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BRUSSELS FOR USEC

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STATE FOR EUR/CE, INR/WEA AND INR/P  
USIA FOR EU  
USDOC FOR IEP/EUR OWE FOR P. COMBE  
JUSTICE FOR KORTEN AND SHER

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, EC, MARR, IR, RO, CSCE, AU  
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.134/87, FOR 07/23/87

1. GREENS CHARGE DEFENSE MINISTER PLANS COVERT  
REORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL DEFENSE IN LINE WITH NATO  
DEFENSE CONCEPTS:

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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COMMENTING ON RECENT PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF A REORGANIZATION OF AUSTRIA'S MILITARY, GREEN "PEACE SPOKESMAN" PETER PILZ SAID DEFENSE MINISTER ROBERT LICHAL (OVP) AND HIS PRO-NATO LOBBY IN THE MILITARY COVERTLY PLANNED TO ABANDON AUSTRIA'S MILITIA-BASED DEFENSE CONCEPT IN FAVOR OF A NATO-BASED STRATEGY. IN PILZ'S VIEW, LICHAL'S CURRENT FOCUS ON A POSSIBLE PROLONGATION OF COMPULSORY MILITARY SERVICE ONLY SERVED TO DISTRACT ATTENTION FROM HIS MORE SERIOUS SCHEME. SPO MP JOSEF CAP CALLED ON LICHAL TO RESIGN SAYING THE DEFENSE MINISTER FREQUENTLY TENDED TO BY-PASS THE COALITION GOVERNMENT IN HIS POLICY MAKING. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, JULY 23)

2. WALDHEIM MAY RUN FOR SECOND TERM - EXPECTS IMPROVEMENT OF U.S.-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS AFTER U.S. ELECTIONS:  
IN A NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW PRESIDENT **KURT WALDHEIM** SAID HE DID NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF RUNNING FOR A SECOND SIX-YEAR PRESIDENTIAL TERM. WALDHEIM REMARKED THAT "THE EDIFICE OF LIES" ABOUT HIM HAD LONG SINCE COLLAPSED. ASKED ABOUT THE CLIMATE BETWEEN VIENNA AND WASHINGTON, WALDHEIM SAID HE EXPECTED U.S.-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS TO IMPROVE AFTER THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN THE U.S.

---IN A SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, AUSTRIAN WRITER PETER HANDKE HAS CALLED ON WALDHEIM NOT TO INAUGURATE THIS YEAR'S EXHIBITION BY THE MAX REINHARDT RESEARCH AND MEMORIAL INSTITUTE IN SALZBURG. (INDEPENDENT SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, ET.AL. JULY 23)

3. OVP MINISTER FOR RESIGNATION OF FM MOCK AS OVP PARTY CHAIRMAN:

OVP CHANCELLERY MINISTER HEINRICH NEISSER HAS SAID IN A NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW THAT VICE CHANCELLOR AND FM ALOIS MOCK SHOULD RESIGN AS OVP PARTY CHAIRMAN EARLY IN 1988. ACCORDING TO NEISSER, DEPUTY OVP PARTY LEADER ERHARD BUSEK SHOULD THEN SUCCEED MOCK AS PARTY CHAIRMAN. SUCH A CHANGE IN THE OVP LEADERSHIP WAS NEEDED TO HALT THE PARTY'S PROGRESSIVE DECLINE IN VOTER POPULARITY, NEISSER STATED. (INDEPENDENT KURIER, JULY 23)

4. CSCE: ROMANIA TORPEDOES INITIATIVES FOR MORE LIBERAL EAST-WEST INFORMATION EXCHANGE:

ACCORDING TO A NEWS REPORT, ROMANIA'S RECENT EFFORTS AT BLOCKING BRITISH AND NNA CSCE INITIATIVES FOR MORE LIBERAL EAST-WEST INFORMATION EXCHANGE WERE INDICATIVE OF BUCHAREST'S UNYIELDING POSITION ON THIS CRUCIAL ISSUE. THE ARTICLE FURTHER REFERRED TO A STUDY BY THE INTERNATIONAL HELSINKI FEDERATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH POINTED OUT THAT ROMANIA WAS THE COUNTRY MOST OFTEN GUILTY OF VIOLATING PROVISIONS OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, JULY 23)

5. ECONOMICS MINISTER GRAF SATISFIED WITH U.S.-AUSTRIAN TALKS ON HIGH-TECH TRANSFER:

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ECONOMICS MINISTER ROBERT GRAF HAS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH RECENT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN VIENNA AND WASHINGTON ON OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS OF HIGH-TECH TRANSFER. HIS TRIP TO THE U.S. IN SEPTEMBER WILL SERVE TO FINALIZE THE AGREEMENTS, GRAF NOTED. AN AD-HOC BILL COULD BE INTRODUCED IN PARLIAMENT AS EARLY AS OCTOBER. BY JANUARY 1, 1988 AUSTRIA WOULD BE ABLE TO ENJOY "OPTIMAL" ACCESS TO UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 10643

BRUSSELS FOR USEC  
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U.S. HIGH TECH, HE REMARKED. ---ON AUSTRIAN EFFORTS FOR CLOSER INTEGRATION INTO EC, GRAF "CONCEDED" THAT SUCH A PROCESS WOULD HAVE TO PROCEED VIA EFTA-EC CHANNELS RATHER THAN DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND THE EC. IN TALKS WITH EC OFFICIALS IN BRUSSELS TODAY, GRAF WILL PRESS THE EC FOR ACTION ON AUSTRIA'S TRANSIT TRAFFIC PROBLEMS. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, JULY 23)

6. VIENNA MURDER OF DISSIDENT IRANIAN POLITICIAN RAISES SPECULATION ABOUT A "SPY WAR":

AUSTRIAN POLICE AND FRENCH ANTI-TERRORIST SPECIALISTS ARE INVESTIGATING THE RECENT DISCOVERY OF THE MYSTERIOUS MURDER OF DISSIDENT IRANIAN POLITICIAN HAMID REZA CHITGAR IN VIENNA. ACCORDING TO AN ANONYMOUS CALLER WHO CLAIMED TO BE A MEMBER OF A MARXIST KURDISH WORKERS PARTY, CHITGAR HAD BEEN KILLED BECAUSE HE WAS A DOUBLE AGENT WORKING FOR THE CIA. (INDEPENDENT KURIER, JULY 23). LAUDER

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

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