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TEXT

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO. 33/88, FOR FEB. 22, 1988

1. WALDHEIM - OPINION POLL: THE PROVINCIAL DAILY "SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN" COMMISSIONED THE "INSTITUT FUER GRUNDLAGENFORSCHUNG" (INSTITUTE FOR BASIC RESEARCH, IGF) TO CONDUCT AN OPINION POLL, WHICH YIELDED THE FOLLOWING RESULTS: 45 PERCENT OF A TOTAL OF 522 PERSONS INTERVIEWED ON FEB. 17 AND 18 THOUGHT THAT WALDHEIM SHOULD RESIGN FROM OFFICE, WHEREAS 42 PERCENT FAVORED HIS STAYING ON. ASSUMING ELECTIONS WERE HELD THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY (I.E. FEB. 21), A PLURALITY OF 42

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PERCENT WOULD "IN NO CASE" VOTE FOR WALDHEIM, 11 PERCENT WOULD "RATHER NOT" VOTE FOR HIM, 31 PERCENT WOULD "CERTAINLY" DECIDE IN HIS FAVOR, AND 14 PERCENT THOUGHT THEY "MAY" VOTE FOR HIM. ON A SCALE OF 0 TO 100 SYMPATHY POINTS, WALDHEIM NOW REACHES 42.2 POINTS, COMPARED WITH 53.7 IN JUNE 1986, 59.7 IN JUNE 1985 AND 62.2 POINTS IN MARCH 1985. A MAJORITY OF 55 PERCENT OF AUSTRIANS IS AFRAID OF A DIVISION OF THE NATION BECAUSE OF THE WALDHEIM AFFAIR. CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY REACHED 63.8 POINTS ON THE SYMPATHY SCALE, PEOPLE'S PARTY CHAIRMAN MOCK 40.9 POINTS AND FREEDOM PARTY CHAIRMAN HAIDER 40 POINTS. (SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, FEB. 20/22, P. 1)

2. KRONENZEITUNG: AUSTRIA'S LARGEST DAILY "KRONENZEITUNG" (SUNDAY CIRCULATION 1,293,900), WHICH UNTIL NOW HAS FERVENTLY SUPPORTED WALDHEIM, CARRIED THE FRONT PAGE HEADLINE "NATION SHALL DECIDE ON WALDHEIM! RESIGNATION - YES OR NO" ON SUNDAY, FEB. 21. THE FRONT PAGE TEXT SAID: "THE DISCUSSION REGARDING FEDERAL PRESIDENT DR. **KURT WALDHEIM** HAS BECOME A CRISIS. THE CAMPAIGN HAS REACHED WORLDWIDE DIMENSIONS.... A CLEAR-CUT DECISION HAS TO BE TAKEN.... WE THINK THIS IS THE ONLY WAY OUT OF THE DEAD-END STREET.

3. "ANSCHLUSS" - COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS: THERE ARE MORE AND MORE PROPOSALS TO CANCEL THE COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS PLANNED FOR MARCH 11. THE LATEST SUGGESTION OF THIS KIND WAS EXPRESSED BY (CONSERVATIVE) ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MINISTER GRAF WHEN INTERVIEWED ON THE ORF PROGRAM "PRESSESTUNDE" ON SUNDAY. GRAF'S VIEW WAS ALSO SUPPORTED BY SPOE FLOOR LEADER FISCHER. EARLIER LAST WEEK, SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER DALLINGER (SPOE) AND THE OEVF POLITICIANS ERHARD BUSEK AND KURT BERGMANN HAD ALSO MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF CANCELING THE EVENTS. (DIE PRESSE, P. 1)

4. KNESSET RESOLUTION: CONTRARY TO EARLIER INFORMATION, THE "ANTI-WALDHEIM RESOLUTION" OF THE ISRAELI PARLIAMENT, WHICH SPOKE OF THE "NAZI CRIMINAL **KURT WALDHEIM**," WAS NOT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, BUT ONLY SIGNED BY EIGHT OF THE 120 KNESSET MEMBERS. THE RESOLUTION HAD CREATED STRONG TENSIONS BETWEEN VIENNA AND TEL AVIV. ISRAEL'S FOREIGN MINISTRY STRESSED THE FACT THAT THE RESOLUTION HAS NOTHING IN COMMON WITH THE VIEW TAKEN BY THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT. THE OPINION EXPRESSED IN TEL AVIV ON FRIDAY WAS THAT "UNFOUNDED ATTACKS OF THIS KIND" WOULD ONLY "BENEFIT WALDHEIM." (NEUE AZ, FEB. 20, P.2)

5. KOHL VISITS MOCK: ON HIS RETURN FROM THE U.S.A., WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR HELMUT KOHL PAID A SHORT VISIT TO AUSTRIAN VICE CHANCELLOR MOCK ON FEB. 21. AT THE MEETING, WHICH WAS DESCRIBED AS A PURELY UNOFFICIAL AFFAIR, TALKS MAINLY CONCENTRATED ON AUSTRIA'S ROLE IN EAST-WEST POLITICS AND ON SOME ASPECTS OF AUSTRIA'S MOVE

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TOWARD THE EC IN THE LIGHT OF THE RECENT EC SUMMIT
CHAIRMAN BY KOHL. (DIE PRESSE, P. 1) O'CONNOR

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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