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RUEHJI/AMCONSUL JEDDAH IMMEDIATE
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RUFHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
RUFHRA/AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE
RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
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TEXT

STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, SP, P/M, ALSO

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PASS BIB; USIA FOR NEA, R, P/F, P/P, P/FW, P/FN,
P/M, TV/P, TV/WP, VOA FOR MORT SMITH, VOA/BN, VOA
NEWS/CA

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LONDON FOR ROBIN RAPHAEL; PARIS FOR WINN; ROME FOR
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MACDILL FOR USIA ADVISER MURPHEY

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION/PRESS REVIEW, FEB. 11, 1988

STORIES COVERED IN REPORT:

1. SUMMING UP MURPHY'S MISSION.
2. **KURT WALDHEIM'S WWII RECORD.**

MAJOR STORIES IN THE MEDIA:

-- ALL MEDIA REPORTED THAT THE TERRITORIES
YESTERDAY WENT THROUGH ONE OF THEIR QUIETEST DAYS IN
TWO MONTHS.

-- DEFENSE MINISTER RABIN IS SAID TO HAVE ENDORSED
THE SUPREME COURT OF JUSTICE'S RECOMMENDATION TO SET
UP A COURT OF APPEALS TO OVERSEE MILITARY COURTS IN
THE TERRITORIES. DAVAR AND HA'ARETZ EDITORIALS
APPLAUDED RABIN'S DECISION.

-- ISRAEL RADIO AND PRESS FEATURED CRITICISM OF
ISRAEL'S POLICY IN THE TERRITORIES CONTAINED IN THE
STATE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT. ALSO
REPORTED WERE THE STATE DEPARTMENT RICHARD SHIFTER'S
PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS, WHICH DAVAR CALLED "MILD
AND COURAGEOUS."

-- HA'ARETZ WEEKEND SUPPLEMENT EXPLAINED WHY ISRAEL
TV DOES NOT ADEQUATELY COVER THE RIOTS IN THE
TERRITORIES: "BAD LUCK, MISMANAGEMENT, LACK OF
DRIVE, PROBLEMS OF PERSONAL SAFETY, POOR PAY, RED
TAPE AND PLAIN LEFTHANDEDNESS BY FAR ECLIPSE ANY
POLITICAL CENSORSHIP."

-- THE JERUSALEM POST REPORTED: "ISRAEL AND THE USG
WILL TODAY ISSUE A TENDER, OPEN ONLY TO ISRAELI AND
AMERICAN PLANNING EXPERTS," FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
THE VOA ARAVA STATION (SEPTEL).

1. SUMMING UP MURPHY'S MISSION:

SUMMARY:

-- THE PRESS REPORTED THAT SECRETARY OF STATE
SHULTZ IS DUE IN ISRAEL SHORTLY TO, AS HA'ARETZ AND
END OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED

<<<<< SECTION 2 >>>>

STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, SP, P/M, ALSO
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HADASHOT PUT IT, "SOFTEN UP THE PM."

-- HA'ARETZ WROTE: "A JERUSALEM SOURCE REVEALED THAT THE U.S. IS PREPARED TO START AT ONCE TALKS ABOUT A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING GUARANTEEING THE ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S BASIC DIPLOMATIC POSITIONS, AS WELL AS A REWARD IN THE DEFENSE AND ECONOMIC FIELDS. THE U.S. WILL OFFER JORDAN A SIMILAR MOU."

-- YEDIOT REPORTED THAT SHAMIR WAS PREPARING HIS OWN PEACE PROGRAM, TO COUNTER THE AMERICAN INITIATIVE.

-- CONTRARY TO MOST OTHER PAPERS, THE JERUSALEM POST REPORTED THAT SHAMIR HAS ACCEPTED KEY POINTS IN THE AMERICAN PLAN.

-- YEDIOT EDITORIAL REMINDED THE PM THAT "WHAT HE MAY GET TODAY, WITH THE GENEROUS HELP OF OUR FRIENDS IN WASHINGTON, WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO GET FROM THEIR SUCCESSORS."

-- HA'ARETZ EDITORIAL CAUTIONED THE U.S. AGAINST SHAMIR'S "STALLING."

-- MAARIV'S GOLDSTEIN CHARGED THAT THE AMERICANS, BOUND BY THE REAGAN PLAN, HAVE PLACED THEMSELVES "ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE CONFERENCE TABLE."

