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- A. LEAD STORIES SUMMARY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1996

HEADLINES" BONN DEFENDS
ITSELF AGAINST IRANIAN THREATS WITH A POLICY OF A COOL
HEAD'" (FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE)

"IRAN DISASSOCIATES ITSELF FROM THREATS OF MURDER"
(SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG)

"KINKEL WARNING IRAN AGAINST STIRRING UP CRISIS" (DIE
WELT)

"MOUNTING PRESSURE ON HESSE'S SUPREME JUDGE" (FRANKFURTER
RUNDSCHAU)

"KOHL CALLS UPON TEHRAN TO GUARANTEE SECURITY OF GERMANS
LIVING IN IRAN" (GENERAL-ANZEIGER)

EDITORIALS ARE CONCENTRATED ON THE LATEST
DEVELOPMENTS IN GERMAN-IRANIAN RELATIONS AND ON THE
ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE GERMAN FORESTS.
ZDF-TV'S EARLY EVENING NEWSCAST HEUTE DEALT WITH
CHANCELLOR KOHL'S LETTER TO IRAN'S LEADER RAFSANJANI.

- B. (APEC) MANILA CONFERENCE
 - 1. RAINER KOEHLER REPORTS IN CENTRIST SUEDDEUTSCHE

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ZEITUNG OF MUNICH (11/22) UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"ELEVEN NATIONS ARE WAITING."

"BEFORE THE SHOWDOWN BETWEEN PRESIDENT CLINTON AND HIS COLLEAGUES WILL TAKE PLACE, THE REAL WORK HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE. SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS WEEK, HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS ARE MEETING IN MANILA, AND AS OF FRIDAY, THE MINISTERS ARE DISCUSSING THE AGENDA FOR THE SUMMIT MEETING ON THE COMING SUNDAY. AND IN THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL QUESTION, AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED.... IF THE APPLYING NATIONS FULFILL ALL THE CRITERIA, APEC WILL SOON HAVE 29 MEMBERS INSTEAD OF THE CURRENT 18. THIS WILL BE A VAST MARKET WITH AN IMMENSE ECONOMIC DYNAMISM. THE EU, WHICH HAS TRIED FOR YEARS TO GET AT LEAST THE STATUS OF AN OBSERVER, WILL CERTAINLY NOT REGISTER THIS ENLARGEMENT WITH DELIGHT. THE TIMES ARE OVER WHEN APEC MEETINGS WERE NEGLECTED AS SYMBOLIC MEETINGS.'....

"AT FIRST SIGHT, SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS THAT THE APEC MEMBERS OFFER AS THE FIRST VOLUNTEER CONCESSIONS TO THE REST OF APEC LOOK LIKE PATCHWORK, BUT IT IS STILL MORE THAN THE REST OF THE WORLD WILL GET.... THE TWO LEADERS OF THIS BLOC, THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN, ARE PURSUING FURTHER REACHING AIMS. THE GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON IS STRIVING FOR APEC SUPPORT OF AN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ACCORD THAT COULD BE AGREED UPON DURING THE WTO CONFERENCE IN SINGAPORE IN DECEMBER, WHILE THE GOVERNMENT IN TOKYO WANTS TO ASSERT A BETTER INVESTMENT ATMOSPHERE AT MULTILATERAL LEVEL...."

2. NINA GERSTENBERG REPORTS FROM MANILA IN AN ARTICLE IN RIGHT-OF-CENTER DIE WELT OF BERLIN (11/22) UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"PROTESTS AND STRIKES ARE JEOPARDIZING THE APEC SUMMIT."

"PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT FIDEL RAMOS WANTS TO PRESENT HIS COLLEAGUES THE BEST SIDE OF HIS COUNTRY...BUT HIS COMPATRIOTS COULD PROBABLY FOIL HIS PLAN. ACCORDING TO MANY FILIPINOS, THE 'CLEAN-UP' BEFORE THE SUMMIT WAS TOO VIOLENT. THE RESISTANCE IN THE POPULATION TO APEC IS GROWING. PROTESTS AND STRIKES HAVE ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED. THIS IS WHY IT IS MORE THAN DOUBTFUL THAT THE PREPARATORY TALKS AND THE MEETING OF APEC LEADERS WILL TAKE PLACE WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS.... RAMOS'S STRICT SECURITY MEASURES AND VISA DENIALS...AVE CREATED UNEASE AMONG THE PEOPLE, SINCE THEPHILIPPINES ARE PRAISING THEMSELVES AS A PARTICLARLY FREE COUNTRY IN A REGION THAT IS NOT VERYDEMOCRATIC...."

