENDENT KURIER, DECEMBER 17)

CSCE: SOVIET CHIEF DELEGATE KASHLEV ASSESSES VIENNA TALKS

2. IN THE CONTEXT OF A "POSITIVE INTERNATIONAL ATMOSPHERE", U.S. "BEHAVIOR" AT THE VIENNA CSCE FOLLOW-UP TALKS HAD BROUGHT "NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES", CHIEF SOVIET CSCE DELEGATE YURI KASHLEV, SPEAKING IN AN INTERVIEW FOR THE DAILY "KURIER", SAID IN HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE MEETING SO FAR. THE "AGGRESSIVE U.S. POSITION" AT THE FORUM REFLECTED THE "DANGEROUS LINE" OF THE ADMINISTRATION, WHICH HAD AS ITS GOAL THE BREACH OF EXISTING ARMS TREATIES, KASHLEV SAID. INCREASED U.S. CRITICISM OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES IS JUST AN ATTEMPT TO COMPENSATE FOR AMERICA'S DWINDLING IMAGE FOLLOWING THE IRAN-CONTRA SCANDAL, KASHLEV CLAIMED. A HIGHLY FLEXIBLE USSR HAS ENTERED THE TALKS WITH MANY NEW PROPOSALS. IN HIS VIEW WESTERN EUROPE NO LONGER SOUGHT CONFRONTATION WITH THE EAST. THE REVIEW CONFERENCE SHOULD PRODUCE "PRACTICAL RESULTS" REGARDING THE REDUCTION OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS AND INTENSIFY EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS. WE HAVE ALSO LEARNED A LOT FROM CHERNOBYL, KASHLEV SAID. ON HUMAN RIGHTS THE USSR IS MAKING CONSIDERABLE EFFORTS CURRENTLY, HE NOTED, BUT DEPLORED "PROPAGANDA AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE" ON THIS ISSUE. THE PARTICIPATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS AT THE PROPOSED HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW IS STILL OPEN TO NEGOTIATION, KASHLEV STATED. HE CLEARLY SPOKE OUT FOR A MORE ACTIVE ROLE ON THE PART OF THE NNA NATIONS, MENTIONING AUSTRIA IN PARTICULAR. THE SOVIET DELEGATE JUDGED THE PRESENT WORLD SITUATION MORE FAVORABLE FOR CSCE THAN WHAT IT LOOKED DURING THE MADRID FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE. (INDEPENDENT KURIER, DECEMBER 18)

--- ON DECEMBER 17, AUSTRIA AND POLAND PRESENTED TO THE CSCE FORUM A JOINT PROPOSAL TO ARRANGE FOR A SYMPOSIUM ON "THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF EUROPE". REPORTS SAID. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, DECEMBER 18)

"LEADING U.S. CITIZENS" WELCOME PLANNED "AUSTRO-U.S. AWARD"

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3. PLANS TO CREATE AN "AUSTRO-U.S AWARD FOR SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN IMPROVING BILATERAL RELATIONS" HAVE BEEN WELCOMED BY "LEADING U.S. PUBLIC FIGURES", A REPORT SAID. THE IDEA, REPORTED TO BE THE BRAINCHILD OF THE "AUSTRO-AMERICAN COUNCIL", HAS BEEN AIRED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SO-CALLED "OPERATION AUSTRIA-IMAGE" CAMPAIGN, THE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 VIENNA 18812

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ARTICLE SAID. FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE WARREN BURGER, JAY ARTHUR PRIZKER, HENRY GRUNWALD, FELIX ROHATYN, SERGE SABARSKY AND ESTEE LAUDER HAVE BEEN SUGGESTED AS MEMBERS (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, DECEMBER 18)