HEADLINES:

"SHULTZ TO ISRAEL TO SOFTEN UP SHAMIR" (HA'ARETZ AND HADASHOT), "PERES WELCOMES U.S. INITIATIVE; A SHULTZ VISIT IS NEXT ON AGENDA" (MAARIV), "SHAMIR COOL TO U.S. PLAN, BUT SEEKS 'CLARIFICATIONS'" (JERUSALEM POST), "GRAB THE CHANCE" (YEDIOT EDITORIAL), "STALLING IS NO GOOD" (HA'ARETZ EDITORIAL), "U.S. PROGRAM: A PRESCRIPTION FOR FAILURE" (MAARIV COMMENTARY).

BLOCK QUOTES:

I. HA'ARETZ REPORTED FROM JERUSALEM: "ISRAELI OFFICIALS CAME AWAY FROM THE TALKS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARD MURPHY FEELING THAT U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE GEORGE SHULTZ MAY ARRIVE HERE SOON TO SOFTEN PM SHAMIR'S OPPOSITION TO A NUMBER OF KEY
END OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED

<<<<< SECTION 3 >>>>

STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, SP, P/M, ALSO PASS BIB; USIA FOR NEA, R, P/F, P/P, P/FW, P/FN, P/M, TV/P, TV/WP, VOA FOR MORT SMITH, VOA/BN, VOA NEWS/CA

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POINTS IN THE NEW AMERICAN PEACE INITIATIVE. A
JERUSALEM SOURCE REVEALED THAT THE U.S. IS PREPARED
TO START AT ONCE TALKS ABOUT A MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING GUARANTEEING THE ADMINISTRATION
SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S BASIC DIPLOMATIC POSITIONS, AS
WELL AS A REWARD IN THE DEFENSE AND ECONOMIC
FIELDS. THE U.S. WILL OFFER JORDAN A SIMILAR MOU
.... AMBASSADOR PICKERING AND RICHARD MURPHY HAVE
BEEN URGING SHULTZ TO PUSH ON WITH HIS INITIATIVE
.... SHAMIR IS KNOWN TO OPPOSE THE AMERICAN
PROPOSAL'S 'INTERNATIONAL EVENT' IDEA. HE IS EVEN
MORE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE PRINCIPLE OF UNLINKING
FINAL ARRANGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS FROM THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AUTONOMY SPEAKING TO
LIKUD MINISTERS, SHAMIR SAID: 'I'VE ASKED MR. MURPHY
FOR CLARIFICATIONS AND HE PROMISED TO SEND THEM AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE (AMERICAN) INITIATIVE IS A
GREAT THING AND WE'RE HAPPY WITH IT - DESPITE SOME
DISAGREEMENTS.' "

II. YEDIOT REPORTED FROM JERUSALEM: "PM SHAMIR WILL
GO TO WASHINGTON WITH HIS OWN PROGRAM, A RESPONSE OF
SORTS TO SHULTZ'S PLAN. UNHAPPY WITH THE AMERICAN
PACE, SHAMIR IS DRAFTING A PROGRAM BASED ON A
FLEXIBLE TIMETABLE, UNDER WHICH THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF EACH STEP (IN THE PEACE PROGRAM) WILL DEPEND ON
THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRECEDING ONE."

III. HOWEVER, THE JERUSALEM POST REPORTED FROM
JERUSALEM: "SOURCES CLOSE TO THE PM SAID LAST NIGHT
THAT ALTHOUGH SHAMIR HAD NOT GIVEN A GREEN LIGHT TO
THE TIMETABLE PRESENTED BY THE AMERICANS, HE WAS
DEFINITELY INTERESTED IN FURTHER U.S. EFFORTS.
SHAMIR DID NOT OBJECT TO HOLDING TALKS ON THE
INTERIM SETTLEMENT, THEY SAID, DID NOT OBJECT TO THE
PRINCIPLE OF A FIXED DATE FOR TALKS ON THE FINAL
SETTLEMENT, AND WAS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS ON AN
INTERNATIONAL (OPENING) FOR PEACE TALKS, PROVIDED IT
BORE NO RESEMBLANCE TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE,
AS PROPOSED BY PERES. THE PM'S OFFICE SAID LAST
NIGHT THAT IF THE PEACE PROCESS WAS TO MOVE FORWARD,
'HUSSEIN, AND NOT ONLY SHAMIR, WOULD HAVE TO MAKE
SOME CONCESSIONS.' "

IV. YEDIOT EDITORIAL SAID: "STATESMANSHIP IS THE
ART OF OCCASIONALLY GOING FOR THE LESSER EVIL AT THE
RIGHT TIME. THIS MEANS THAT ALTHOUGH THE PM DOES
NOT BUY THE AMERICAN INITIATIVE IN ITS ENTIRETY, HE
OUGHT TO REMEMBER THAT THINGS COULD BE FAR WORSE IN
END OF MESSAGE

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<<<<< SECTION 4 >>>>

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THE POST-REAGAN SHULTZ ERA AND THAT WAT HE MAY GET TODAY, WITH THE GENEROUS HELP OF OUR FRIENDS IN WASHINGTON, WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO GET FROM THEIR SUCCESSORS."

