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DOCUMENT ID: 30753180  
INQNO: DOC5D 00593480  
DOCNO: TEL 006785 87  
PRODUCER: VIENNA  
SOURCE: STATE  
DOCTYPE: IN  
DOR: 19870428  
TOR: 140850  
DOCPREC: O  
ORIGDATE: 198704281637  
MHFNO: 87 4626775  
DOCCLASS: U

HEADER

OO RUEAIIB  
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH  
STU0625  
OO RUEHC  
DE RUFHVI #6785 1181637  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 281637Z APR 87  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2944  
INFO RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 6061  
RUFHRN/AMEMBASSY BERN 4974  
RUFHBE/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE 8695  
RUEHPG/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE 9555  
RUDKDA/AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST 3159  
RUFHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0109  
RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 3472  
RUFHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0943  
RUFHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 3405  
RUFHTH/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 3436  
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 2496  
RUFHMB/USDEL MBFR VIENNA 1743  
BT

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2001 2007

CONTROLS

UNCLAS VIENNA 06785

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, AU  
SUBJECT: APRIL 28 GOA STATEMENT ON U.S. WATCHLIST DECISION

REF: HABIB/FEENEY TELCON

1. THE FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT MADE BY AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY AFTER A CABINET MEETING ON THE MORNING OF APRIL 28.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

A. THE GOA IS DISMAYED BY THE DECISION OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO PUT PRESIDENT KURT WALDHEIM ON THE SO-CALLED WATCH-LIST AND TO EXCLUDE HIM THEREBY FROM

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
2000

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ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES AS A PRIVATE PERSON. THE PROCEDURE WHICH WAS APPLIED IS TO THE AUSTRIAN PUBLIC AND THE GOA INCOMPREHENSIBLE AND CONSEQUENTLY UNINTELLIGIBLE. THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST DR. **KURT WALDHEIM** ARE UNPROVED AND ARE ACCORDINGLY REJECTED.

B. IN VIEW OF THE TRADITIONALLY EXCELLENT AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND AUSTRIA, THE GOA REGRETS THIS MEASURE BY THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES.

C. IT SEEMS ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT TO THE THE GOA TO DETERMINE FURTHER ACTION AFTER CAREFUL AND SOBER DELIBERATION. THE RECALL OF THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES FOR CONSULTATION HAS ALREADY BEEN ORDERED, AND THE REQUEST THAT THE BASIS FOR THE DECISION OF THE U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT BE MADE AVAILABLE IS LIKEWISE BEING MADE.

D. THE GOA STATES THAT IT WILL TAKE ALL STEPS THAT SEEM TO IT NECESSARY IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC, THE HEAD OF STATE, AGAINST UNJUSTIFIED ACCUSATIONS. THE GOA SEES ITSELF OBLIGATED IN THIS REGARD BECAUSE OF ITS (MEMBERS') SHARED RESPONSIBILITY. END TEXT. . LAUDER

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

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