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TEXT

SUBJECT: SPECIAL REPORT: INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL DUKAKIS

THE INDEPENDENT MONTHLY PICTORIAL MAGAZINE "BASTA" (CIRC. 150,000) PUBLISHED THE FOLLOWING, FULLY TRANSLATED INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE DUKAKIS IN ITS SEPTEMBER ISSUE:

"MAY KURT COME, DUKE?"

WALTER MAYER, CHIEF EDITOR OF "BASTA", WAS THE FIRST EUROPEAN JOURNALIST TO ACCOMPANY THE NEXT U.S. PRESIDENT ON HIS ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

Q: LAST WEEK, A LETTER FROM YOU TO MR. BRONFMAN WAS PUBLISHED, IN WHICH YOU WELCOME THE WATCH LIST DECISION

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AGAINST KURT WALDHEIM AND STATE THAT YOU WILL BY NO MEANS REVERSE IT. WHY?

- A: EVENTS OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR PLAY SUCH A DECISIVE ROLE IN THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. THE DECISION TO PUT KURT WALDHEIM ON THE WATCH LIST WAS WELCOMED TO SUCH AN EXTENT BY THE POPULATION THAT IT IS A MATTER-OF-COURSE FOR A DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TO PAY ATTENTION TO THESE FEELINGS.
- Q: MEANWHILE, THERE HAS BEEN THE REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL HISTORIANS' COMMISSION AND THE "ACQUITTAL" BY THE ENGLISH TV TRIBUNAL. SHOULDN'T THE NEXT U.S. PRESIDENT REOPEN THE WATCH LIST PROCEDURE?
- A: WE DON'T KNOW THE EXACT CONTENTS OF THE DOCUMENTS, BUT IT IS CLEAR FOR US THAT WALDHEIM WAS SOMEHOW INVOLVED IN NAZI ATROCITIES. BESIDES, HE IS A SYMBOL.
- Q: DO YOU PERSONALLY THINK THAT WALDHEIM IS A NAZI WAR CRIMINAL?
- A: NO COMMENT.
- O: HOW COULD U.S.-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS BE IMPROVED?
- A: I THINK THAT, ALL IN ALL, RELATIONS ARE EXCELLENT. WE ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HAVING CLOSE TIES WITH THE NEUTRAL STATES. AUSTRIA PLAYS A GREAT ROLE IN THE FIELDS OF DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES. WE RESPECT THESE POLICIES VERY MUCH AND BELIEVE THAT AUSTRIA IS AN ALLY IN REGARD TO MANY ISSUES OF THE DEMOCRATS' FOREIGN POLICY. THE WALDHEIM ISSUE WILL NOT BE A STRAIN ON OUR RELATIONS. IT WILL FIND ITS NATURAL END.
- Q: DESPITE ALL THE DIFFERENCES WITH THE MISSIONARY NATIONALISM OF THE REPUBLICANS, YOUR ELECTION CAMPAIGN ALSO HAS SOME ELEMENTS OF PATRIOTIC FERVOR. EVERY TIME, THE "FIGHT FOR A STRONG AMERICA EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD" HAS TO BE PROMISED. ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU HAVE NOT MADE ANY REAL STATEMENT ON FOREIGN POLICY UNTIL NOW. WILL U.S. FOREIGN POLICY REMAIN UNCHANGED IN ANY CASE?
- A: FIRST OF ALL, WE THINK THAT THE FOREMOST TASK OF THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL BE TO CREATE JOBS IN AMERICA, NOT TO OVERTHROW GOVERNMENTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA. THIS MEANS THE DEMOCRATIC CONCEPT OF FOREIGN POLICY IS BASED ON THE NEEDS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, NOT ON IDEOLOGICAL ADVENTURES.
- Q: THIS COMMITMENT ALSO ACCOMPANIED IRANGATE, THE INVASION OF GRENADA, AND THE BOMBING OF TRIPOLI. WHERE IS THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN YOUR AND REAGAN'S POLICY?
- A: ON EACH INDIVIDUAL ISSUE. WE WILL BRING DOWN TRADE

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WITH SOUTH AFRICA TO NEARLY ZERO. WE FULLY SUPPORT THE ARIS PEACE PLAN FOR CENTRAL AMERICA, AND WE OPPOSE ANY MILITARY AID FOR THE CONTRAS.

Q: BUT YOUR VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, LLOYD BENTSON, FOLLOWS A COURSE RATHER FAVORABLE TOWARD THE CONTRAS...

A: AS A TEXAN OF CONSERVATIVE BACKGROUND, BENTSON HAS FORMED A DIFFERENT PICTURE OF THE CHARACTER OF THE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 09935

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CONTRAS. HE REGARDS THEM MAINLY AS FIGHTERS AGAINST A (POSSIBLE) DICTATORSHIP. IN CONRETE TERMS, HE ALSO SUPPORTS THE ARIAS PLAN. WE CANNOT PROMISE TO FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS LIKE REAGAN AND BUSH DO, IF WE MAKE DEALS WITH SLEAZY DICTATORS AND CRIMINAL ADVENTURERS AT THE SAME TIME.

Q: YOU HAVE EXPRESSED YOUR SYMPATHY FOR THE CHANGES IN THE SOVIET UNION. THERE WAS A PARTICULARLY LONG MEETING WITH HUNGARIAN PARTY BOSS GROSZ. IS THAT A U.S. FOREIGN POLICY THAT IS NOT ANTI-COMMUNIST?

A: NO, NOT AT ALL. OUR FOREIGN POLICY WANTS TO FIGHT COMMUNISM, BUT NOT BY FIGHTING AGAINST COUNTRIES. WE WANT THE COMPETITION OF THE SYSTEMS TO TAKE PLACE PEACEFULLY. THE DEMOCRATIC FOREIGN POLICY WILL BE ANTI-COMMUNIST BY HELPING THE EASTERN COUNTRIES TO OVERCOME THEIR ECONOMIC BOUNDARIES, THEREBY CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FREE MARKET AND A MORE DEMOCRATIC PUBLIC. O'CONNOR

ADMIN END OF MESSAGE

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