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TEXT

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO. 63/88, FOR 04/05/88

1. LICHAL TO VISIT SOVIET UNION: DEFENSE MINISTER ROBERT LICHAL IS PLEASED WITH THE PROSPECTS OF HIS UPCOMING VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION, WHERE HE WILL SEE A DEMONSTRATION OF SHORT-RANGE COMBAT MISSILES. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE DAILY "KURIER", LICHAL SAID THAT NEUTRAL STATES AS WELL AS THE SIGNATORY POWERS (OF AUSTRIA'S STATE TREATY) ARE CONSIDERED AS POSSIBLE SUPPLIERS OF MISSILES TO THE AUSTRIAN ARMY. HE FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT "TEST RUNS OF SOVIET MISSILES WILL ALSO BE CARRIED OUT TO SEE WHETHER THEY ARE SUITABLE FOR THE

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AUSTRIAN ARMY." (KURIER, P. 2)

2. TAX REFORM BILL: MINISTER OF FINANCE FERDINAND LACINA WILL PRESENT THE LAST FEW DETAILS OF THE TAX REFORM BILL TOMORROW. MOST AUSTRIANS ARE TO PROFIT FROM LOWER TAX BRACKETS. CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY AND VICE CHANCELLOR MOCK ARE EXPECTED TO SIGN THE BASIC TAX REFORM ACCORD TODAY. THE ONLY REMAINING PROBLEMS CONCERN AGRICULTURE. (DIE PRESSE, P. 1)

3. WALDHEIM: ACCORDING TO AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED BY THE ISRAELI NEWSWEEKLY "HAOLAM HASE", PRESIDENT WALDHEIM REGARDS HIS PRESENT SITUATION AS "VERY DELICATE." HE DOES NOT THINK, HOWEVER, THAT POLITICAL LEADERS IN THIS COUNTRY TRY TO GAIN ADVANTAGE FROM THIS SITUATION. HE DESCRIBED HIS RELATIONS WITH CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY AS "CORRECT, EVEN FRIENDLY." (WIENER ZEITUNG, APRIL 2, P. 3)

FORMER BRITISH AIR FORCE PILOT BRUCE OGILVIE TOLD THE "SUNDAY TIMES" IN AN INTERVIEW THAT **KURT WALDHEIM**, THEN A MEMBER OF THE GERMAN WEHRMACHT, SAVED HIS LIFE. OGILVIE SAID HE WAS TAKEN PRISONER IN GREECE IN 1943 NEAR ATHENS TOGETHER WITH OTHER SOLDIERS OF THE ALLIED FORCES, AND WALDHEIM PREVENTED THEIR BEING TURNED OVER TO THE SS FOR EXECUTION. THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS HAS DISPUTED THIS STATEMENT AND SAID THAT OGILVIE MUST HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN, SINCE WALDHEIM WAS NOWHERE NEAR ATHENS AT THE TIME ACCORDING TO HIS OWN STATEMENTS AND HIS WAR RECORD. (DIE PRESSE, P. 2, ORF INTERNATIONAL NEWS)

4. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: 187,891 AUSTRIANS WERE LOOKING FOR A JOB IN MARCH 1988. THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF 6.4 PERCENT WAS MARKEDLY LOWER THAN THAT OF MARCH 1987 (7 PERCENT). SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ALFRED DALLINGER SAID THE FIGURES PROVE THAT THE JOB CREATION PROGRAM OF HIS MINISTRY WAS A SUCCESS. HE IS ESPECIALLY SATISFIED WITH THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE. THE STATISTICS SHOW THAT PRESENTLY 48,000 YOUNG PERSONS ARE WITHOUT A JOB, DOWN FROM 55,000. (NEUE AZ, APRIL 2, P. 2)

5. CARDINAL KOENIG: IN VARIOUS INTERVIEWS, CARDINAL KOENIG, FORMER ARCHBISHOP OF VIENNA, SAID THAT POPE JOHN PAUL II MAY SET THE COURSE FOR A FUTURE MEETING WITH SOVIET LEADER MIKHAIL GORBACHEV DURING THE POPE'S VISIT TO VIENNA IN JUNE. KOENIG THINKS THIS IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE POPE'S VISIT COMES AT A TIME WHEN THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH WILL BE CELEBRATING THE MILLENIUM OF THE CONVERSION TO CHRISTIANITY OF RUSSIA. (SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, P. 5) KOOB

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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