

UNCLASSIFIED

DOCUMENT\_ID: 20769198  
INQNO: DOC8D 00004940  
DOCNO: TEL 001065 88  
PRODUCER: VIENNA  
SOURCE: STATE  
DOCTYPE: IN  
DOR: 19880129  
TOR: 103633  
DOCPREC: O  
ORIGDATE: 198801291455  
MHFNO: 88 7660022  
DOCCLASS: U

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
2000

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO  
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR  
RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION  
IN THIS DOCUMENT

HEADER  
OO RUEAIIB  
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH  
UTS4203  
OO RUEHC  
DE RUFHVI #1065 0291456  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 291455Z JAN 88  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4830  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9507  
INFO RUEHDC/USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUFHMB/USMISSION USVIENNA IMMEDIATE 0858  
BT

CONTROLS  
UNCLAS VIENNA 01065

USIS

USIA FOR EU

STATE FOR EUR/CE, INR/WEA AND INR/P

USDOC FOR IEP/EUR OWE FOR P. COMBE

USVIENNA FOR MBFR AND UNVIE

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO. 18/88, FOR JAN. 29,  
1988

1. TAX REFORM: THE GOVERNMENT'S TAX REFORM PROJECT  
CONTINUES TO BE A FOCUS OF DISCUSSION. (PRINT AND  
ELECTRONIC MEDIA) FINANCE MINISTER LACINA AND  
UNDERSECRETARY DITZ EXPRESSED THEIR HOPES YESTERDAY OF A  
RAPID AGREEMENT ON THE TAX REFORM PLANS THEY HAVE WORKED  
OUT. THERE IS, HOWEVER, STILL A FINANCING GAP OF 6.5 TO  
8 BILLION SCHILLINGS. THE SOCIALIST PARTY CALLS FOR A  
TAX ON CAPITAL INCOME, WHILE THE CONSERVATIVE PEOPLE'S  
PARTY FAVORS AN "ENERGY TAX". CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY AND

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

UNCLASSIFIED

Page 1

UNCLASSIFIED

VICE CHANCELLOR MOCK ARE TO SEARCH FOR A COMPROMISE, BUT NEITHER OF THE TWO GOVERNMENT PARTIES IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE OTHER'S PROPOSALS. (DIE PRESSE, P.1)

2. WALDHEIM CASE: YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, SIX MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL HISTORIANS' COMMISSION INVESTIGATING KURT WALDHEIM'S WARTIME PAST VISITED THE PRESIDENT AT HIS HOME TO INTERVIEW HIM AS A WITNESS. THERE HAD BEEN SOME UPHEAVAL WHEN IT BECAME KNOWN THAT WALDHEIM WAS SUPPLIED WITH A LIST OF QUESTIONS TWO DAYS PREVIOUSLY. (KURIER, P.2)

ONLY A FEW HOURS BEFORE YESTERDAY'S OFFICIAL FINAL INTERVIEW STARTED, AN "UNNAMED HIGH-RANKING OFFICIAL" OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EXPRESSED HIS "OUTRAGE" AT THE FACT THE WALDHEIM "HAD BEEN SUPPLIED WITH THE QUESTIONS IN WRITING AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WEEK." APPARENTLY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAD IMAGINED THIS FINAL INTERVIEW TO BE A SORT OF ROUGH "CROSS-EXAMINATION". THERE WAS EVEN TALK OF A "BETRAYAL" BY THE COMMISSION, AN INSINUATION WHICH WAS REJECTED FIERCELY BY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN KURZ. HE DENIED EXPRESSLY HAVING PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR "WHITEWASHING" WALDHEIM. HE SAID "A BRIEF OUTLINE OF QUESTION AREAS WAS GIVEN TO SPEED UP THE INTERVIEW AND BE ABLE TO GET INTO PROBLEMATIC DETAILS WITHOUT DELAY." KURZ CALLED THE INTERVIEW "USEFUL AND TOUGH." (NEUE KRONENZEITUNG, P.3)

3. AUSTRIAN CONSUL IN NICARAGUA: THE APPOINTMENT OF THE WEST GERMAN BUSINESSMAN GERHARD MIELKE AS AUSTRIAN HONORARY CONSUL IN NICARAGUA PLANNED BY FOREIGN MINISTER MOCK IS UNDER ATTACK AGAIN. AFTER A TEN-MONTH DELAY, MANAGUA HAS GIVEN A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT, BUT DEVELOPMENT AID ORGANIZATIONS AND SPOE PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVES ARE OPPOSING MIELKE'S APPOINTMENT ON THE GROUNDS THAT HE IS A DECIDED OPPONENT OF THE PRESENT NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT AND SUPPORTER OF THE SOMOZA DICTATORSHIP. (NEUE ARBEITERZEITUNG, P.7)

4. LAUDER'S ART EXPORTS: FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR LAUDER'S ART EXPORTS CONTINUE TO EXCITE SOME MEDIA ATTENTION. THE WELL-KNOWN COLUMNIST NIMMERRICHTER WRITES THAT LAUDER'S ART EXPORTS ARE "A SHAME" AND SAYS: "THE ASSIDUOUS 'ART COLLECTOR' LAUDER IS NOT SO MUCH TO BLAME FOR THIS FULL-FLEDGED SCANDAL AS THOSE SPINELESS AND SYCOPHANTIC AUSTRIAN CIVIL SERVANTS, WHO SHOWERED LAUDER WITH EXPORT PERMITS, BECAUSE THEY MISTAKENLY BELIEVED THIS TO CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVED AUSTRIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS. NO AUSTRIAN CITIZEN OR FOREIGNER WITHOUT SPECIAL PRIVILEGES WOULD EVER HAVE GOT THOSE PERMITS!" (KRONENZEITUNG, P.6)

THE NEWSWEEKLY "WOCHENPRESSE" PUBLISHED AN INTERVIEW WITH LAUDER IN WHICH HE SAID THE ACCUSATIONS "HAD NO OTHER REASON" THAN POLITICAL REVENGE FOR HIS CRITICAL REMARKS ON ANTI-SEMITISM IN AUSTRIA, AND AFFIRMED THAT HIS EXPORTS WERE "COMPLETELY IN LINE WITH LEGAL PROVISIONS." (WOCHENPRESSE, P.35) O'CONNOR

UNCLASSIFIED

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Page 3