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TEXT

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: CHEMICAL WEAPONS

CENTER-LEFT TAGES-ANZEIGER OF ZURICH HEADLINED "CHEMICAL WEAPONS BAN NEGOTIATIONS ENTER HOMESTRETCH." THE REPORT BEGAN: "THE U.N. CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT IS PREPARING FOR A DIPLOMATIC DECISIVE BATTLE. AFTER 31 YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS OVER A WORLDWIDE OUTLAWING OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS, THE CONCLUSION OF AN AGREEMENT CAN BE PUT OFF NO LONGER. 'SOMEHOW, THE CONFERENCE HAS TO BRING THE MATTER TO A CLOSE THIS YEAR,' SAID ONE WESTERN DIPLOMAT. 'IF A CONSENSUS CANNOT BE FOUND AMONG THE 39 MEMBER-STATES, THEN THE GOVERNMENTS WILLING TO MAKE AN AGREEMENT MUST DO SO AMONG THEMSELVES.' FRANCE HAS ALREADY SENT OUT INVITATIONS TO A SIGNING CEREMONY IN PARIS BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

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"THE UNITED STATES WOULD LIKE TO LIMIT THE POWERS OF THE ORGAN SET UP TO SUPERVISE COMPLIANCE WITH THE EVENTUAL TREATY. WESTERN STATES ACCORDINGLY ENVISAGE A STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH BY INSPECTORS TO THEIR GOAL. THE PROCEDURE WOULD TAKE FIVE DAYS--TIME TO HIDE SUSPICIOUS MATERIAL, THINK ADVOCATES OF A STRICT 'ANYTIME-ANYWHERE' CONTROL. MOREOVER, THE U.S. ONLY WANTS LETHAL CHEMICALS INCLUDED IN THE CONVENTION, NOT IRRITANTS USED BY POLICE AGAINST RIOTERS. MOST WESTERN STATES THINK THAT IN WAR ALL CHEMICAL WEAPONS MUST BE BANNED, OTHERWISE SOLDIERS COULD BE INCAPACITATED BY PARALYZING GASES AND MOWN DOWN BY MACHINE-GUN FIRE."

AUSTRIA

CENTER-RIGHT NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG COMMENTED EDITORIALY MAY 25, UNDER THE TITLE "FRESH PROSPECTS FOR AUSTRIA": "AUSTRIA'S HEAD OF STATE IS AGAIN A DIPLOMAT, LIKE SOME OF HIS PREDECESSORS. FAMILIARITY WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD SEEMS DEMANDED, RATHER THAN DOMESTIC POPULARITY--WHICH VICTOR THOMAS KLESTIL'S OPPONENT STREICHER HAD. **KURT WALDHEIM**, DESPITE HIS INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS AS AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER AND U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL, BECAME A PARIAS THROUGH HIS OWN FAULT. NOT BECAUSE HE WAS GUILTY OF WAR CRIMES, BUT BECAUSE HE DID NOT WANT TO COME TO TERMS WITH HIS OWN PAST AS A NAZI INTELLIGENCE OFFICER IN YUGOSLAVIA AND RESISTED EFFORTS TO PROBE IT. SO THE WORLD TURNED ITS BACK ON HIM. THOMAS KLESTIL WILL NOW WORTHILY REPRESENT AUSTRIA. HE IS NOT ONLY A BRILLIANT DIPLOMAT BUT HAS THE POLITICAL AND HUMAN QUALITIES NEEDED BY A HEAD OF STATE. WITH HIM, AUSTRIA WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE A FRESH START. TRADITION DEMANDS THAT THE NEW PRESIDENT'S FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT IS TO SWITZERLAND--SOMETHING THE SHADOW OVER HIS PREDECESSOR PREVENTED HIS DOING. KLESTIL WILL BE MORE THAN WELCOME IN BERN."

CENTER-RIGHT JOURNAL DE GENEVE COMMENTED MAY 26: "THIS CAREER DIPLOMAT IS WELL PLACED TO PUT AUSTRIA AGAIN IN HARMONY WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD. AFTER SEVERAL YEARS IN WHICH PRESIDENT WALDHEIM WAS BANNED FROM FOREIGN CAPITALS, THE NEW HEAD OF STATE WILL BE ABLE TO RESTORE THE CONTACTS SO NECESSARY FOR AN AUSTRIA WHICH WANTS TO JOIN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY."

HAITI

"GEORGE BUSH ORDERS HAITIAN REFUGEES SENT HOME," SAID A HEADLINE IN JOURNAL DE GENEVE. THE STORY SAID: "PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH SUNDAY ORDERED THE AMERICAN COAST GUARD TO SEND BACK HAITIANS TAKEN UP AT SEA BECAUSE THE REFUGEE CAMP AT THE GUANTANAMO NAVAL BASE IS FULL TO OVERFLOWING."

UNHCR

JOURNAL DE GENEVE TITLED "NELSON MANDELA IS GUEST OF HCR," UNCLASSIFIED

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ON A REPORT BEGINNING: "AFTER LONG AND DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE AMNESTY ALLOWING SOUTH AFRICAN EXILES TO RETURN HOME, THE HIGH COMMISSARIAT FOR REFUGEES LAUNCHED LAST YEAR A PROGRAM TO HELP THE RETURN OF SOME 40,000 OF THEM. THE FIRST UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION TO ESTABLISH ITSELF IN SOUTH AFRICA, THE HCR COLLABORATED FULLY WITH THE PRETORIA AUTHORITIES. IT REPORTED ONLY FOUR DISPUTED CASES--QUICKLY SETTLED--IN SIX MONTHS' WORK. ON MONDAY NELSON MANDELA MET WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER MRS. OGATA AND DISCUSSED WHY SO FEW EXILES HAVE RETURNED--ONLY 7,849 SO FAR HAD APPLIED, MOSTLY IN TANZANIA. THE OTHERS ARE LIVING IN 40-ODD OTHER COUNTRIES. MAYBE THEY HAVE FOUND WORK AND LODGING AND DON'T WANT TO RISK MOVING AGAIN." GARNER

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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