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JUSTICE FOR KORTEN/SHER

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ELAB, AU
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.156/87, FOR 09/25/87

1. WIESENTHAL DISMISSES NEWLY-PUBLISHED DOCUMENT ON
WALDHEIM'S WARTIME ROLE IN BALKANS:

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SIMON WIESENTHAL HAS LABELLED AS "OLD HAT" DOCUMENTS ON PRESIDENT WALDHEIM'S WARTIME SERVICE WHICH WERE PUBLISHED BY THE ITALIAN WEEKLY "EPOCA". ACCORDING TO THE DOCUMENTS, HITLER ORDERED GENERAL LOEHR'S UNIT IN YUGOSLAVIA TO EXECUTE 6 BRITISH POWS IN 1944. WIESENTHAL CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THE DOCUMENTS CONFIDENTIALLY FROM BRITISH HISTORIAN GERALD FLEMING, NOW A MEMBER OF THE KURZ EXPERTS COMMISSION INVESTIGATING WALDHEIM'S WAR RECORD, IN MAY 1986, AND EXPRESSED ANGER OVER THE MEMBER OF HIS STAFF WHO HAD PASSED THE DOCUMENTS ON TO THE ITALIAN WEEKLY. A PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN SAID THE DOCUMENTS WERE NOTHING NEW. SWISS HISTORIAN HANS RUDOLF KURZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS COMMISSION ON WALDHEIM, REGRETTED THE PUBLICATION. AN EDITORIAL IN THE SOCIALIST DAILY "AZ" CRITICIZED WIESENTHAL AND FLEMING FOR KEEPING THE DOCUMENTS PRIVATE. PROVINCIAL "SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN" RAISED SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT FLEMING'S QUALIFICATION AS A MEMBER OF THE KURZ COMMISSION. (SOCIALIST AZ, INDEPENDENT KURIER, INDEPENDENT PROVINCIAL SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, SEPT 25)

2. WJC SECRETARY-GENERAL SEES NO CHANCE FOR RECONCILIATION BETWEEN WALDHEIM AND JEWS:

THERE CAN AND NEVER WILL BE A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN JEWS AND AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT **KURT WALDHEIM**, WJC SECRETARY-GENERAL ISRAEL SINGER TOLD THE SWISS PUBLICATION "JUEDISCHE RUNDSCHAU". ACCORDING TO SINGER, WALDHEIM REPRESENTATIVES IN THE U.S. WERE CURRENTLY TRYING TO WITHDRAW WALDHEIM'S LIBEL SUIT AGAINST WJC PRESIDENT BRONFMAN. SINGER ALSO STATED THAT THE WJC HAD LEARNED OF WALDHEIM'S WARTIME PAST FROM REPORTS IN THE AUSTRIAN WEEKLY "PROFIL". HE SAID HE BELIEVED THAT U.S., SOVIET, BRITISH AND FRENCH INTELLIGENCE HAD ALREADY KNOWN OF WALDHEIM'S ROLE IN THE BALKANS AT THE TIME OF HIS CANDIDACY FOR THE POST OF UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BUT HAD ACCEPTED HIM AS A "PERSON WHO COULD PLEASE EVERYBODY." (INDEPENDENT SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, SEPT 25)

3. CONTINUED SPO CONCERN OVER NATO MANEUVERS:

ADDING HIS VOICE TO THOSE OF OTHER LEADING SPO POLITICIANS, SPO CENTRAL SECRETARY FRITZ MARSCH YESTERDAY CRITICIZED A SCENARIO IN THE JOINT FRENCH-FRG NATO MANEUVERS IN BAVARIA WHICH ASSUMES A FRENCH NUCLEAR ATTACK ON "AUSTRIAN TERRITORY". SPO LEGISLATORS ASKED DEFENSE MINISTER LICHAL (OVP) FOR AN "EXPLANATION" OF THIS ISSUE AND ATTACKED FM ALOIS MOCK (OVP) FOR NOT PROTESTING TO NATO. FPO DEFENSE SPOKESMAN, FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER FRIEDHELM FRISCHENSCHLAGER SAID THE NATO MANEUVER ASSUMPTIONS WERE A LOGICAL CONSEQUENCE OF AUSTRIA'S INADEQUATE DEFENSE POLICY IN THE PAST. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, KURIER, SEPT 25)