3. JUERGEN DAUTH HAS THIS TO SAY IN CENTRIST STUTTGARTER ZEITUG (11/22) UNDER THE HEADLINE:

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"APEC SUMMIT WILL SET COURSE FOR THE FUTURE."

"THE 18 LEADERS OF APEC WANT TO START THE PACIFIC CENTURY THIS WEEKEND IN MANILA.... THEY WANT TO MAKE TWO IMPORTANT STEPS FORWARD: THE LIBERALIZATION OF TRADE AND INVESTMENTS AS WELL AS ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION ARE TO BE LAID DOWN.... THE PRIVATE SECTOR OF THE APEC COUNTRIES, HOWEVER, IS IMPATIENT AND IS ACCUSING THE APEC BUREAUCRATS OF UNDECIDEDNESS, SINCE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION HAS BEEN REALITY LONG SINCE.. AND WITHOUT COOPERATION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, THE OUTCOME OF THE MANILA SUMMIT WOULD NOT BE WORTH THE PAPER IT IS WRITTEN UPON.... BUT IT DOES NOT SEEM TO BE THE CASE THAT THE APEC MEMBERS WILL MAKE TOO MANY CONCESSIONS IN MANILA. THE COUNTRY PLANS ARE OFTEN TOO VAGUE AND CHARACTERIZED BY PROTECTIONIST RESERVATIONS. FIDEL RAMOS, HOWEVER, WANTS TO MAKE THE SUMMIT AN MODEL FOR THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION."

4. BUSINESS NEWSPAPER HANDELSBLATT OF DUESSELDORF (11/22) DEALS WITH PRESIDENT CLINTON'S TRIP TO AUSTRALIA AND REPORTS UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"CLINTON AND HOWARD CONCLUDE NEW ASIAN-PACIFIC FRIENDSHIP."

"DURING HIS FIRST STATE VISIT TO AUSTRALIA, U.S. PRESIDENT CLINTON FELT REALLY WELL IN HIS ROLE AS AN INTERNATIONAL STATESMAN AFTER AN ELECTION YEAR WHERE HE HAD TO PLAY MAINLY THE ROLE OF A DOMESTIC POLICY POLITICIAN. IN HIS FIRST FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT AFTER HIS REELECTION, HE GAVE THE AUSTRALIAN ALLY AND HIS ASIAN-PACIFIC NEIGHBORS ASSURANCES THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT WITHDRAW FROM THIS PART OF THE WORLD....

"THIS NEW' CLINTON, WHO HAS WRITTEN FURTHER TRADE LIBERALIZATION ON HIS BANNER, IS CONSIDERABLY DIFFERING FROM THE CLINTON BEFORE HIS REELECTION - INCLUDING HIS VIEW ON CHINA. HE IS NOW STRIVING FOR A COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH BEIJING. IN THIS CONTEXT, DIFFERENCES OF OPINION SUCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS ARE TO BE DEALT WITH IN SEPARATE TALKS TO PREVENT THEM FROM IMPEDING THE OTHER PARTS OF RELATIONS...."

5. PETRA KOLONKO NOTES IN AN EDITORIAL IN RIGHT-OF-CENTER FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE (11/22) UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"CRITICISM OF CHINA."

