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TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PINR, CVIS, CA, AU,
SUBJECT: KURT WALDHEIM: OTTAWA JOURNALIST REVIEWS CASE

1. BEGIN SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION. A TWO-PART ANALYSIS OF THE WALDHEIM CASE IN THE OTTAWA CITIZEN NOVEMBER 17 AND 18 MAINTAINS THAT WALDHEIM COVERED UP HIS WARTIME SERVICE BY USING THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICES OF BOTH THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION. ALTHOUGH THE PAPER CLAIMS THAT THE TWO ARTICLES ARE THE RESULT OF SEVERAL MONTHS OF RESEARCH BY THE PAPER'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS ANALYST, ILYA GEROL, MOST OF THE MATERIAL APPEARS TO REPEAT FACTS WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN THE MEDIA OVER THE PAST YEAR. GEROL IS A FORMER SOVIET JOURNALIST WHO DEFECTED IN THE 1970'S. HIS REPORTS FREQUENTLY SUPPORT U.S. POSITIONS ON SUCH ISSUES AS CENTRAL AMERICA AND AFGHANISTAN. END SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION.

2 GEROL COMES TO THE CONCLUSION THAT WALDHEIM WAS ABLE TO LAUNCH AND PROMOTE HIS SUCCESSFUL CAREER IN THE AUSTRIAN FOREIGN SERVICE ONLY WITH THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF BOTH SOVIET AND U.S. INTELLIGENCE

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AGENCIES. GEROL CITES THE 1952 BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH OF WALDHEIM PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WHICH MENTIONS HIS COURT EMPLOYMENT IN MAY 1940 AND THEN SKIPS TO 1944 WHEN WALDHEIM BECAME AN ASSISTANT JUDGE, OMITTING ANY MENTION OF HIS WARTIME ACTIVITIES. U.S. ARMY AND CIA REPORTS ON WALDHEIM, WHICH WERE ALLEGEDLY KEY TO WALDHEIM'S ENTRY INTO THE AUSTRIAN FOREIGN SERVICE, HAD SIMILAR GAPS. GEROL IMPLIES THAT THESE REPORTS NEGLECTED THIS PORTION OF WALDHEIM'S CAREER BECAUSE HE WAS RECRUITED BY U.S. INTELLIGENCE. GEROL ALSO MAINTAINS THAT IN EARLY 1986 FORMER ISRAELI JUSTICE MINISTER MODAI TRIED IN VAIN TO OBTAIN SOME IMPORTANT EVIDENCE FROM THE ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE SERVICE ABOUT WALDHEIM'S POST-WAR CONNECTION WITH ALLIED INTELLIGENCE. THE IMPLICATION IS THAT EVEN 40 YEARS AFTER THE WAR INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES WERE STILL COVERING UP THEIR EARLY POST-WAR RELATIONSHIP WITH WALDHEIM.

3. GEROL ALSO DRAWS THE SOVIETS INTO THE ISSUE, CITING A SAMIZDAT PUBLICATION WHICH QUOTED GROMYKO AS SAYING IN THE MID 1970'S THAT "FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF HIS CAREER, WALDHEIM WAS A FRIEND OF OUR COUNTRY. WE NEVER HAD THE SLIGHTEST HESITATION IN OFFERING HIS CANDIDACY TO THE POST OF SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS. AND AS YOU SEE, COMRADES, WE WERE RIGHT. **KURT WALDHEIM** IS UNBIASED, OBJECTIVE, CONCILIATORY AND A STRONG LEADER WHO IMPROVED THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN THE UN AND HELPED TO MAKE IT A FORUM WHERE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND THE THIRD WORLD WORK TOGETHER FOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE." GEROL MAINTAINS THAT THE SOVIETS SCUTTLED THE 1948 YUGOSLAV REQUEST THAT WALDHEIM BE EXTRADITED TO STAND TRIAL FOR WAR CRIMES.

4. GEROL COMES TO THE CONCLUSION THAT "IT LOOKS PLAUSIBLE THAT WHILE THE KGB DID NOT DIRECTLY RECRUIT WALDHEIM AFTER THE WAR -- UNLIKE THE AMERICANS WHO MOST PROBABLY ESTABLISHED BUSINESSLIKE RELATIONS BETWEEN THEIR MILITARY INTELLIGENCE AND WALDHEIM -- THE SOVIET SPECIAL SERVICES DEALT WITH HIM ON A LEVEL WHICH EXCLUDED DIRECT CO-OPERATION BUT WHICH EVEN ODAY INCLUDES THE POSSIBILITY OF BLACKMAIL... (WALDHEIM) HAD REASON TO ASSUME THAT BLACKMAIL COULD BE USED AGAINST HIM VERY SUCCESSFULLY. HE HAD MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO PREVENT HIS UNMASKING. AND HE USED THEM BY COOPERATING WITH THE SOVIET UNION LOYALLY AND OBEDIENTLY THROUGHOUT HIS POLITICAL CAREER."

5. EMBASSY IS POUCHING COPIES OF GEROL ARTICLES TO EUR/CEN AND AMEMBASSY VIENNA (BLOCH).
NILES

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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