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TEXT

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO. 1/88, FOR JAN. 4,
1988

1. SLOVENE QUESTION IN CARINTHIS: IN AN ADDRESS
BROADCAST ON THE RADIO ON SUNDAY, THE GOVERNOR OF
CARINTHIA, LEOPOLD WAGNER, CALLED UPON ALL PARTIES
CONCERNED TO ATTEMPT A "HISTORIC COMPROMISE" CONCERNING
THE MINORITY LANGUAGE SCHOOL PROBLEM. EVERYBODY SHOULD
MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS SO THAT SOCIAL PEACE IN THE
COUNTRY IS MAINTAINED. WAGNER SAID THAT THE PLANNED
SCHOOL MODEL, WHICH WAS WORKED OUT BY EXPERTS, LIVES UP
TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, AND ADDED: "WE CANNOT

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ACCEPT ANY ATTEMPTS TO LINK CARINTHIA WITH NATIONALISTIC ATTITUDES WE DO NOT ADVOCATE AND HAVE NEVER HELD, NOT EVEN DURING THE NAZI REGIME." (NEUE AZ, P.2)

2. MISSILES FOR AUSTRIAN ARMY: DEFENSE MINISTER ROBERT LICHAL ANNOUNCED IN A RADIO INTERVIEW ON SATURDAY THAT IN 1988 THE AUSTRIAN ARMY WILL START TO TEST SHORT-RANGE MISSILES FOR THE FIRST TIME. LICHAL STATED EXPRESSLY THAT AN INEXPENSIVE SYSTEM WILL HAVE TO BE USED. AMONG OTHERS, THE SOVIET UNION MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AS SUPPLIER (NEUE AZ, P.2).

3. SOUTH TYROL: SOME DECISIVE POLITICAL PROGRESS CONCERNING THE AUTONOMY QUESTION IS EXPECTED IN SOUTH TYROL IN THE COURSE OF 1988. ANOTHER IMPORTANT EVENT WILL BE THE PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN NOVEMBER. PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR SILVIUS MAGNAGO REITERATED THAT HE WILL NOT BE A CANDIDATE IN THESE ELECTIONS ANY MORE. THERE IS SOME SPECULATION IN BOLZANO, HOWEVER, THAT HE MIGHT DECIDE OTHERWISE UNDER PARTY PRESSURE. THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT SEEMS DETERMINED TO FINALIZE THE AGREEMENT ON THE SOUTH TYROL "PACKAGE" - AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO PREVENT THE RADICAL FORCES FROM GETTING STRONGER. THERE WERE 22 TERRORIST ATTACKS LAST YEAR, AND THERE IS SOME FEAR OF A RENEWED SURGE OF TERRORISM IN THE CONTEXT OF NEXT YEAR'S ELECTIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS (SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, P. 5).

4. WALDHEIM AND THE ANSCHLUSS ANNIVERSARY: THE COMMEMORATIVE ACTS PLANNED FOR MARCH 11 ARE BEING DISCUSSED. ONE OF THE OPEN QUESTIONS IS IF AND HOW THE PRESIDENT WILL PARTICIPATE. THE ATTITUDE OF LEFTIST SOCIAL DEMOCRATS AND "GREENS" IN THIS CASE IS QUITE UNCERTAIN. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT NUMEROUS FOREIGN TELEVISION TEAMS WILL USE THE MARCH DAYS FOR EXTENSIVE FOOTAGE ON AUSTRIA (DIE PRESSE, JAN. 2/3, P. 1).

IF WE LOOK AT THE AUSTRIAN POSITION NOW, AT THE BEGINNING OF 1988, THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF 1938, WHEN HITLER BLOTTED THE NAME AUSTRIA FROM THE MAP, WE FEEL A CERTAIN ANXIETY. THIS IS BECAUSE WHEN **KURT WALDHEIM** WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT ON JUNE 8, 1986, OUR PAST STARTED TO OVERWHELM US AGAIN AND HAS CAUGHT UP WITH US AFTER 50 YEARS... IN MARCH 1988, IT WILL BE 50 YEARS SINCE HITLER INCORPORATED AUSTRIA INTO HIS NAZI REICH, AND THE WORLD WILL BE WATCHING MORE CLOSELY THAN EVER HOW AUSTRIA COMMEMORATES THE EVENT. ATTENTION IS SURE TO FOCUS ON HOW THE PRESIDENT ACTS, WHO USED THE TERRIBLE EXPRESSION OF HAVING DONE NOTHING BUT HIS DUTY DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. WHATEVER HE DOES, HE IS BOUND TO BE ATTACKED, SINCE HIS PERSONAL STYLE OF DEALING WITH THE PAST HAS MADE HIM AN INTERNATIONAL SYMBOL. THIS IS TRAGIC FOR HIMSELF, BUT EVEN MORE SO FOR OUR COUNTRY WHICH HAS SUFFERED DEEPLY AS A CONSEQUENCE. (SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, NEW YEAR'S EDITION, FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL BY KARL HEINZ RITSCHER ENTITLED "A SPEECH NOT YET HELD" CALLING FOR WALDHEIM'S RESIGNATION). O'CONNOR

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ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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