PARLIAMENT BEGINS NEW TERM; LONG-TIME PRESIDENT BENYA REPLACED BY GRATZ

4. MEDIA REPORTING TODAY FEATURED YESTERDAY'S INAUGURATION OF THE 183 NEWLY-ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. AMONG THE GREEN PARTY'S NEWCOMERS POLITICAL OBSERVERS NOTED GREEN DEPUTY MANFRED SRB, WHO, CONFINED TO A WHEEL-CHAIR, WILL SPEAK FOR THE HANDICAPPED POPULATION, AS WELL AS GREEN MP KAREL SMOLLE, A MEMBER OF THE SLOVENE ETHNIC MINORITY AND GREEN SPOKESMAN FOR ALL AUSTRIAN MINORITIES. DEPUTIES ELECTED VETERAN SPO POLITICIAN LEOPOLD GRATZ AS NEW FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT, OVP MP MARGA HUBINEK AS SECOND PRESIDENT AND FPO MP GERULF STIX AS THIRD PRESIDENT. AUSTRIA'S MEDIA GAVE PROMINENT ATTENTION TO THE FAREWELL OVATION FOR POPULAR LONG-TIME SPEAKER ANTON BENYA, WHO RESIGNED HIS POST AFTER A RECORD 15 YEARS TENURE. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, DECEMBER 18, ORF NEWS, DECEMBER 17,18)

PM THATCHER RECEIVES "DOSSIER" ON WALDHEIM

5. ACCORDING TO NEWS REPORTS, CONSERVATIVE BRITISH MP JAMES HANDED OVER TO PM MARGRET THATCHER A "DOSSIER" ON KURT WALDHEIM'S ALLEGED ROLE IN INTERROGATING BRITISH PRISONERS OF WAR.
--- REFERRING TO THE DIPLOMATIC CONFUSION OVER A REPORTED JAPANESE INVITATION FOR PRESIDENT WALDHEIM, A "DIE PRESSE" ARTICLE TODAY QUOTED WALDHEIM SPOKESMAN GEROLD

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CHRISTIAN AS SAYING THE BLUNDER HAD BEEN HIS FAULT AS HE HAD MISINTERPRETED DIPLOMATIC PHRASEOLOGY CABLED FROM TOKYO BY AUSTRIA'S AMBASSADOR THERE. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, DECEMBER 18)

--- TODAY'S EDITORIAL IN THE MASS-CIRCULATION TABLOID DAILY "KRONENZEITUNG" ARGUED THAT "THE ART OF FORGETTING", WHICH SERVED AS HEADLINE OF A "TIME" COVER STORY ON AUSTRIA AND THE WALDHEIM AFFAIR, COULD NOW VERY WELL BE USED TO CHARACTERIZE THE BEHAVIOR OF PRESIDENT REAGAN AND KEY WITNESSES IN THE IRAN-CONTRA SCANDAL. (INDEPENDENT KRONENZEITUNG, DECEMBER 18)

70.000 SIGN AUSTRIAN PEACE MOVEMENT'S CALL FOR NUCLEAR TEST BAN

6. A NEWS DISPATCH BY THE AUSTRIAN PEACE MOVEMENT NOTED THAT 70.000 AUSTRIANS HAD SIGNED ITS PETITION CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE WORLD-WIDE NUCLEAR TEST BAN. THE REPORT ALSO MENTIONED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE U.S. EMBASSY AND A DELEGATION OF THE PEACE MOVEMENT HAD DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF THE U.S. JOINING THE SOVIET MORATORIUM. IN THIS CONTEXT THE AUSTRIAN PEACE MOVEMENT REPORTEDLY DEPLORED THAT U.S. AMBASSADOR RONALD LAUDER, (WHO HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETING), "DID NOT LEND HIS EAR TO THE CAUSE". (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, DECEMBER 17)

"DRAKEN" INTERCEPTOR TEST FLIGHTS TO BE RESUMED IN JANUARY

7. AFTER TRAINING FLIGHTS WITH SAAB-BUILT "DRAKEN" INTERCEPTORS IN SWEDEN WERE SUSPENDED FOLLOWING A CRASH RESULTING IN THE DEATH OF AN AUSTRIAN AIR FORCE PILOT, THE AUSTRIAN TEAM WILL NOW RESUME TEST FLIGHTS ON JANUARY 12, PAPERS REPORTED. INVESTIGATION OF THE FATAL ACCIDENT HAS BEEN INCONCLUSIVE SO FAR, ARTICLES NOTED.
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(ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT KURIER, ORF NEWS, DECEMBER 18). BLOCH

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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