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SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO. 96, FOR JUNE 1, 1992

1. SANCTIONS AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA/STATEMENT BY AUSTRIAN  
U.N. AMBASSADOR HOHENFELLNER/COMMENTARIES: IN A FIRST  
REACTION TO THE U.N. SANCTION RESOLUTION AGAINST  
YUGOSLAVIA, AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS,  
PETER HOHENFELLNER, CALLED THE MEASURES A "HARSH BUT  
NECESSARY STEP." DURING THE MONTH OF MAY, AUSTRIA  
PRESIDED OVER THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL. HOHENFELLNER

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SAID THE SANCTIONS HAVE BECOME NECESSARY DUE TO THE "RIGID AND IRRESPONSIBLE POSITION OF BOTH THE CIVIL AND THE MILITARY YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES." HE EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT A GREAT DEAL OF SUFFERING COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED IF AUSTRIA'S EARLY CALL FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION HAD BEEN GIVEN ATTENTION.

TODAY, ALL MAJOR PAPERS COMMENT ON THE UN DECISION TO IMPOSE STRINGENT SANCTIONS. FOLLOWING ARE TRANSLATED EXCERPTS FROM THE DAILIES "DER STANDARD" AND "DIE PRESSE":

IN "NO PEACE DIVIDEND," FOREIGN-AFFAIRS WRITER KIRCHENGAST FROM THE INDEPENDENT "DER STANDARD" COMMENTS, "...THE SANCTIONS AGAINST SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO ARE TOO LATE FOR THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT VICTIMS OF THIS WAR OF AGGRESSION. AND YET, THEY ARE AN ENORMOUS LEAP FORWARD: THE DEBATE ABOUT AN EFFICIENT INSTRUMENT TO PRESERVE PEACE AFTER THE END OF THE EAST/WEST CONFRONTATION HAS BECOME MORE INTENSIVE. IT IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE OBVIOUS THAT NATO, BEING THE ONLY INTACT AND DEMOCRATICALLY LEGITIMIZED SECURITY ALLIANCE, CANNOT ESCAPE ITS NEW RESPONSIBILITY..."

WITHOUT A POSSIBILITY FOR A MILITARY INTERVENTION ON AN INTERNATIONAL BASIS, WE WILL BE UNABLE TO GET KEEP CONFLICTS SUCH AS THAT IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA AT BAY. WE SHOULD QUICKLY INVEST IN SUCH AN INSTRUMENT. OTHERWISE, THE PEACE DIVIDEND RESULTING FROM THE FALL OF COMMUNISM WILL REMAIN A PIPE DREAM."

IN "GOOD BUT LATE," INDEPENDENT "DIE PRESSE" COMMENTS, "AGAIN, THE UNITED NATIONS CONDEMNED A BRUTAL AGGRESSOR AND IMPOSED SANCTIONS ON HIM. WHAT SHOWED LITTLE EFFECT IN IRAQ MAY BE SUCCESSFUL IN SERBIA. THE STATE OF SERBIA'S ECONOMY IS AS RUINOUS AS THAT OF A DEVELOPING COUNTRY... YET, HAD THE DECISION BEEN TAKEN A FEW MONTHS AGO, WHEN AUSTRIA FIRST SUGGESTED SANCTIONS, THE PEOPLES OF YUGOSLAVIA WOULD HAVE BEEN SPARED MUCH SUFFERING."

2. INTERVIEW WITH OUTGOING PRESIDENT WALDHEIM: IN A RADIO INTERVIEW ON MAY 30, THE OUTGOING AUSTRIAN FEDERAL PRESIDENT **KURT WALDHEIM** LOOKED BACK ON HIS ELECTION CAMPAIGN IN 1986 AND THE PAST SIX YEARS OF HIS TERM. HE SAID HE LEFT HIS CURRENT FUNCTION "WITH A SENSE OF RELIEF." HE HAD SUFFERED IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE PRESIDENT AS WELL AS PERSONALLY. HE JUSTIFIED HIS DECISION NOT TO RESIGN HIS OFFICE BY EXPLAINING THAT HE WAS CONVINCED, "SUCH A STEP WOULD HAVE CAUSED INSTABILITY AND PROBLEMS FOR AUSTRIA." WALDHEIM SAID HE WOULD NOT HAVE RUN FOR PRESIDENCY HAD HE KNOWN "IN WHAT ABOMINABLE WAY HIS UPRIGHT LIFE WOULD BE INTERPRETED." HE ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT HE MAY HAVE OUTWARDLY DEMONSTRATED "TOO LITTLE COMPASSION FOR THE VICTIMS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM" AND EXPLAINED THIS REACTION WITH HIS "FEELINGS OF SHOCK AND DEEP HURT AT THE FACT THAT HE WAS CALLED A NAZI."

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WALDHEIM EMPHASIZED THAT HE HAD ALWAYS HAD A "CLEAN SLATE" AND THAT HE WOULD NEVER HAVE BELIEVED GOVERNMENTS, AMONG THEM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, CAPABLE OF SUCH BEHAVIOR. THE WATCHLIST DECISION WAS ALIEN TO THE WESTERN WORLD'S LEGAL UNDERSTANDING.

WALDHEIM'S SUCCESSOR THOMAS KLESTIL SAID IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE GERMAN NEWS MAGAZINE "SPIEGEL" THAT THE WATCHLIST DECISION OUGHT TO BE ELIMINATED. (DIE PRESSE, P.2)  
SPRINGER

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

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