"BEFORE THE APEC SUMMIT, PRESIDENT CLINTON DEFINED HIS FUTURE POLICY TOWARDS CHINA. HE WANTED INTEGRATION AND NOT CONFRONTATION IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH MORE FREEDOM, PROSPERITY AND TRUE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE NATIONS. THUS, THE U.S. POLICY TOWARDS CHINA AND ASIA HAS AGAIN A

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CLEAR AIM AFTER THE TO-AND-FRO OF THE PAST YEARS. SINCE THE U.S. PRESIDENT WANTS TO MAINTAIN THE U.S. TROOP PRESENCE IN THE PACIFIC BASIN, HIS STATEMENT MET WITH APPROVAL IN EASTERN ASIA AND AUSTRALIA, SINCE THEY HAVE TO LIVE WITH CHINA. HE ALSO SAID THAT DIFFERENCES OF OPINION REMAIN REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT THESE DIFFERENCES MUST BE OPENLY ADDRESSED. HOWEVER, IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT HIS SECRETARY OF STATE STRAYED AWAY FROM THIS POLICY THE NEXT DAY AND SAW HIMSELF PROMPTED TO SAY THAT CHINA HAS MADE PROGRESS WHEN IT COMES TO THE RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THERE IS A NEED TO COOPERATE WITH CHINA, BUT IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO PALLIATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES REGARDING THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT. BUT WESTERN POLITICIANS AGAIN AND AGAIN FALL INTO THE SAME TRAP."

C. (U.S.-U.N.) CONTROVERSY ABOUT BOUTROS GHALI

1. CENTRIST HAMBURGER ABENDBLATT (11/22) OPINES IN AN EDITORIAL:

"THE ISOLATED U.S. VETO AGAINST A SECOND TERM FOR U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS GHALI IS EVIDENCE OF DIPLOMATIC DILETTANTISM. INSTEAD OF FINDING ALLIES IN TALKS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS FOR A REPLACEMENT OF THE EGYPTIAN, PRESIDENT CLINTON PREFERS TO PUT HIS FOOT DOWN IN PUBLIC. HE MAY SCORE SOME DOMESTIC POLICY POINTS WITH THIS, BUT IT WILL PUT OFF LONG-TERM POLITICAL FRIENDS ABROAD. WITH ITS IMPERIALISTIC ATTITUDE, THE UNITED STATES JEOPARDIZES NOT ONLY PEACE WITHIN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, BUT THE EXISTENCE OF THE U.N. AS A WHOLE. AFTER THE END OF THE COLD WAR, FRONTS HAVE RARELY BEEN AS HARDENED AS THEY HAVE BEEN THIS WEEK....

"AT FUTURE DECISIONS, THE OTHER U.N. MEMBER STATES WILL MAKE WASHINGTON FEEL THAT THEY DO NOT CONSIDER THEMSELVES TO BE WASHINGTON'S PUPPETS. NOW IT IS UP TO BOUTROS GHALI TO PLAY THE ROLE OF A PEACEMAKER.... EVEN IF A SOLUTION IS TO BE FOUND BY THE END OF THE YEAR - THE DIPLOMATIC WOUNDS OF THE U.S. VETO WILL NOT HEAL THAT QUICKLY."

2. WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT STEPHAN GOETZ-RICHTER FILED THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL FOR RIGHT-OF-CENTER WEEKLY RHEINISCHER MERKUR OF BONN (11/22) UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"A POOR POWER."

"IT IS REALLY SURPRISING TO SEE WITH WHICH METHODS THE UNITED STATES IS CURRENTLY TRYING TO EXPRESS ITS HEGEMONIC POSITION IN THE WORLD. WITH THE U.S. VETO IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AGAINST BOUTROS GHALI'S REELECTION, THE EGYPTIAN HAS ALMOST BEEN DOWNGRADED TO THE SAME LEVEL AS KURT WALDHEIM WHO STUMBLED OVER HIS NAZI PAST....

