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TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ELAB, AU,  
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.85/87, FOR 05/08/87

1. WALDHEIM SUES WJC PRESIDENT BRONFMAN:

PRESIDENT KURT WALDHEIM HAS ORDERED VIENNA PUBLIC  
PROSECUTOR WERNER OLSCHER TO FILE CHARGES OF SLANDER  
AGAINST WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS PRESIDENT EDGAR BRONFMAN,

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

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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THE ENTIRE AUSTRIAN MEDIA HEADLINED TODAY. BRONFMAN TOLD REPORTERS IN BUDAPEST THAT HE TOOK AUSTRIA SERIOUSLY BUT NOT WALDHEIM. COMMENTATORS GENERALLY WELCOMED WALDHEIM'S DECISION TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE CONTROVERSY. (ALL PAPERS, ORF NEWS, MAY 8)

2. FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS:

-POLITICAL OBSERVERS HERE POINTED OUT THAT THE SPO AND THE OVP REMAIN DIVIDED OVER EXACTLY WHAT STAND THE GOA AND THE AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT SHOULD TAKE TOWARD THE CURRENT AFFAIR: THE PARTIES DISAGREE OVER THE (EXPECTEDLY PRO-WALDHEIM) WORDING OF A PARLIAMENTARY RESOLUTION SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK. SPO AND OVP VIEWS FURTHER VARY AS TO WHO SHOULD APPOINT THE COMMISSION OF MILITARY EXPERTS AND WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT, OR WALDHEIM PERSONALLY, SHOULD FINANCE ANY LAW SUITS. AN AD-HOC DISCUSSION BETWEEN WALDHEIM, CHANCELLOR FRANZ VRANITZKY AND FM AND VICE CHANCELLOR ALOIS MOCK YESTERDAY DID NOT BRING ANY RESULTS, ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT WALDHEIM. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, ET. AL, MAY 8)

-IN ITS LATEST EDITION MAY 8, THE CONSERVATIVE WEEKLY "WOCHENPRESSE" CARRIED EXCERPTS FROM WALDHEIM'S "WHITE BOOK". COMPARING U.S. ACCUSATIONS (THE PAPER POINTED OUT THAT AUSTRIA STILL DID NOT HAVE FULL DETAILS OF THE U.S. CHARGES) WITH THE MATERIAL COMPILED BY WALDHEIM, THE WEEKLY IMPLIED THAT THE "WHITE BOOK" DISPROVED THE CHARGES.

-IN AN INTERVIEW FOR THE MAGAZINE, MILITARY HISTORIAN MANFRIED RAUCHENSTEINER, A MEMBER OF THE AUSTRIAN COMMISSION THAT WILL EXAMINE YUGOSLAV WAR ARCHIVE MATERIAL, SAID HE BELIEVED "WALDHEIM DID NOT HAVE ANY AUTHORITY TO GIVE ORDERS" DURING HIS WARTIME SERVICE IN THE BALKANS.

-A POLL PUBLISHED BY THE SAME WEEKLY TODAY SHOWED A CLEAR MAJORITY OF AUSTRIANS OPPOSED TO THE U.S. MOVE AND GENERALLY DISAPPOINTED IN THE U.S.. AT THE SAME TIME, THE WEEKLY "DIE GANZE WOCHE" RAN A FRONT-PAGE HEADLINE CLAIMING THAT "A MAJORITY OF AUSTRIANS NO LONGER BACKED WALDHEIM". (INDEPENDENT WEEKLY WOCHENPRESSE, DIE GANZE WOCHE, MAY 8)

-AUSTRIAN RADIO THIS MORNING REPORTED THAT AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN THE U.S. HAD RECEIVED AN UNUSUALLY HIGH NUMBER OF PRO-WALDHEIM STATEMENTS BY U.S. CITIZENS. (ORF NEWS, MAY 8)

