

UNCLASSIFIED

DOCUMENT_ID: 177035059
INQNO: DOC43D 00118280
DOCNO: TEL 008028 97
PRODUCER: VIENNA
SOURCE: STATE
DOCTYPE: IN
DOR: 19970903
TOR: 134807
DOCPREC: O
ORIGDATE: 199709031344
MHFNO: 97 8996546
DOCCLASS: U

HEADER

OO RUEAIIB
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH
MSI7578
OO RUEHC
DE RUEHVI #8028 2461344
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 031344Z SEP 97
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0709
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2977
RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USVIENNA IMMEDIATE
BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS VIENNA 008028

USIS

USIA FOR EUR/AGS, INR/WEA AND INR/P

STATE FOR EUR/AGS, INR/WEA AND INR/P

WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC/WEUORPE

USVIENNA FOR USDEL OSCE AND UNVIE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: AU, PREL, PGOV
SUBJECT: SPECIAL REPORT: CIA OFFICIAL PUBLISHES BOOK
DEFENDING WALDHEIM

SUMMARY:

1. AUSTRIAN TELEVISION, RADIO, AND THE DAILY "KURIER"
RAN REPORTS ON SEPTEMBER 3 ABOUT A BOOK WITH THE TITLE
"HOW TO GET ON THE WATCH LIST." THE BOOK IS WRITTEN BY
FORMER CIA OFFICER JOHN R. MAPOTHER, WHO CLAIMS THAT
FORMER AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT KURT WALDHEIM WAS PUT ON THE

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2007

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT

UNCLASSIFIED

U.S. LIST OF UNWANTED ALIENS "AGAINST THE BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT." FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE MEDIA COVERAGE:

FORMER CIA OFFICIAL CLAIMS "WATCHLIST DECISION" WAS WRONG:

2. BOTH AUSTRIAN TV (ON THE POLITICAL PROGRAM "REPORT"), THE MORNING RADIO NEWS HOUR (EUGEN FREUND FROM WASHINGTON), AND THE MASS-CIRCULATION DAILY "DER STANDARD" REPORTED ON SEPTEMBER 2 AND 3 ABOUT A 192-PAGE BOOK WITH THE TITLE "HOW TO GET ON THE WATCHLIST," WRITTEN BY FORMER CIA OFFICIAL JOHN R. MAPOTHER AND SUB-TITLED "A TRUE STORY FROM AMERICA." AS "KURIER" REPORTS, MAPOTHER WORKED FOR THE CIA IN POST-WORLD WAR II EUROPE AND WAS STATIONED IN VIENNA BETWEEN 1953 AND 1958. AFTER THAT, HE WAS A LEADING OFFICIAL AT THE CIA HEADQUARTERS.

MAPOTHER TOLD JOURNALISTS THAT IN HIS PRIVATE CAPACITY, HE WANTED TO LOOK INTO THE DOCUMENTATION BEHIND THE "WATCHLIST" DECISION IN 1987. HOWEVER, HE WAS REFUSED TO DO SO BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. MAPOTHER FORCED THE OPENING-UP OF THE DOCUMENTS THROUGH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND FOUND THE PROOFS AGAINST WALDHEIM "LACKING SUBSTANCE." THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION OF THE U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT BASED ITS ARGUMENTS ON "QUESTIONABLE AND PARTLY FALSIFIED MATERIAL," "KURIER" QUOTES THE AUTHOR.

MAPOTHER'S BOOK ATTEMPTS TO PROVE THAT "INFLUENTIAL PRESSURE GROUPS AND IMPORTANT MEDIA" WERE BEHIND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S DECISION, AND THAT WALDHEIM WAS STIGMATIZED AS A WAR CRIMINAL "AGAINST BETTER KNOWLEDGE."

FORMER PRESIDENT WALDHEIM TOLD "KURIER" ON SEPTEMBER 2 THAT MAPOTHER'S WORK "CONFIRMS THE INJUSTICE OF THE 'WATCHLIST' DECISION, WHICH UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW IS UNACCEPTABLE, AS IT IS BASED ON AN ASSERTION OF COLLECTIVE GUILT. APART FROM THAT, THE RELEVANT U.S. AUTHORITIES WERE NEGATIVELY INFLUENCED BY WRONG INFORMATION AND MISINTERPRETATIONS."

END WRAP-UP.

SCHILLING, ACTING

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED