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SECRET 091156Z OCT 71 CITE [] 13987

PRIORITY DIRECTOR

9 Oct IN 442965

RYBAT KOBIRD CO STFUTURE

GRCAMERA

REF: DIRECTOR 188946

FROM []

LY

1. HAVE PARTICIPATED IN ALMOST DAILY DISCUSSIONS WITH DCM. AND OTHER SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICIALS FOR SEVERAL WEEKS REGARDING POSSIBLE MEANS PERSUADING AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT OUR "IMPORTANT QUESTION" RESOLUTION. IT SEEMS CLEAR TO ME, AND THIS ESTIMATE IS SHARED BY EMBASSY, THAT KEY ELEMENT TO CURRENT UNCERTAINTY REGARDING AUSTRIAN POSITION IS THE NATIONAL ELECTION ON 10 OCT WHICH WILL DECIDE THE FATE OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT. DESPITE GENERALLY FAVORABLE ESTIMATE OF KREISKY'S CHANCES RANGING FROM SLIGHT TO FAIR POSSIBILITY SOCIALISTS WILL ACHIEVE ABSOLUTE MAJORITY TO VIRTUAL CERTAINTY THAT THEY WILL EMERGE AS NUMERICALLY STRONGEST PARTY, ELECTION WILL TAKE PLACE AND A NEW GOVERNMENT WILL BE FORMED OR BE IN PROCESS BEING FORMED BEFORE CHIREP RESOLUTIONS COME UP FOR UN VOTE.

2. OUR PROGNOSIS HAS BEEN AND CONTINUED BE THAT KREISKY

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

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WILL BE CHANCELLOR OF NEXT AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WHICH MAY HOWEVER, BE SMALL COALITION WITH INDEPENDENT PARTY. KREISKY SO DOMINATES CURRENT GOVERNMENT AND ENTIRE POLITICAL SCENE THAT HE PERSONALLY HAS BEEN THE KEY FACTOR IN THE CHIREP ISSUE. AMBASSADOR THOROUGHLY REVIEWED ISSUE WITH HIM AND PROVIDED KREISKY AIDE MEMOIR SOME TIME AGO (SINCE WHICH TIME KREISKY OF COURSE PREOCCUPIED WITH ELECTION CAMPAIGN). OTHER EMBASSY EFFORTS HAVE CENTERED ON FOREIGN MINISTER K I R C H S C H L A E G E R, SECRETARY GENERAL W O D A K, AND DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL H A L U S A. THESE THREE FOREIGN OFFICE REPRESENTATIVES GENERALLY NONCOMMITTAL PRIOR KIRCHSCHLAEGER VISIT UN WHERE AUSTRIAN DECISION ALLEGEDLY WAS TO BE TAKEN, I.3. IN THIS PAST WEEK. (NOTEWORTHY THAT IN THESE TALKS HALUSA SHOWED RATHER NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD CHINATS, INDICATING DID NOT THINK IT "REALLY MADE ANY DIFFERENCE" IF CHINATS NO LONGER IN UN).

3. APPEARS MAJOR PROGRESS WAS MADE BY SECRETARY OF STATE ROGERS DURING CONVERSATION WITH KIRCHSCHLAEGER THIS WEEK WHEN LATTER APPARENTLY PROMISED AUSTRIAN SUPPORT TO PRIORITY RESOLUTION AND INDICATED AUSTRIA MIGHT BE ABLE VOTE FOR IM-

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PORTANT QUESTION. MY DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES SUCH AS GRCAMERA AND [] INDICATE THEY ARE DISTURBED BY PROPECT OF EXPULSION OF A MEMBER OF UN, BUT I FRANKLY DO NOT BELIEVE MEDIA REPS OR ANYONE ACCESSIBLE [] CAN INFLUENCE THIS ISSUE. KREISKY IS A "LONER" WITHOUT ANY IDENTIFIABLE CLOSE CONFIDANTES IN HIS CABINET OR PARTY. PRE-SUMABLY KIRCHSCHLAEGER WILL INFLUENCE HIS THINKING TO SOME EXTENT BUT SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT KREISKY HIMSELF LONG SERVED AS AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER AND UNDOUBTEDLY FEELS HE HAS EXTENSIVE PERSONAL BACKGROUND RE TECHNICALITIES UN AND CHIREP MATTERS. HENCE DECISION MAY WELL BE HIGHLY PERSONAL CALCULATION ON KREISKY'S PART. NONETHELESS, I THINK IT IMPORTANT TO TRY INFLUENCE FORMIN KIRCHSCHLAEGER AND I FIND IT DISTURBING THAT HE PROCEEDING TO MOSCOW ON 11 OCTOBER IMMEDIATELY AFTER RETURNING FROM NEW YORK OSTENSIBLY TO ATTEND FINAL PERFORMANCE AUSTRIAN STATE OPERA THERE AS OFFICIAL AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT REP. HAVE URGED DCM SEEK APPOINTMENT FOR AMBASSADOR WITH KIRCHSCHALEGER UPON LATTER'S RETURN TO VIENNA.

4. IN ADDITION ARGUMENTS ALREADY USED AND THROUGHLY REFLECTED IN STATE TRAFFIC I HAVE URGED UPON MEDIA REPS AND

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SUGGESTED AMBASSADOR AND DCM CITE IN THEIR TALKS IMPORTANCE OF VIENNA TO PRC AS LIKELY CENTER (OR CERTAINLY ONE OF MAJOR CENTERS) THEIR EUROPEAN EFFORT. KIRCHSCHLAEGER AND OTHER FOREIGN OFFICE REPRESENTATIVES SEEM CONTINUALLY TO DISPLAY SOME APPREHENSION THAT THEIR NEWLY-ESTABLISHED RELATIONS WITH PRC WILL SUFFER SEVERE SETBACK IF THEY SUPPORT US DUAL REPRESENTATION RESOLUTION AND EVEN IF THEY SUPPORT OUR "IMPORTANT QUESTION." ANYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE TO PERSUADE SENIOR AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS THAT THIS IS NOT ACTUALLY THE CASE WOULD I BELIEVE BE VERY MUCH WORTH DOING, BUT DO NOT SEE ANY [] CAPABILITIES WHICH CAN HAVE IMPACT. BEST AVENUES ARE EMBASSY TO FORNOFF (AND KREISKY) HERE AND SENIOR US GOVT REPS TO SENIOR AUSTRIANS ATTENDING UNGA.

5. DEFER FILE. GP-1

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