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THIS RECALCITRANCE OF THE UNITED STATES IS ALSO SURPRISING BECAUSE, FOR MANY YEARS, AN AMERICAN HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COST MANAGEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

"THIS VETO IS ALSO SURPRISING, BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN IN ARREARS WITH ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE U.N. AND IF THE U.S. CONGRESS IS NOW THREATENING TO PAY THE DEBTS ONLY IF BOUTROS GHALI LEAVES OFFICE, THEN THIS U.S. STATEMENT WILL HAVE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TRAGICOMEDY. THE UNITED NATIONS IS AT THE BRINK OF FINANCIAL BANKRUPTCY BECAUSE OF THE NON-PAYMENT OF U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS RATHER THAN THE LACK OF BOUTROS GHALI'S QUALIFICATIONS.... IT IS TIME THAT THE REELECTED U.S. PRESIDENT SHEDS HIS OLD DOMESTIC POLICY SKIN. THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP OF THE UNITED STATES SHOULD PLAY SUCH SANDBOX GAMES NO LONGER ON THE BACK OF THE REST OF THE WORLD."

D. (NORTH KOREA) NUCLEAR AGREEMENT

LOTHAR RUEHL NOTES IN AN EDITORIAL IN RIGHT-OF-CENTER DIE WELT OF BERLIN (11/22) UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"SUSPICION OF HAVING NUCLEAR WEAPONS."

"THE PYONGYANG GOVERNMENT HAS NOW THREATENED TO SUSPEND THE 'FREEZE' ABOUT THE DECOMMISSIONING...OF THE NORTH KOREAN GRAPHITE REACTOR...WHICH PRODUCES WEAPONS-GRADE PLUTONIUM. THIS WOULD RAISE THE QUESTION OF WHETHER NORTH KOREA WANTS TO BUILD NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE SUSPICION HAS NEVER BEEN REMOVED THAT NORTH KOREA, BY CIRCUMVENTING THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY, COVERTLY WANTS TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR ARMS. NORTH KOREA HAS NOT STUCK TO THE 'SAFEGUARD' AGREEMENT WITH THE IAEA IN VIENNA SINCE 1993 AND REFUSED SPECIFIC INSPECTIONS IN TWO PLANTS AT A MILITARY COMPLEX. THE GENEVA AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH KOREA SAVES PYONGYANG FROM THESE INSPECTIONS AND IS SATISFIED WITH THE STATE OF 1994. THUS IT IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE TO FIND OUT WHETHER NORTH KOREA VIOLATED THE AGREEMENT WITH THE IAEA.

"THE GENEVA AGREEMENT WILL ONLY MAKE SENSE IF THERE ARE NO LONGER ANY DOUBTS ABOUT NORTH KOREA'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. AS FAR AS POLITICS IS CONCERNED, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENEVA AGREEMENT IS DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF PYONGYANG'S HOSTILITY TOWARDS THE GOVERNMENT IN SEOUL. THE COMMUNIST REGIME WANTS TO BYPASS SOUTH KOREA, WHICH HAS TAKEN OVER THE BRUNT OF THE COSTS IN THIS INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM, FOR FEAR OF THE NATIONAL UNIFICATION POLICY OF THE SOUTH."

E. (GERMANY-IRAN) RELATIONS

1. RUEDIGER KAMINSKI COMMENTED ON REGIONAL RADIO

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STATION WESTDEUTSCHER RUNDFUNK OF COLOGNE (11/21):

"IN TEHRAN, THE VIEW IS SLOWLY GAINING THE UPPER HAND TO KEEP A COOL HEAD, SOMETHING WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER KINKEL DEMANDS FROM THE GERMAN SIDE. KHAMENEI AND RAFSANJANI HAVE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE VIEW OF THE FEDERAL PROSECUTORS IN A TRIAL CANNOT BE EQUATED WITH THE POSITION OF THE BONN GOVERNMENT OR THE GERMANS. IN BONN, THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD REALIZE THAT THE RADICAL DEMANDS OF SOME...PROTESTERS (IN IRAN) CANNOT BE EQUATED WITH THE STANCE OF THE RELIGIOUS-POLITICAL LEADERSHIP OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC. IF BOTH SIDES ACT THAT WAY, SOME PRESSURE CAN BE TAKEN AWAY FROM THE STRAINED RELATIONS. THEN THE CRITICAL DIALOGUE CAN CONTINUE...."

