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CONTROLS

UNCLAS VIENNA 11836

USVIENNA FOR MBFR AND UNVIE

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JUSTICE FOR KORTEN AND SHER

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, GATT, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.151/87, FOR 08/18/87

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT 2000

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

1. "TIME" MAGAZINE CHIEF EDITOR GRUNWALD TO SUCCEED AMB. LAUDER AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA:

AUSTRIAN RADIO TODAY CITED PRESS REPORTS IN THE "NEW YORK TIMES" AND THE "WASHINGTON POST" WHICH SAID THAT 64-YEAR OLD AUSTRIAN-BORN HENRY A. GRUNWALD, CHIEF EDITOR OF "TIME" MAGAZINE, WILL SUCCEED AMB. RONALD LAUDER AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA. (ORF NEWS, AUG 18).

- 2. SOCIALIST PAPER OUTRAGED OVER REPORT THAT MFA SELECTED MEMBERS OF WALDHEIM COMMISSION: NOTING RUMORS THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (AND NOT COMMISSION CHAIRMAN KURZ) HAD SELECTED THE MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EXPERTS COMMISSION ON WALDHEIM, THE SOCIALIST PARTY DAILY "AZ" TODAY SPOKE OF A "VERITABLE SCANDAL" SHOULD SOMETHING SO "OUTRAGEOUS" TURN OUT TO BE TRUE. ACCORDING TO "AZ", DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL REACTION SO FAR SHOWED THAT THE SETTING UP OF AN INTERNATIONAL PANEL?WOULD EVENTUALLY PROVE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. THE PAPER FURTHER CRITICIZED FM MOCK'S PLANS TO FINANCE PRESIDENT WALDHEIM'S "WHITE BOOK" AS WELL AS THE COMMISSION WITH "TAXPAYERS' MONEY". ---IN A SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, AUSTRIAN MILITARY HISTORIAN MANFRIED RAUCHENSTEINER YESTERDAY DISMISSED REPORTS SAYING HE WOULD BE APPOINTED "COORDINATING DIRECTOR" OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSSION. MEANWHILE, CARINTHIAN SPO GOVERNOR LEOPOLD WAGNER CALLED FOR AN END TO THE WALDHEIM DEBATE. WAGNER FURTHER DISMISSED MEDIA REPORTS CLAIMING THE SPO WAS PLAGUED BY INTERNAL STRIFE. WAGNER EMPHASIZED THE PARTY NOW APPEARED MORE HOMOGENEOUS THAN EVER. (SOCIALIST AZ, PROVINCIAL KAERNTNER TAGESZETUNG, INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, AUG 18)
- 3. FORMER CHANCELLOR KREISKY TO APPEAR AS WITNESS IN SINOWATZ-WORM TRIAL:

AS EXPECTED, FORMER SPO CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY HAS BEEN SUMMONED AS A WITNESS IN SPO PARTY CHAIRMAN SINOWATZ'S SUIT AGAINST "PROFIL" JOURNALIST ALFRED WORM. (WORM ALLEGED THAT SINOWATZ HAD BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN UNLEASHING THE ANTI-WALDHEIM CAMPAIGN). (ALL PAPERS, E.G. SOCIALIST AZ, AUG 18)

4. POSSIBLE WALDHEIM INVITATION FROM FINLAND:

ACCORDING TO A NEWS REPORT, FINLAND IS CONSIDERING INVITING AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT KURT WALDHEIM FOR AN OFFICIAL VISIT. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, AUG 18)

5. INTERIOR MINISTER BLECHA TO SIGN SECURITY AGREEMENTS IN POLAND:

DURING A MEETING WITH HIS POLISH COUNTERPART IN WARSAW TOMORROW, AUSTRIAN INTERIOR MINISTER KARL BLECHA (SPO) WILL SIGN BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ON TOURISM- AND CRIME-RELATED ISSUES. IN LIGHT OF THE LIFTING OF THE VISA REQUIREMENT FOR POLISH CITIZENS IN JANUARY 1988, VIENNA

AND WARSAW EXPECT A MARKED INCREASE IN ROAD TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, AUG 18)

6. AUSTRIAN COMPANY STRESSES BARBIE WAS NOT MEDIATING WEAPONS DEAL WITH BOLIVIA:

RESPONDING TO A PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY, FINANCE MINISTER FERDINAND LACINA (SPO) QUOTED NATIONALIZED "STEYR-DAIMLER PUCH AG" AS SAYING KLAUS BARBIE HAD NEVER BEEN CONNECTED WITH THE COMPANIES THAT REPRESENTED THE AUSTRIAN FIRM IN UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 11836

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SOUTH AMERICA. THE AUSTRIAN COMPANY, HOWEVER, STRESSED THAT IT COULD NOT EXCLUDE BARBIE'S PARTICIPATION UNDER A FALSE NAME. (INDEPENDENT PROVINCIAL SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, AUG 18)

7. U.S. CRITICIZES AUSTRIA FOR IGNORING GATT REGULATIONS ON FEED GRAIN:

POINTING TO A PROPOSED TAX ON FEED GRAIN IMPORTS, THE U.S. HAS CRITICIZED AUSTRIA FOR NOT CONFORMING TO GATT REGULATIONS, NEWS REPORTS NOTED TODAY. OFFICIALS OF THE U.S. EMBASSY IN VIENNA REPORTEDLY SAID THEY WERE "NOT VERY HAPPY" ABOUT SUCH PLANS. THE ISSUE WILL AGAIN BE RAISED DURING ECONOMICS MINISTER ROBERT GRAF'S (OVP) SEPTEMBER VISIT TO THE U.S. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, AUG 18)

8. CSSR AND HUNGARIAN CITIZENS FLEE TO AUSTRIA:

IN A REPEAT OF LAST WEEK'S SPECTACULAR AIRBORNE ESCAPE, A 19-YEAR OLD CSSR CITIZEN USED A MOTOR-POWERED HANG GLIDER TO FLY ACROSS THE CSSR-AUSTRIAN BORDER INTO AUSTRIA. THE MAN THEN CROSSED THE GERMAN BORDER NEAR SALZBURG AND WAS PICKED UP BY BAVARIAN BORDER PATROL GUARDS. IN A SEPARATE ESCAPE, TWO YOUNG HUNGARIANS ENTERED AUSTRIA BY HIDING IN A BUDAPEST-VIENNA TRAIN. (INDEPENDENT KURIER, AUG 18)

9. SPO FOREIGN POLICY EXPERT PROPOSES WEST EUROPEAN PEACE KEEPING FORCE FOR CENTRAL AMERICA:

SPO FOREIGN POLICY EXPERT, FORMER FM PETER JANKOWITSCH HAS SUGGESTED THAT WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES DISPATCH A UN-LIKE PEACE KEEPING FORCE TO CENTRAL AMERICA TO MONITOR AND ASSIST IN THE EXECUTION OF THE ARIAS PEACE PLAN. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, AUG 18). LAUDER

ADMIN END OF MESSAGE

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