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SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN NEWS ROUND-UP NO. 8, FOR FEBRUARY 2,
1994

SUMMARY:

1. THE FOLLOWING REPORT DEALS WITH CONTINUING PROTESTS
IN AUSTRIA AGAINST THE LOAN GUARANTEES EXTENDED BY THE
EXIMBANK TO THE U.S. COMPANY WESTINGHOUSE TO REBUILD AND

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UPGRADE THE TECHNOLOGY IN A NUCLEAR REACTOR AT TEMELIN, CZECH REPUBLIC, CLOSE TO THE AUSTRIAN BORDER. THE SECOND ITEM IS A STORY IN TODAY'S MASS-CIRCULATION TABLOID "NEUE KRONEN ZEITUNG," WHICH GLEEFULLY REPORTS THAT THE "ORIGINATORS OF THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST (FORMER AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT) WALDHEIM HAVE TURNED OUT TO BE FALSE MORAL PROPHETS." THE ARTICLE HARKS BACK TO THE HOUSE BANKING SCANDAL SEVERAL YEARS AGO, AND MENTIONS TWO NAMES: ELIZABETH HOLTZMAN AND STEPHEN SOLARZ. WE ALSO APPEND A BRIEF NOTE ABOUT THE SEGMENT OF YESTERDAY'S BRIEFING BY U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS SHATTUCK THAT WAS BROADCAST ON THE AUSTRIAN BROADCASTING COMPANY'S MORNING RADIO NEWS-MAGAZINE PROGRAM "MORGENJOURNAL."

GREEN SPOKESMAN CALLS U.S. BACKING OF TEMELIN RECONSTRUCTION "ASSAULT ON AUSTRIANS' VITAL INTERESTS":

2. THE FINANCING OF THE COMPLETION AND UPGRADING OF A NUCLEAR REACTOR IN TEMELIN, IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC, THROUGH CREDIT GUARANTEES EXTENDED BY THE U.S. EXIMBANK HAS BEEN A CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE IN AUSTRIA EVER SINCE THE PROSPECT FIRST AROSE. AUSTRIANS, WHO PERMIT NO NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS ON THEIR OWN SOIL, ARE QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT THE HAZARDS OF THE TEMELIN REACTOR, 60 KILOMETERS FROM THE AUSTRIAN BORDER. IN THE DAYS SINCE THE EXIM BANK ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION LAST THURSDAY, GREENS PARTY POLITICIANS AND EVEN AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY HIMSELF HAVE BEEN VOICING THESE CONCERNS, IN SOME CASES QUITE VOCIFEROUSLY. THE GREENS HAVE CALLED UPON THE CHANCELLOR TO RAISE THE ISSUE WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, THOUGH NEITHER THEY NOR THE CHANCELLOR HOLD OUT MUCH HOPE FOR SUCCESS.

3. THE ARTICLES REFLECT THE AUSTRIAN VIEW THAT THIS IS NOT JUST A BILATERAL U.S./CZECH MATTER. AS "DIE PRESSE" REPORTS TODAY, THE FEDERAL SPOKESMAN OF THE AUSTRIAN GREENS HAS CALLED THE EXIMBANK'S BACKING FOR WESTINGHOUSE AN "AGGRESSIVE ACT AGAINST THE VITAL INTERESTS OF THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLE." HE ADDED THAT THIS, "THE HARDEST ATTACK ON AUSTRIA'S INTERESTS IN AT LEAST THE LAST TWENTY YEARS," SHOULD BE ANSWERED BY THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WITH AN OFFICIAL PROTEST AND THE RECALL OF AUSTRIA'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES. CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY MENTIONED YESTERDAY THAT AUSTRIA WOULD RESUBMIT ITS PROPOSAL, WHICH THE CZECH GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY REJECTED, THAT THE TEMELIN NUCLEAR FACILITY BE TURNED INTO A POWER PLANT FUELED BY NATURAL GAS. THE ISSUE WILL BE DISCUSSED AT TODAY'S PLENARY SESSION OF PARLIAMENT.

"CHIEF WALDHEIM HUNTERS SUSPECTED OF FRAUD!"

4. THIS IS THE TITLE OF A STORY PUBLISHED TODAY IN THE MASS-CIRCULATION TABLOID "NEUE KRONEN ZEITUNG." THE ARTICLE REPORTS THAT ELIZABETH HOLTZMAN, FORMER DISTRICT

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ATTORNEY IN NEW YORK, AND STEPHEN SOLARZ, THE FORMER CONGRESSMAN FROM NEW YORK, WHO BOTH "CONTRIBUTED A GREAT DEAL TO BRANDING **KURT WALDHEIM** A WAR CRIMINAL," ARE SUSPECTED OF HAVING TAKEN OUT ELECTION-CAMPAIGN LOANS UNDER DUBIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES AND OF HAVING BOUNCED CHECKS UNDER DUBIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES RESPECTIVELY. THE PAPER ALSO MENTIONS THAT SOLARZ SHOULD HAVE BECOME U.S. AMBASS

ADOR TO INDIA AND CLAIMS THAT HE "WILL HAVE TO STAY AT HOME BECAUSE OF THIS." THERE IS NO REASON GIVEN WHY THE PAPER IS REPORTING THIS OLD STORY TODAY, WHICH IS WRITTEN WITH A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF GLEEFUL ARROGANCE. STILL, "KRONEN ZEITUNG" HAS BEEN LASHING OUT REGULARLY AT THE UNITED STATES EVER SINCE **KURT WALDHEIM** WAS PLACED ON THE WATCH LIST.

JOHN SHATTUCK ON AUSTRIAN RADIO "MORGENJOURNAL"

5. THE AUSTRIAN BROADCASTING COMPANY'S DAILY HALF-HOUR MORNING RADIO NEWS ROUND-UP "MORGENJOURNAL" BROADCAST A STATEMENT BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN SHATTUCK TODAY, IN WHICH HE SAID THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY OF A COUNTRY WAS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES' RELATIONSHIP WITH THAT COUNTRY. HE ALSO PRAISED THE EFFECTS OF THE VIENNA HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE HELD IN MAY, 1993, AFTER WHICH A UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND A WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL FOR BOSNIA WERE INSTITUTED. THIS WAS APPARENTLY EXCERPTED FROM THE BRIEFING HE AND UNDERSECRETARY WIRTH GAVE YESTERDAY AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, WHEN THE U.S.'S HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS FOR 1993 WERE RELEASED.
SPRINGER

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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