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SUBJECT: WALDHEIM: IS A CAMPAIGN FOR UN 50TH ANNIVERSARY  
INVITATION UNDERWAY?

REF A) VIENNA 8200, B) VIENNA 8136, C) VIENNA 2676

1. THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST -- SEE PARAGRAPH 7.

2. SUMMARY: A SEPTEMBER 19 "PROFIL" ARTICLE HINTS AT  
BEHIND-THE-SCENES EFFORTS BY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS TO  
PRESS FOR KURT WALDHEIM'S PARTICIPATION IN THE 50-YEAR  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE UN IN NEW YORK IN 1995. REPORTEDLY, FM  
ALOIS MOCK, WALDHEIM'S FORMER SENIOR PRESIDENTIAL AIDE  
RALPH SCHEIDE, THE MFA'S LEGAL ADVISOR FRANZ CEDE, AS WELL  
AS AUSTRIAN UN AMBASSADOR ERNST SUCHARIPA AND AMBASSADOR  
HELMUT TUERK IN WASHINGTON HAVE ALL BEEN DRAFTED TO PLEAD

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WALDHEIM'S CASE. BUT, ACCORDING TO "PROFIL", EACH OF THEM REALIZES THAT CHANCES ARE LIMITED. THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF "KURIER," HANS RAUSCHER, A PERSISTENT CRITIC OF WALDHEIM, ADVOCATES THE UN INVITE ITS FORMER SECRETARY-GENERAL. REPORTEDLY AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR FRANZ VRANITZKY HAS ALREADY RECEIVED AN INVITATIONS FOR THE EVENT, PRESIDENT THOMAS KLESTIL EXPECTS TO BE INVITED AS WELL. END SUMMARY.

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FM MOCK MAY DISCUSS INVITATION WITH UN SECRETARY GENERAL  
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3. IN A SEPTEMBER 19 ARTICLE ENTITLED "OPERATION EAST COAST," THE AUSTRIAN WEEKLY "PROFIL" -- THE LIBERAL MAGAZINE WHICH IN 1986 PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN PUBLISHING COMPROMISING MATERIAL REGARDING WALDHEIM'S WAR-TIME RECORD -- GAVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO POSSIBLE "BEHIND-THE-SCENES" EFFORTS BY HIGH-RANKING FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS TO FACILITATE FORMER PRESIDENT **KURT WALDHEIM'S** ATTENDANCE AT THE 50-YEAR COMMEMORATIONS OF THE UN IN NEW YORK. "PROFIL" NOTED THE CONSIDERABLE RELUCTANCE INTERNATIONALLY TO ADDRESS THE WALDHEIM ISSUE, BUT CONTINUED THAT FM ALOIS MOCK REPORTEDLY WILL RAISE THE ISSUE WHEN HE MEETS UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS GHALI ON SEPTEMBER 28. PROFIL QUOTES MOCK SAYING THAT "WHAT WAS DONE TO HIM (WALDHEIM) IS A BIG SCANDAL. AFTER ALL, MITTERRAND WAS FRIENDS WITH THE FRENCH HIMMLER." IN ADDITION, "PROFIL" REPORTED THAT AUSTRIA'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UN, ERNST SUCHARIPA -- AN ALLY OF THE WALDHEIM-CRITICAL SOCIAL-DEMOCRATS -- HAS BEEN CALLED UPON BY "MOCK'S PEOPLE" TO CREATE "GOOD WILL" FOR WALDHEIM AT THE UN. (COMMENT: THE TIMING OF THE ARTICLE AND THE CREDENTIALS OF "PROFIL" SUGGEST THE ARTICLE MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO SCUTTLE THE WALDHEIM CAMPAIGN WHICH MAY BE PLANNED. END COMMENT).

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HIGH LEVEL MFA OFFICIALS LOBBY FOR WALDHEIM INVITATION  
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4. ACCORDING TO "PROFIL" AUSTRIA'S AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, HELMUT TUERK, HAS BEEN ASKED TO LOBBY FOR THE CAUSE. REPORTEDLY, TUERK NOTIFIED THE MFA THAT EFFORTS TO GAIN WALDHEIM ACCESS TO THE STATES "AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN" ARE FUTILE. RALPH SCHEIDE, WALDHEIM'S FORMER TOP PRESIDENTIAL AIDE AND CURRENTLY DEPUTY CHEF-DE-CABINET FOR PRESIDENT KLESTIL, IS SAID TO BE LOBBYING AS WELL. HE EXPECTS "WALDHEIM WILL BE INVITED." IN HIS OPINION, SUCH AN INVITATION TO A FORMER SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD BE "A NORMALITY." THE INTERNATIONAL LAW EXPERT IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, FRANZ CEDE REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN ASKED TO LOOK FOR "LEGAL WAYS TO A SOLUTION."

5. "PROFIL" WRITES THE WALDHEIM SUPPORTERS HOPE FOR A PERSONAL INVITATION BY UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS GHALI. FURTHERMORE, THEY HOPE THE U.S. IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES WILL RESPECT THE AGREEMENT ACCORDING TO WHICH THE UN CAN DECIDE FOR ITSELF WHICH GUESTS IT WANTS TO INVITE.

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"PROFIL" QUOTES A UN DIPLOMAT SAYING "THIS IS OLD STUFF. SO FAR WALDHEIM HAS RECEIVED NO INVITATION." SUGGESTIONS BY SENIOR MFA OFFICIALS THAT WALDHEIM CONSIDER APPEARANCES

IN THE UN CITIES LIKE GENEVA OR VIENNA HAVE BEEN DISMISSED BY THE FORMER PRESIDENT, "PROFIL" NOTES.

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LONG-STANDING WALDHEIM CRITIC ADVOCATES INVITATION  
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6. EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE INVITATION ISSUE AS WELL AS ON THE DEBATE ABOUT WALDHEIM'S AND MITTERRAND'S WARTIME RECORDS CONTINUES TO APPEAR IN THE AUSTRIAN PRESS, ALTHOUGH IT HAS NOT GENERATED ANY NOTABLE REACTION FROM AUSTRIAN CITIZENS. ON SEPTEMBER 21, HANS RAUSCHER, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF "KURIER" AND A PERSISTENT CRITIC OF WALDHEIM SINCE 1986, OPINED THAT WHILE THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE THAT WASHINGTON WOULD REVIEW ITS WATCHLIST DECISION, THE UN SHOULD INVITE WALDHEIM UNDER ITS SPECIAL TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. EARLIER, "PROFIL'S FOREIGN POLICY EXPERT JOSEF HOFFMANN-OSTENHOF ATTACKED AUSTRIAN COMMENTATORS WHO SAW PARALLELS BETWEEN MITTERRAND'S AND WALDHEIM'S WARTIME PAST, SAYING SUCH COMPARISON WAS "AN INSULT TO THE HONORABLE MITTERRAND."

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ACTION REQUEST  
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7. CHANCELLOR FRANZ VRANITZKY REPORTEDLY HAS RECEIVED AN INVITATION TO ATTEND THE UN ANNIVERSARY EVENT NEXT YEAR, AND PRESIDENT THOMAS KLESTIL APPARENTLY EXPECTS TO BE INVITED TOO. IF THIS INFORMATION IS CORRECT, THE DECISION ABOUT A WALDHEIM INVITATION WOULD APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN MADE. EMBASSY REQUESTS INFORMATION ABOUT STATUS OF INVITATIONS TO UN ANNIVERSARY EVENTS. HUNT

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

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