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HEADER

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FM USIS BONN
TO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC//NSC IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC//EUR/CE;EUR:P;PM;INR/RWE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP//ISA/DSAA
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//DC-4A
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEATRS/TREASURY WASHDC
RUFHFRG/FRG COLLECTIVE
RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA//NST/ACDA
RUFHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON
RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS
RUFHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME
RUDORRA/USNMR SHAPE BE//PAA
RUFHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA//CSCE/PAA
RUFHMB/USDEL MBFR VIENNA
RUFHNA/USMISSION USNATO
RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECPAO/POLAD
RHFQAAA/CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE//PA/POLAD
RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE//AEAPA/POLAD
RXFMB/US SUPPORT ELEMENT HQ BALTAP//PIO/NATO
BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS SECTION 08 OF 10 BONN 12914

USIA

USIA EU, P/M, P/RM, P/FW, P/FN, P/R P/RWE, VOA/PE, P/P,

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

SUBJECT: GERMAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT

2. HEADLINE

"GERMAN HOSTAGES IN LEBANON - BONN: WE WILL

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

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

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EXTRADITE HAMADEI..." (BILD ZEITUNG)

B. MASS-CIRCULATION CONSERVATIVE BILD ZEITUNG: "THE BONN CRISIS TEAM HAS INFORMED THE SHIITE ORGANIZATION HEZB-ALLAH VIA ISRAELI AND SYRIAN INTERMEDIARIES THAT THE TWO KIDNAPPED GERMAN MUST BE RELEASED NOW, OR THE EXTRADITION PROCEEDING AGAINST...HAMADEI WILL BE INITIATED....

"A GOVERNMENT MEMBER TOLD BILD: 'OUR PATIENCE IS NOT BOUNDLESS. WE CANNOT WAIT FOR EVER.'

"BONN ALSO SIGNALLED THAT IF CORDES AND SCHMIDT ARE RELEASED, HAMADEI AND HIS BROTHER...WILL BE TRIED BY A GERMAN COURT. THE GOVERNMENT MEMBER SAID: 'HOWEVER, A TWO-FOR-TWO SWAP IS OUT OF THE QUESTION. WE ARE NOT BARGAINING IN AN ORIENTAL BAZAAR.'

"EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS AGAINST HAMADEI WILL COMMENCE WHEN THE JUSTICE MINISTRY PASSES ON THE EVIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS TO THE COURT IN FRANKFURT WHICH IS DEALING WITH THE MATTER. THE BONN POLITICAN SAID: 'WE WILL HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INFLUENCE AFTER PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEGUN.'"

E. KURT WALDHEIM

MANY OF YESTERDAY'S PAPERS CARRIED EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE U.S. DECISION NOT TO GRANT AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT **KURT WALDHEIM** AN ENTRY VISA.

A. CONSERVATIVE FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE (EDITORIAL BY JOHANN GEORG REISSMUELLER): "ON WHAT HAS WASHINGTON BASED ITS DECISION TO DECLARE AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT **KURT WALDHEIM** AN UNDESIRABLE PERSON? SO FAR, ONLY ON CLAIMS MADE BY OTHERS WHICH ARE STILL UNPROVEN.

"IF A VAGUE SUSPICION IS ENOUGH TO SATISFY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION, IT WILL BE VIOLATING A LEGAL PRINCIPLE WHICH IT HAS IN THE PAST ALWAYS ACKNOWLEDGED.

"EVEN IGNORING THIS CASE, U.S. ACTIONS ARE RATHER CLOSE TO BEING HYPOCRITICAL. IN THE DECADES FOLLOWING WORLD WAR TWO, THE U.S. HAS INVITED A NUMBER OF STATESMEN WHO ARE GENERALLY KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN BLOODY CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY. IN THOSE CASES IT WAN'T NECESSARY TO LOOK INTO ANY LISTS, AND THERE WASN'T ANY MORAL INDIGNATION --SOME OF THE GUESTS WERE EVEN TREATED WITH RESPECT AND SYMPATHY.

"HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN? THE U.S. DID NOT WANT TO IGNORE COUNTRIES WHOSE HELP IT THOUGHT IT NEEDED.

"PRESIDENT WALDHEIM HAS NOT BEEN PROVEN GUILTY OF DISHONORABLE CONDUCT. YET THE U.S. FEELS THAT IT CAN BEHAVE HOW IT WANTS WITH TINY, NEUTRAL AUSTRIA...."

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B. CONSERVATIVE DIE WELT OF BONN (EDITORIAL BY CARL GUSTAV STROEHM): "THE DECISION BY U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL EDWIN MEESE...DID NOT COME AS A SURPRISE. THE FIRE DIRECTED AT THE FORMER U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL BY INFLUENTIAL CIRCLES ON THE EAST COAST, AND ESPECIALLY FROM JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS, WAS TOO INTENSE.... AFTER ALL

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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