3. FM MOCK ON AUSTRIAN-ISRAELI RELATIONS:

IN AN INTERVIEW FOR THE ISRAELI PAPER "MA'ARIV", FM MOCK SAID THE FACT THAT ISRAEL HAD NOT YET SENT AN AMBASSADOR TO VIENNA HAS EXERTED A NEGATIVE INFLUENCE ON AUSTRIAN-ISRAELI RELATIONS. IT WAS DESIRABLE, SAID THE FM, THAT THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES BE RENEWED. IN THE SAME INTERVIEW MOCK STATED THAT THE U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DECISION HAD LED TO GREATER UNITY AMONG AUSTRIANS. (ORF NEWS, MAY 8)

4. FM MOCK FOR CSCE MANDATE ON CONVENTIONAL DISARMAMENT

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TALKS:

ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE IN STRASBOURG MAY 7, AUSTRIAN FM MOCK ARGUED IN FAVOR OF A CSCE MANDATE FOR FUTURE TALKS ON CONVENTIONAL DISARMAMENT. ON CSCE, MOCK STRESSED THAT MANY "AMBITIOUS" PROPOSALS, ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS, HAD BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE FORUM. HE FURTHER EMPHASIZED THE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 07273

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NECESSITY FOR EUROPEAN UNITY. IN THIS CONTEXT THE FM SUGGESTED ISSUING A COMMON TRAVEL DOCUMENT FOR ALL CITIZENS OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE NATIONS. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, MAY 8)

5. LONDON PROMISES INCREASED COOPERATION WITH VIENNA ON SECURITY ISSUES:

WINDING UP TALKS WITH BRITISH INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND SOME OF HIS EUROPEAN COUNTERPARTS, AUSTRIAN INTERIOR MINISTER KARL BLECHA SAID BRITAIN HAD PROMISED GREATER COOPERATION WITH AUSTRIA IN THE FIELD OF ANTI-TERRORISM AND ANTI-DRUG TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, MAY 8)

6. SOVIET SPECIAL ENVOY SUSLOV RECEIVED BY CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY:

AFTER A MEETING WITH AUSTRIAN FM MOCK MAY 6, SOVIET SPECIAL ENVOY VLADIMIR SUSLOV HAS CALLED ON CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY TO INFORM AUSTRIA OF RECENT SOVIET DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES. DURING HIS VIENNA VISIT SUSLOV SAID EUROPEAN NATIONS SHOULD MAKE THEIR OWN CONTRIBUTIONS TO QUESTIONS OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT. WITHIN THE FAMILY OF NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED NATIONS AUSTRIA HAD A SPECIAL ROLE, HE REMARKED. ON CSCE, HE SAID AUSTRIA "COULD PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE FOR A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MEETING". (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, MAY 8)

7. SPO AND OVP AGREE ON REDUCED FUNDING FOR JOB CREATION PROGRAMS:

SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ALFRED DALLINGER (SPO) AND HIS OVP COUNTERPART MP WALTER SCHWIMMER HAVE AGREED TO REDUCE 1987 FUNDING FOR JOB CREATION AND JOB MAINTENACE PROGRAMS BY AS 620 MILLION. THE MONEY SAVING MEASURE WILL ALSO REDUCE

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THE AMOUNT OF UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCES. (SOCIALIST AZ, MAY 8)

8. AUSTRIAN NEUTRALITY NO OBSTACLE TO FULL EC MEMBERSHIP, EC-VICE PRESIDENT SAYS:

SPEAKING AT A MEETING ON EC QUESTIONS IN BADEN NEAR VIENNA, EC-VICE PRESIDENT LORD FRANCIS COCKFIELD SAID AUSTRIA'S NEUTRALITY WAS NO OBSTACLE TO FULL MEMBERSHIP. (ORF NEWS, MAY 8)

9. AUSTRIAN AMB. TO MEXICO COACCREDITED TO GUATEMALA:

AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO, HEIMO KELLNER, HAS BEEN COACCREDITED AS AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO GUATEMALA. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, MAY 8). LAUDER

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

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