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TEXT

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO. 13/88, FOR JAN. 22,
1988

1. VRANITZKY ON GOVERNMENT WORK: ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE SWEARING IN OF HIS CABINET, CHANCELLOR FRANZ VRANITZKY COMMENTED ON THE WORK OF THE GRAND COALITION, SAYING THAT THE RESULTS WERE ON THE WHOLE POSITIVE. HE STATED THAT THIS WORK WAS CARRIED OUT IN A NONE TOO FAVORABLE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION, IN WHICH THE CONTINUED WEAKNESS OF THE AMERICAN DOLLAR AND THE IMBALANCES IN THE TRADE FLOWS OF THE U.S., JAPAN AND WEST GERMANY DID NOT HELP VERY MUCH,

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EITHER. ACCORDING TO VRANITZKY, THE AFTERMATH OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN WAS ALSO AN ATYPICAL FEATURE, AND SOME OF THE EVENTS DID NOT HELP TO BUILD UP CONFIDENCE. THE DISCUSSION ABOUT THIS PRESIDENCY IS STILL "IMPEDING SOME POLITICAL CAPACITY," HE SAID. IN CONNECTION WITH THE WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL HISTORIANS' COMMISSION INVESTIGATING **KURT WALDHEIM'S** WARTIME PAST, VRANITZKY PROMISED FULL INFORMATION OF THE PUBLIC. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN HIS "IMPARTIALITY AND NEUTRAL STANCE," HE SAID HE DOES NOT KEEP ANY CONTACTS WITH THE COMMISSION. (WIENER ZEITUNG, P.1)

2. ANDROSCH TRIAL: THE HEAD OF AUSTRIA'S LARGEST BANK CREDITANSTALT, HANNES ANDROSCH, OFFERED TO RESIGN FROM HIS POST YESTERDAY, AFTER COURT HAD FOUND HIM GUILTY OF LYING TO A PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING THE CORRUPTION SCANDAL IN CONNECTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF VIENNA'S NEW GENERAL HOSPITAL. ANDROSCH SENT A LETTER TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SUPERVISORY BOARD OF THE CREDITANSTALT SAYING THAT HE FELT CAPABLE OF CARRYING ON HIS DUTIES, BUT WOULD RESIGN IF THE BOARD ASKED HIM TO DO SO. A DECISION OF THE BOARD IS DUE ON JAN. 29, AND IT IS GENERALLY HELD THAT THE BOARD WILL ACCEPT ANDROSCH'S OFFER. CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY HAD CALLED FOR AN ORDERLY DISCUSSION AND A JOINT SOLUTION "IN THE INTEREST OF THE BANK AND THE COUNTRY." (DIE PRESSE, P.1)

3. AMBASSADOR GRUNWALD: ONE DAY AFTER HAVING PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS, AMBASSADOR GRUNWALD WAS GUEST AT AN OFFICIAL LUNCH GIVEN IN HIS HONOR BY THOMAS KLESTIL, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. HOST AND GUEST ALIKE TOASTED TO THE BILATERAL RELATIONS WITHOUT TRYING TO CONCEAL THE SHADOWS CAST ON THEM. (DIE PRESSE, P.2, KURIER, P.2)

4. CSCE RESUMES TALKS: THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE WILL RESUME TALKS TODAY AFTER A RECESS OF SEVERAL WEEKS. FOREIGN MINISTER MOCK WILL ADDRESS THE OPENING PLENARY AND CALL UPON THE DELEGATIONS TO BRING THEIR WORK TO AN END SWIFTLY. THE NEUTRAL STATES, WHICH ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE CSCE PROCESS, HOPE THAT THE DELEGATIONS FROM THE WEST AND THE EAST HAVE PREPARED A CONSTRUCTIVE POLICY MEANWHILE. TO THIS END, A NUMBER OF COMPROMISE PAPERS WERE SUBMITTED BY THE NEUTRAL STATES COORDINATING NEGOTIATIONS IN THE VARIOUS CSCE AREAS. (DIE PRESSE, P.2) O'CONNOR

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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