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TEXT

SUBJECT: AUSTRIA MEDIA REACTION

1. WALDHEIM ON WATCH LIST: UNDER THE PAGE 3 HEADLINE "WASHINGTON'S SECRECY REGARDING WALDHEIM DOCUMENTATION," VIENNA'S INDEPENDENT, MASS-CIRCULATION TABLOID "KRONEN-ZEITUNG" ALLEGED THAT, INSTEAD OF MAKING THE 200-PAGE REPORT ON WALDHEIM'S WAR PAST AVAILABLE TO AUSTRIA RIGHT AWAY, THE U.S. AUTHORITIES ARE WITHHOLDING IT. THE PAPER ADDED THAT THE DELEGATION SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY AND FOREIGN MINISTER MOCK ON FRIDAY WILL "EXPLAIN" THIS DOCUMENTATION - "IN OTHER WORDS, IT WILL TRY TO VINDICATE THE BAN ON KURT WALDHEIM'S ENTRY INTO THE U.S." THE "KRONEN-ZEITUNG" QUOTED SECRETARY GENERAL MICHAEL GRAFF OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY AS HAVING SAID THAT "IF THERE WERE SOMETHING TO THE CHARGES AGAINST WALDHEIM, THEY COULD HAVE SIMPLY SENT THE DOCUMENTS TO US. BUT, OBVIOUSLY, THESE GENTLEMEN HAVE NO CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE AND JUST WANT TO STAGE A POLITICAL SHOW AND A MEDIA SPECTACLE." ACCORDING TO THE "KRONEN-ZEITUNG," IT IS BELIEVED IN VIENNA THAT THE 200-PAGE REPORT IS STANDING ON FEET OF CLAY.

"DIE PRESSE" SAID THAT, "CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS," THE DOCUMENTATION WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES ONLY ON FRIDAY WHEN DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD AND OSI CHIEF SHER VISIT VIENNA. "DIE PRESSE" ADDED: "HOWEVER, THESE FILES WILL NOT BE COMPLETE. IT HAS TURNED OUT NOW THAT AUSTRIA BILATERALLY WILL HAVE TO GET HOLD OF THE DOCUMENTS WHICH OTHER GOVERNMENTS HAD GIVEN TO THE AMERICANS OBVIOUSLY THROUGH CONFIDENTIAL BILATERAL CHANNELS, WITHOUT AUSTRIA HAVING BEEN NOTIFIED. THE MOST IMPORTANT SEEM TO BE THOSE FROM THE BELGRADE ARCHIVES WHICH ARE BEING EXAMINED BY A COMMISSION OF AUSTRIAN EXPERTS."

THE SOCIALIST PARTY DAILY "NEUE AZ" WONDERED WHO WILL EXAMINE THE WATCH LIST DOCUMENTS THE U.S. DELEGATION WILL BRING ALONG. CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY'S OFFICE THINKS THAT THIS SHOULD BEST BE DONE BY A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION OF HISTORIANS, BUT IT IS DOUBTED THAT THIS COMMISSION WILL HAVE BEEN SET UP BY THEN.

ACCORDING TO "DIE PRESSE" AND OTHER PAPERS, AGREEMENT HAS NOW BEEN REACHED BETWEEN THE TWO BIG PARTIES ABOUT THE FORM IN WHICH THE AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT WILL DEFINE ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE WALDHEIM CASE. THE COALITION PARTIES WILL DO NO MORE THAN EXPRESS THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE STATEMENT WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAD MADE TWO WEEKS AGO. THE STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF PARLIAMENT WILL BE MADE BY FOREIGN MINISTER MOCK.

"DIE PRESSE" QUOTED (SOCIALIST) INTERIOR MINISTER KARL BLECHA AS HAVING CHARGED THAT THE WALDHEIM FILES ALREADY

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KNOWN "ARE TEEMING WITH UNPROVEN ALLEGATIONS." THE "KURIER" REPORTED ON AN APPEAL FROM THE AUSTRO-AMERICAN SOCIETY, ASKING PRESIDENT REAGAN TO SEE TO IT THAT WALDHEIM'S NAME IS DELETED FROM THE WATCH LIST. AAS PRESIDENT MANFRED MAUTNER-MARKHOF STRESSED THE NEED FOR PRESERVING THE TRADITIONALLY FRIENDLY RELATIONS, BUT HE IS AGAINST "HAIR-SPLITTING." IN THIS CONTEXT, HE SAID THE CONSEQUENCES ARE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS IF THE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 07412

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ACTION AGAINST WALDHEIM WERE REAL COURT PROCEEDINGS, NOT JUST A VISA MATTER, AS THE U.S. AUTHORITIES POINT OUT.

"DIE PRESSE" PLAYED UP FOREIGN MINISTER ALOIS MOCK'S REMARK IN THE COURSE OF HIS "FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT" MADE ON MONDAY THAT AUSTRIANS MUST NOT BECOME RESIGNED, EVEN THOUGH THE U.S. DECISION AGAINST WALDHEIM HAS DONE CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO THIS COUNTRY'S PRESTIGE IN THE WORLD. THE "KURIER" PLAYED UP HIS COMPLAINT THAT "GOOD FRIENDS IN THE WORLD ARE DISAPPOINTING" AUSTRIA.

THE SOCIALIST PARTY DAILY "NEUE ZEIT" REPORTED ON THE PROGRAM OF VRANITZKY'S FORTHCOMING U.S. VISIT. IN THE OPINION OF THE PAPER, "THIS AGENDA SHOWS HOW HARD THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO PROMOTE RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIA DESPITE THE BAN ON KURT WALDHEIM'S ENTRY." KOHL

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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