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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA AU

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CITE: (U) INITIATIVE.

SERIAL: (U) IIR 6 806 0075 97.

TEXT

COUNTRY: (U) AUSTRIA (AU).

//IPSP: (U) PG 2200; ICC1516//.

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DB 22284

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COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJECT: IIR 6 806 0075 97/RIGHT WING EXTREMISM -- A CONTINUING
PROBLEM IN AUSTRIA (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY
EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED
C O N F I D E N T I A L.

- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 970327.

REQS: (U) INITIATIVE.

SOURCE: A. (U) MINISTRY OF INTERIOR DOCUMENT ON RIGHT WING
EXTREMISM, 970322, IN GERMAN. OFFICIAL AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT
DOCUMENT BELIEVED TO BE RELIABLE.

B. (U) BOOKLET, "INCORRIGIBLY RIGHT," VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 960000
(U), IN ENGLISH. ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF ORIGINAL GERMAN TEXT
PUBLISHED BY THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE AND THE DOCUMENTATION
CENTER OF AUSTRIAN RESISTANCE.

C. (U) MEMBER USDAO VIENNA.

SUMMARY: (C) REPORT FORWARDS A STUDY OF RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM IN
AUSTRIA INCLUDING COMMENTS ON THE CRIMINAL CODE, CURRENT
SITUATION AND PUBLIC SERVICE RESPONSIBILITIES. ENCLOSURES.

TEXT: 1. (U) THE CRIMINAL CODE IN AUSTRIA IS DESIGNED TO HINDER
THE RETURN TO POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY OF THE NATIONAL SOCIALISTS.
SOURCE (A) CITES SOME SPECIFIC CRIMES UNDER THE CODE AND SPECIFIC
PENALTIES ATTACHED TO THE CRIMES. FOR EXAMPLE --

SECTION 3B

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS OR ALLIANCES DESCRIBED IN SECTION
3A THROUGH MONETARY OR OTHER MEANS, TO INCLUDE SIMPLE MEMBERSHIP,
IS PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT FROM FIVE TO TEN YEARS, 20 YEARS IF
DANGEROUS MEANS ARE APPLIED. MEMBERSHIP CAN BE FORMAL, INFORMAL,
OR MERE ASSOCIATION WITH MEMBERS.

2. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE (A)

-- THE HARSH PENALTIES FOR CRIMES LED TO MOST CASES BEING
DISMISSED (FROM 1984 TO 1990 ONLY EIGHT OF 676 TRIALS LED TO
CONVICTIONS). IN 1992 AN AMENDMENT WAS PASSED TO THE CATCH ALL
PHRASE OF THE LAW GIVING JUDGES MORE LATITUDE IN SENTENCING.
SINCE 1992 CLOSE TO 60 RIGHT-WING EXTREMISTS HAVE BEEN SENTENCED.
-- SINCE THE REUNIFICATION OF GERMANY AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION,
NATIONALISM/RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM HAS INCREASED IN AUSTRIA. RIGHT
WING IDEOLOGIES, HATE OF FOREIGNERS, RACISM, AND THE OCCULT
CONTINUE TO RISE.

-- IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL PUBLIC SERVANTS TO UNDERSTAND, RECOGNIZE
AND HELP THE AUTHORITIES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST RIGHT-WING
EXTREMISM.

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3. (U) ONE OF THE AUTHORS OF SOURCE (B), "INCORRIGIBLY RIGHT," MR. WOLFGANG ((NEUGEBAUER)), SPOKE TO MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY VIENNA COUNTRY TEAM ON RIGHT WING EXTREMISM IN AUSTRIA. MR. NEUGEBAUER AND THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT BELIEVE THAT ALTHOUGH RIGHT WING EXTREMIST ACTIVITY HAS DECLINED SINCE PASSAGE IN 1992 OF THE LAW WHICH FORBIDS NAZI ACTIVITY AND DEMONSTRATIONS, THE POTENTIAL FOR RIGHT WING EXTREMIST ACTIVITY IS STILL GREAT.