4. STYRIAN OVP DETERMINED TO OPPOSE DEFENSE MINISTER LICHAL OVER "DRAKEN" INTERCEPTORS:

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STYRIAN OVP POLITICIANS YESTERDAY CONTINUED THEIR CRITICISM OF OVP DEFENSE MINISTER LICHAL FOR HIS APPROACH TO THE "DRAKEN" ISSUE. STYRIAN OVP GOVERNOR JOSEF KRAINER SAID HE WOULD SUPPORT ANY MOVE BY STYRIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST LICHAL. THE STYRIAN OVP UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 13542

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DEPUTIES HAVE ANNOUNCED THEY WILL CALL A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE AGAINST THE DEFENSE MINISTER, SAYING HE WAS IGNORING WIDESPREAD OPPOSITION TO THE STATIONING OF THE "DRAKEN" INTERCEPTORS IN STYRIA. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, ORF NEWS, SEPT 25)

5. OVP TOUR OF SOUTH AFRICA UNDER FIRE:

THE FACT-FINDING TOUR OF SOUTH AFRICA BY A HIGH-RANKING OVP DELEGATION HAS CONTINUED TO TRIGGER CRITICAL STATEMENTS FROM THE SPO, THE GREENS AS WELL AS FROM CATHOLIC BISHOPS IN AUSTRIA AND SOUTH AFRICA. SPO FOREIGN POLICY SPOKESMAN PETER JANKOWITSCH SAID THE OVP DELEGATION'S REPORTS DISTORTED THE REALITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE OVP LEGISLATORS HAD ONLY SEEN WHAT THE PRETORIA REGIME WANTED THEM TO SEE, HE REMARKED. THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS IN SOUTH AFRICA EXPRESSED "DEEP CONSTERNATION" OVER STATEMENTS BY OVP DELEGATION HEAD FRITZ KOENIG. THE BISHOPS SAID KOENIG'S REMARK THAT THEY DID NOT WANT TO COOPERATE WITH ARCHBISHOP TUTU AND PASTOR ALLAN BOESAK ON ANTI-APARTHEID MATTERS WAS "AN OUTRIGHT LIE". (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, SOCIALIST AZ, SEPT 24)

6. FM MOCK TO MEET WITH SECRETARY SHULTZ IN NEW YORK:

DURING HIS UPCOMING VISIT TO THE U.S. SEPT 26-OCT 3, FM MOCK WILL MEET WITH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE SHULTZ AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. MOCK WILL TALK TO SOME 20 FOREIGN MINISTERS WHILE IN NEW YORK TO ADDRESS THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HE WILL ALSO MEET WITH UN SECRETARY-GENERAL PEREZ DE CUELLAR. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, SEPT 25)

7. SPO LABOR UNION INDICATES OPPOSITION TO GOA PENSION REFORM:

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ADOLF CZETTEL, HEAD OF THE SOCIALIST UNION, YESTERDAY EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE PENSION REFORM MEASURES SAYING THE UNIONS WERE COMMITTED TO THE GOA'S AUSTERITY PROGRAM BUT OPPOSED MEASURES WHICH UNDULY BURDENED THE WORKERS. MEANWHILE, SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ALFRED DALLINGER (SPO) REVEALED DETAILS OF THE PENSION REFORM: AMONG KEY CHANGES ARE A DISINCENTIVE FOR EARLY RETIREMENT, AN EXPANSION OF THE CALCULATION BASIS FOR THE PENSION FROM TEN TO FIFTEEN YEARS, REDUCTIONS OF MULTIPLE PENSIONS EXCEEDING AS 12,000 MONTHLY, AND ELIMINATION OF HIGH SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY STUDIES FROM THE BASIS OF CALCULATION. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT WIENER ZEITUNG, SEPT 25, ORF NEWS, SEPT 24)

8. FIRST AUSTRIAN JOINT VENTURE WITH THE USSR:

TODAY, THE STYRIAN COMPANY HANS G. FUCHS WILL SIGN A PRECONTRACT FOR THE JOINT ESTABLISHMENT OF A COPPER ENAMELLED WIRE PRODUCTION FACILITY IN THE USSR. FUCHS WILL HOLD 20 PERCENT IN THE CAPITAL STOCK OF THIS FIRST AUSTRO-SOVIET JOINT VENTURE AND WILL DELIVER PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT. 50-100 EMPLOYEES WILL PRODUCE 2,000 TONS OF ENAMELLED WIRE ANNUALLY FOR SOVIET AND THIRD COUNTRY MARKETS. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, SEPT 25). LAUDER

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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