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E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, AU  
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO.118/87, FOR 06/30/87

1. PRESIDENT WALDHEIM DETERMINED TO SERVE FULL TERM:

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IN RESPONSE TO THE VIENNA SPO'S CALL FOR HIS RESIGNATION, PRESIDENT **KURT WALDHEIM** SAID HE WAS DETERMINED TO COMPLETE THE REMAINING FIVE YEARS OF HIS TERM. THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT SHARPLY REJECTED THE "SLANDERS AND INSULTS" WHICH HAD BEEN VOICED RECENTLY IN AUSTRIA AND ABROAD. IN AN INTERVIEW WALDHEIM PRAISED THE SPO LEADERSHIP'S OPPOSITION TO THE ANTI-WALDHEIM RESOLUTION. NEVERTHELESS, THE RESOLUTION CONTINUED TO PROVOKE NEGATIVE COMMENTS BY OVP POLITICIANS, WHILE LEADING SPO FIGURES TRIED TO FINESSE THE ANTI-WALDHEIM MOVE. SOME EDITORIALS SAID THE RESOLUTION WAS THE WORK OF FRUSTRATED LEFTIST SPO CIRCLES. MEANWHILE, THE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY'S YOUTH ORGANIZATION HAS SAID THE SOCIALIST YOUTH WILL TABLE A SIMILAR MOTION AT THE SPO CONGRESS THIS FALL. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, SOCIALIST AZ, ET.AL., JUNE 30)

2. POSSIBLE INFORMAL MEETING BETWEEN VON WEIZSAECKER AND WALDHEIM:

A SPOKESMAN OF FRG PRESIDENT RICHARD VON WEIZSAECKER TOLD THE DAILY "DIE PRESSE" THAT AN INVITATION TO AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT WALDHEIM WAS CURRENTLY NOT BEING CONSIDERED. IN RESPONSE TO A DIRECT QUESTION WEIZSAECKER'S SPOKESMAN DID NOT RULE OUT "AN INFORMAL MEETING" BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS THIS YEAR. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, JUNE 30)

3. PRESIDENT WALDHEIM TO LEAVE FOR STATE VISIT TO JORDAN:

PRESIDENT WALDHEIM WILL LEAVE TOMORROW, JULY 1, FOR AN OFFICIAL 4-DAY STATE VISIT TO JORDAN. HIS TIMETABLE INCLUDES TWO ROUNDS OF TALKS WITH KING HUSSEIN, EXCURSIONS TO POINTS OF INTEREST, AND A TOUR OF AN AUSTRIAN-BUILT POTASH PLANT. (SEMI-OFFICIAL WIENER ZEITUNG, ORF NEWS, JUNE 30)

4. NEW AUSTRIAN AMB. TO U.S.:

FORMER AUSTRIAN AMB. TO AUSTRALIA FRITZ HOESS WILL BE APPOINTED NEW AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S., REPORTS SAID. HOESS HAS ALSO SERVED AS CONSUL GENERAL IN WEST BERLIN AND AS COUNSELOR IN ISRAEL. HE IS CURRENTLY MEMBER OF THE "BUNDESRAT", THE SECOND PARLIAMENTARY CHAMBER, AND ACTS AS "AMBASSADOR" OF THE PROVINCE OF STYRIA TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, JUNE 30)

5. INCREASED PRESSURE ON OVP DEPUTY MAYOR OF LINZ TO RESIGN OVER CHARGES OF ANTI-SEMITISM:

SPO, OVP AND GREEN POLITICIANS AS WELL AS SOME MEDIA HAVE ACCUSED OVP DEPUTY MAYOR OF LINZ CARL HOEDL OF BLATANT ANTI-SEMITISM IN CONNECTION WITH HOEDL'S LETTER TO WJC PRESIDENT EDGAR BRONFMAN. IN THIS LETTER, WHICH WAS ALSO SENT TO U.S. AMB. RONALD LAUDER, THE OVP POLITICIAN COMPARED THE ANTI-WALDHEIM CAMPAIGN BY THE WJC AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WITH THE CRUCIFICATION OF CHRIST BY THE ROMANS AND JEWS. GREEN CHAIRWOMAN FREDA

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MEISSNER-BLAU HAS CALLED ON HOEDL TO RESIGN. (MOST PAPERS, E.G. SOCIALIST AZ, JUNE 30)

6. FOREIGN MINISTRY DETERMINED TO DOWNGRADE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY IN ISRAEL:

AUSTRIA HAS DECIDED NOT TO MAINTAIN ITS DIPLOMATIC UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 09538

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REPRESENTATION IN ISRAEL AT THE CURRENT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL AFTER CURRENT AMB. OTTO PLEINERT LEAVES HIS POST, "DIE PRESSE" WROTE TODAY. THE DECISION CAME IN RESPONSE TO ISRAELI RELUCTANCE TO ENTER INTO A PRODUCTIVE DIALOGUE AFTER THE WALDHEIM AFFAIR, A REPORT NOTED. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, HOWEVER, DISMISSED NEWS REPORTS THAT IT WAS CONSIDERING CLOSING ITS TEL AVIV EMBASSY. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, JUNE 30)

7. FM MOCK DEFENDS MEETING WITH IRANIAN FM:

FM ALOIS MOCK YESTERDAY DEFENDED HIS MEETING WITH IRANIAN FM VELAYATI SAYING THAT AUSTRIA WAS PREPARED TO HEAR THE VIEWS OF THE IRANIANS AND POSSIBLY CONVEY THEM TO OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES IN THE GULF CONFLICT IF APPROPRIATE. IN AIRPORT STATEMENTS BOTH POLITICIANS EXPRESSED EACH COUNTRY'S DESIRE TO EXPAND BILATERAL RELATIONS. LISTING FM MOCK'S RECENT ACTIVITIES (MEETING WITH PLO OFFICIAL BARAKAT LAST SATURDAY, TALKS WITH TURKISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DURING THE MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRAT UNION IN TURKEY, RECEPTION FOR OPEC MINISTERS, VISIT TO JORDAN STARTING TOMORROW, MEETING WITH THE EGYPTIAN FM ON JULY 13), A REPORT REMARKED THAT THE OVP FM WAS OBVIOUSLY PROMOTING AUSTRIA'S MIDDLE EAST POLICY AT PRESENT. (INDEPENDENT DIE PRESSE, JUNE 30)

8. PARLIAMENT TO DEBATE FPO ANTI-PRIVILEGES INITIATIVE:

AN FPO-SPONSORED PEOPLE'S INITIATIVE AGAINST POLITICIANS' PRIVILEGES HAS RECEIVED THE SUPPORT OF 4,6 PERCENT OF THE ELECTORATE, LESS THAN ANTICIPATED BY FPO PARTY LEADER JOERG HAIDER. THE TURN-OUT WAS ENOUGH, HOWEVER, TO SEND THE MOTION TO PARLIAMENT. (ALL PAPERS, E.G. INDEPENDENT KURIER, ORF NEWS, JUNE 30). LAUDER

ADMIN

END OF MESSAGE

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