4. (U) MR. NEUGEBAUER STATED THAT THE FREEDOM PARTY OF AUSTRIA (FPO) IS THE MOST EXTREME RIGHT WING POLITICAL PARTY IN THE COUNTRY. MR. NEUGEBAUER ALSO SAID THAT THE LEADER OF THE FPO, MR. JORG ((HAIDER)), (WHOM HE COMPARES TO A PROMINENT U.S. KU KLUX KLAN MEMBER IN POLITICAL TERMS), IS DRAMATIC AND PERSUASIVE. HAIDER HAS SUCCESSFULLY CONVINCED MANY AUSTRIANS THAT HIS PARTY IS THE PARTY OF THE FUTURE. HE TARGETS THE OLDER GENERATION, WITHOUT DIFFICULTY, BECAUSE THEY WERE PARTICIPANTS IN WWII AND AREN'T LIKELY TO ADMIT TO THE KINDS OF WAR CRIMES OF WHICH AUSTRIA HAS BEEN ACCUSED. HE CONVERTS THE MIDDLE AGED GENERATION BY ATTACKING AUSTRIA'S LEADERS AS ELITISTS WHO REALLY DON'T CARE ABOUT THE AVERAGE AUSTRIAN. HE SUCCEEDS WITH THE YOUTH THROUGH RHETORIC WHICH EMPHASIZES THAT HIS PARTY CAN PROVIDE THEM SOMETHING THEY DO NOT HAVE -- JOBS. (RO NOTE -- IN ELECTIONS HELD IN OCTOBER 1996 THE FPO CAPTURED 27.6 PERCENT OF THE POPULAR VOTE IN AUSTRIA.)

COMMENTS: 1. (C) SOURCE IS AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER EXPLOITATION/CONTACT CONCERNING THE CONTENTS OF THIS IIR.

2. (U) POC IS SECURE 981-7195; STU III (703) 907-1865.

3. (C) FIELD COMMENT. SOURCE (C) REPORTED THAT MR. ((NEUGEBAUER)), IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY THE AMBASSADOR, STATED THAT IT WAS APPROPRIATE THAT KURT ((WALDHEIM)) WAS ADDED TO "THE WATCHLIST".

4. (C) EMBASSY COMMENT. HAIDER AND HIS PARTY CERTAINLY ATTRACT RIGHT-WINGERS, BUT IT WOULD BE AN OVERSIMPLIFICATION TO SAY THAT HIS IS A ONE-ISSUE PARTY. HIS ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE ENTRENCHED POLITICAL SPOILS SYSTEM, FOR EXAMPLE, AS WELL AS HIS ADVOCACY OF ECONOMIC PRIVATIZATION AND NATO MEMBERSHIP FOR AUSTRIA, ARE ATTRACTIVE TO MORE MODERATE CONSERVATIVES WITHIN THE BODY POLITIC.

ADMIN

INSTR: (U) US NO.

PREP: (U) 6-01744.

ENCL: (U) TO FOLLOW: 4 ENCLOSURES.

1. REPORT, "RECHTSEXTREMISMUS PHAENOMENBEWAELTIGUNG AKTUELL" (RIGHT WING EXTREMISM - DEALING WITH THE PHENOMENA TODAY) (U), 1 CY, 49 PAGES, 900200, IN GERMAN.
2. TRANSLATION SUMMARY, "MINISTRY OF INTERIOR DOCUMENT ON RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM" (U), 1 CY, 10 PAGES, 970326, IN ENGLISH.
3. SUMMARY NOTES (U), "NOTES FROM COUNTRY TEAM LUNCH" (U), 1 PAGE WITH 2 HANDOUTS, 'UNDATED, IN ENGLISH.
4. BROCHURE, "INCORRIGIBLY RIGHT" (U), 1 CY, 64 PAGES, 960000 (U), IN ENGLISH.

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ACQ: (U) AUSTRIA, VIENNA (970429).
DISSEM: (U) FIELD: EMBASSY AT VIENNA. SENT TO: NONE.
WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED C O N F I D E N T I A L.
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