"I WOULD LIKE TO ASK ALL THOSE WHO DEMAND A BREAK OF RELATIONS WHAT ALTERNATIVE THERE IS TO (THE CRITICAL DIALOGUE). AN ISOLATIONIST POLICY LIKE THE ONE OF THE AMERICANS WOULD BE A DECLARATION OF BANKRUPTCY OF FOREIGN POLICY.... A MORE RELAXED ATTITUDE ON BOTH SIDES IS ADVISABLE, AND REASON SHOULD NOT BE SWITCHED OFF...."

2. REGIONAL RADIO STATION NORDDEUTSCHER RUNDFUNK OF HAMBURG (11/22) AIRED THE FOLLOWING COMMENTARY BY JUERGEN LEITHOLD:

"IRAN IS A DICTATORSHIP THAT MERCILESSLY PERSECUTES ITS OPPONENTS AT HOME AND ABROAD. THE UNITED STATES IS CALLING UPON ITS WESTERN ALLIES TO ISOLATE THE MULLAHS SUCH AS STATE TERRORIST SADDAM HUSSEIN. BUT THE GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON MAINTAINS THE BEST RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA. BUT THE SAUDIS ARE CONSIDERED FRIENDS WITH SOME MINOR MISTAKES, SINCE THEY OFFER A DEPLOYMENT BASIS AGAINST SADDAM OR THE MULLAHS. SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG WITH THE COORDINATES...."

3. THOMAS AVENARIUS OPINES IN AN EDITORIAL IN CENTRIST SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG OF MUNICH (11/22) UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"THREATS OF MURDER FROM IRAN."

"OBVIOUSLY, THE RADICALS CONSIDER THE MYKONOS TRIAL...TO BE A CHANCE TO LAUNCH THEIR OWN INTRIGUES. THIS IS ALSO THE EXPLANATION WHY, AFTER THE GHOM PROTESTS, IRAN'S RELIGIOUS LEADER TOOK TO THE FLOOR IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS AND SAID THAT THE REAL ENEMIES OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC WOULD NOT BE IN BONN, BUT IN WASHINGTON AND JERUSALEM. THIS WAS A CLEAR SIDING WITH PRESIDENT RAFSANJANI, SINCE, FOR THE ORDINARY PEOPLE, THANKS TO THE TRANSLATION OF THE RADICALS, THE MYKONOS TRIAL READS AS FOLLOWS: WITH RAFSANJANI'S POLICY, WHICH IS MODERATE FOR IRANIAN RELATIONS, A SITUATION WILL BE CREATED THAT RESULTS IN

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THE FACT THAT THE RELIGIOUS LEADER ALLOWS UNFAITHFUL TO INSULT HIM. IRRESPECTIVE OF THE OUTCOME OF THE MYKONOS TRIAL, THE VERDICT HAS LONG SINCE BEEN PART OF THE POWER STRUGGLE IN IRAN."

4. CENTRIST GENERAL-ANZEIGER OF BONN (11/22)
CARRIES AN EDITORIAL BY THOMAS WITTKE SAYING:

"THE BONN GOVERNMENT MUST QUICKLY DEFINE ITS RELATIONS WITH A COUNTRY THAT DECLARES OUR CLOSE ALLIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL TO BE ITS MAIN ENEMIES, PRONOUNCES THREATS OF MURDER AGAINST GERMAN NATIONALS AND TERRORIZES OPPOSITION POLITICIANS AT HOME AND ABROAD. THIS CLARIFICATION IS NECESSARY WITH A VIEW TO THE UPCOMING VERDICT IN THE MYKONOS TRIAL. THE BONN GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT RESIST THE BEGINNING OF A STAGE OF UNFRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH TEHRAN IF THE MULLAH REGIME DOES NOT LEARN TO TOLERATE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE GERMAN RULE OF LAW. AND IT WILL CERTAINLY NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO GERMANY AS AN INDUSTRIAL SITE IF PROJECTS WITH IRAN, WHICH WERE AGREED UPON BEFORE, WILL BE CONTINUED BUT NO NEW PROJECTS BE CONCLUDED. BUT THIS STRATEGIC BUNDLE OF A MORE ROBUST POLICY TOWARDS TEHRAN SHOULD NOT RESULT IN DEFAMATION CAMPAIGNS AGAINST ISLAM IN PUBLIC."
EARLE

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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