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TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ECON, AU SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.164/87, FOR 09/04/87

1. WEEKLY "WOCHENPRESSE" CITES CIA FILE ON WALDHEIM:

TODAY'S "WOCHENPRESSE" REPORTED ON A DOSSIER CONTAINING DOCUMENTS DATING FROM APRIL 26, 1945, AND COMPILED BY THE U.S. OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES (OSS), ACCORDING TO WHICH KURT WALDHEIM HAD "A CONNECTION WITH THE OSS" DURING THE PERIOD APRIL 24 - MAY 9, 1945. "WOCHENPRESSE" ALSO QUOTED WJC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ELAN STEINBERG, WHO SAID THAT THE WJC, IN RESPONSE TO AN INQUIRY, HAD RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE CIA CONFIRMING THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A DOSSIER. THE REPORT CITED "AN INFORMANT WHO KNOWS THE CONTENT OF THE CIA FILE" AS SAYING THAT "WALDHEIM SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE OSS AFTER HAVING LEFT HIS MILITARY UNIT ON APRIL 24, 1945". (WEEKLY "WOCHENPRESSE, SEPT. 4)

2. AUSTRIAN IMAGE DISCUSSION AT AMBASSADORS' CONFERENCE :

AUSTRIAN IMAGE PROBLEMS WERE THE MAIN TOPIC AT YESTERDAY'S SESSION OF THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADORS' CONFERENCE. MFA SECRETARY GENERAL THOMAS KLESTIL STATED THAT IMAGE-CORRECTING EFFORTS WERE LIMITED AS "AUSTRIAN MISSIONS ABROAD COULD ONLY OFFER THE PRODUCT AUSTRIA AS IT REALLY IS". IN THIS CONNECTION, KLESTIL REGRETTED THAT THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLE WERE NOT VERY OPEN, AND THAT THIS LACK OF OPENNESS COULD EVEN ASSUME THE FORM OF XENOPHOBIA AND ANTISEMITISM. ON THE OTHER HAND KLESTIL EMPHASIZED THAT AUSTRIA COULD BE PROUD OF ITS ACHIEVEMENTS. CONTEMPLATING WAYS TO COMMEMORATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "ANSCHLUSS", KLESTIL PROPOSED THAT THE GOA OFFER PERMANENT RESIDENCE TO EMIGRATING SOVIET JEWS "TO SIGNAL AUSTRIA'S WISH TO HAVE A LARGER JEWISH COMMUNITY". FINALLY KLESTIL ALSO ADMITTED THE DIFFICULTY OF TAKING MEASURES TO IMPROVE AUSTRIA'S IMAGE: "THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS BECOME SUSPICIOUS THAT AUSTRIA ONLY DOES THINGS BECAUSE IT MUST DO THEM". (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, ET AL., SEPT. 4)

3. AFGHAN FM WAKIL IN VIENNA:

AFGHAN FM ABDUL WAKIL WAS IN VIENNA YESTERDAY FOR A PRIVATE VISIT. WAKIL MET WITH MFA SECRETARY GENERAL KLESTIL AFTER FM MOCK HAD TURNED DOWN WAKIL'S REQUEST FOR AN APPOINTMENT. WAKIL RAISED KABUL'S WISH TO OPEN AN EMBASSY IN VIENNA AND AN INTEREST SECTION IN THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY IN RIYADH. THE MFA EXPRESSED ITS "OPENNESS" TO THE FORMER REQUEST, BUT REMAINS MORE RESTRAINED TOWARD THE LATTER. (IND. DIE PRESSE, ET AL., SEPT. 4)

4. SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR SUMMONED TO MFA:

SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR NAUDE STEYN WAS SUMMONED TO THE MFA YESTERDAY BY ACTING POLITICAL DIRECTOR PETER

HOHENFELLNER WHO EXPRESSED THE GOA'S "DEEP CONCERN OVER THE RECENT EXECUTION OF 7 SOUTH AFRICANS". THE GOA SAID IT HOPED THAT NO FURTHER EXECUTIONS WOULD FOLLOW. BOTH THE SPO AND OVP HAVE PROTESTED AGAINST THE EXECUTIONS, AND SOCIALIST POLITICIANS AND SOME MEDIA CONTINUE THEIR ATTACKS AGAINST THE UPCOMING VISIT OF AN OVP MP GROUP TO SOUTH AFRICA. (SSEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, ET AL., UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 12565

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5. U.S. CONGRESSIONAL SUMMIT:

DISCUSSING THE THIRD WORLD DEBT PROBLEM AT THE U.S. CONGRESSIONAL SUMMIT BEING HELD IN VIENNA, U.S. SENATOR BILL BRADLEY SUGGESTED THAT THE POOREST DEBTOR COUNTRIES SHOULD BE GIVEN SOME RELIEF ON INTEREST PAYMENTS TO FREE UP INVESTMENT FUNDS. PARTICIPANTS REPORTEDLY AGREED THAT A NEW MECHANISM FOR COPING WITH THE DEBT CRISIS WOULD HAVE TO BE DEVELOPED SOON. (IND. DIE PRESSE, ET AL., SEPT. 4)

6. UN SOCIAL AFFAIRS CONFERENCE IN VIENNA NEXT WEEK:

THE INTERREGIONAL SPECIAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL WELFARE POLICIES IN THE INTEREST OF DEVELOPMENT (IRC) WILL BE HELD IN VIENNA SEPT. 7-15. THE CONFERENCE'S TASK IS TO FORMULATE A "GLOBAL SOCIAL AGENDA", TO BE PRESENTED AS GUIDELINE TO GOVERNMENTS AS WELL AS TO THE UN. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, SEPT. 4)

7. VRANITZKY INTERVIEW:

IN A "DIE PRESSE" INTERVIEW, CHANCELLOR FRANZ VRANITZKY DECLARED HIS COMMITTMENT TO FINANCE MINISTER FERDINAND LACINA'S PROPOSALS FOR REDUCING THE BUDGET DEFICIT. THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT HESITATE NOW TO IMPLEMENT WHAT HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED, STRESSED VRANITZKY. COMMENTING ON SPO CHAIRMAN FRED SINOWATZ'S POSITION IN THE PARTY, VRANITZKY SAID THAT THE CHAIRMAN'S REELECTION AT THE OCTOBER PARTY CONGRESS WAS NEARLY CERTAIN. (IND. DIE PRESSE, SEPT. 4)

8. 1988 BUDGET

(SPO) FINANCE MINISTER LACINA AND (OVP) STATE SECRETARY JOHANNES DITZ HAVE NOW AGREED ON MOST ELEMENTS OF THE AUSTERITY MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED NEXT YEAR. A COMPROMISE ON THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES WILL HAVE TO BE, WORKED OUT AT THE SEPT. 7 MEETING OF THE COALITION COORDINATING COMMITTEE. BUDGET CUTS OF AS 2.4 BILLION IN THE CIVIL SERVICE WILL TAKE THE FORM OF A ZERO WAGE ROUND OR "EQUIVALENT MEASURES" SUCH AS REDUCTIONS IN OVERTIME HOURS. THE ANNUAL PENSION COLA MIGHT BE POSTPONED FROM JANUARY TO JULY, AND BE COMPLEMENTED BY OTHER SAVINGS IN THE PENSION PLAN. LACINA AND DITZ HAVE ALSO AGREED ON CUTS IN VARIOUS ALLOWANCES AND BONUSSES. (ALL PAPERS, SEPT. 4)

9. KABUL MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. HABIB

ADMIN END OF MESSAGE

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