V. HA'ARETZ EDITORIAL SAID: "ENVOY MURPHY RECEIVED TWO DIFFERENT MESSAGES FROM JERUSALEM: ONE FROM THE PM AND ANOTHER FROM THE FM NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE AMERICANS OUGHT TO LEND AN EAR TO WHAT THE PM HAS TO SAY, PARTICULARLY AS THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HAS MADE IT HIS PRACTICE NOT TO INTERFERE IN ISRAEL'S DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. STILL, IF THIS FRIENDLY SUPER POWER WISHES TD PROMOTE THE PEACE PROCESS, IT MUST NOT ALLOW ITS INITIATIVE TO BECOME STUCK THE STALLING EFFORTS OF THE PM ADD FUEL TO THE FIRE IN THE TERRITORIES."

VI. MAARIV COLUMNIST DOV GOLDSTEIN WROTE: "EVEN THOSE ISRAELIS WHO THINK THAT IT IS A VITAL NATIONAL INTEREST TO PUT AN END TO OCCUPATION ... CANNOT BUY THE U.S. PROGRAM THE AMERICANS ARE BEING QUITE FRANK: FOR THEM, THE FINAL SETTLEMENT IN THE TERRITORIES IS THE REAGAN PLAN IN OTHER WORDS, THE MEDIATOR, AND ISRAEL'S ONLY SUPPORTER, PLACES HIMSELF A PRIORI ON THE OPPPOSITE SIDE OF THE CONFERENCE TABLE. IF THIS IS WHAT THE AMERICANS HAVE IN MIND, THEY ARE PUSHING ISRAEL INTO A TIGHT CORNER, OUT OF WHICH IT WOULD EMERGE BADLY BRUISED."

2. KURT WALDHEIM'S WWII RECORD:

--- SUMMARY:

--- ALL MEDIA REPORTED EXTENSIVELY ON THE FINDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PANEL, HIGHLIGHTING THE REACTIDNS TO THE FINDINGS IN AUSTRIA, THE U.S. AND ELSEWHERE. THE CONSENSUS IN THE ISRAELI PRESS WAS THAT WALDHEIM WAS FOUND GUILTY BEHIND ANY REASONABLE DOUBT.

--- HEADLINES:

"WALDHEIM DAMNED" (MAARIV EDITORIAL), "WALDHEIM - A CONTEMPTIBLE FIGURE" (HA'ARETZ EDITORIAL).

END OF MESSAGE

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<<<<< SECTION 5 >>>>

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BLOCK QUOTES:

I. MAARIV EDITORIAL SAID: "THE PATIENCE AND
TOLERANCE OF THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLE WITH THEIR NOW
FORMALLY STIGMATIZED PRESIDENT STEM FROM GUILT
FEELINGS: THEY ARE THE FIRST TO KNOW THAT WALDHEIM'S
COLLABORATION WITH THE NAZIS WAS NO DIFFERENT FROM
THE COLLECTIVE BEHAVIOR OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE
AUSTRIANS DURING WWII ISRAEL OUGHT TO LAUNCH AN
INTERNATIONAL DRIVE TO FORCE THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT
TO GET RID OF ITS PRESIDENT."

II. HA'ARETZ EDITORIAL SAID: "AT THE HEAD OF THE
AUSTRIAN REPUBLIC THERE STANDS A MAN WHO HAS BEEN
EXPOSED AS, IF NOT A WAR CRIMINAL, AN INCORRIGIBLE
LIAR. IT IS UP TO THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLE TO EITHER
REMOVE HIM FROM OFFICE OR, OUT OF FALSE
NATIONALISTIC PRIDE OR EVEN SOLIDARITY WITH HIS ROLE
IN THE GERMAN WAR MACHINE, KEEP HIM AS PRESIDENT."
MINIMIZE CONSIDERED FOR BEIRUT. LANE

END OF MESSAGE

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