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PAGE 01  VIENNA 6961 01 OF 02  081419Z
ACTION EUR-01
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E.O. 12356: N/A
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PRESS SUMMARY NO. 120, FOR AUGUST 6,
1990
1. STATE FUNERAL OF FORMER CHANCELLOR KREISKY: THE
FUNERAL CEREMONY FOR LATE FORMER CHANCELLOR KREISKY ON
JULY 7, 1990, WAS EXTENSIVELY COVERED BY ALL AUSTRIAN
MEDIA. ALL DAILIES RUN REPORTS ON THE TOPIC; ORF RAN A
LIVE COVERAGE OF THE EVENT FROM 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
REGARDING THE OFFICIAL U.S. REPRESENTATION AT THE
FUNERAL, ORF COMMENTED ON ITS TV COVERAGE AS FOLLOWS:
"BOTH SUPERS-POWERS DID NOT DECIDE ON THEIR OFFICIAL
REPRESENTATIVES UNTIL SHORTLY BEFORE THE CEREMONY. THE
USER'S REPRESENTATIVE WAS GEORGI ARBATOV. THE UNITED
STATES SENT THE U.S. EMBASSADOR TO BONN AND FORMER CIA
DIRECTOR VERNON WALTERS AS PRESIDENT BUSH'S SPECIAL
AMBASSADOR. BOTH SUPERS-POWERS ARE AT THE MOMENT WORRIED
ABOUT THE SITUATION AT THE GULF; THIS MAY HAVE
INFLUENCED THE U.S. IN ITS DECISION NOT TO SEND A
REPRESENTATIVE DIRECTLY FROM WASHINGTON."
THE INDEPENDENT DAILY "DIE FRESSE" OF JULY 9 ALSO
MENTIONS THE OFFICIAL U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AT THE
FUNERAL, VERNON WALTERS, BY NAME. (DIE FRESSE, P.3;
ORF LIVE TV COVERAGE OF KREISKY FUNERAL, AUGUST 7)
2. PLO CHIEF ARARAFAT IN VIENNA: BEFORE ATTENDING THE
STATE FUNERAL FOR LATE FORMER CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY,
PLO CHIEF JASSIR ARARAFAT KET WITH AUSTRIAN FEDERAL
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PRESIDENT WALDHEIM. THEIR CONVERSATION FOUCSED ON THE DIFFICULT SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST. AFTER THE FUNERAL, ARAFAT TALKED TO AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY FOR ABOUT HALF AN HOUR. VRANITZKY AND ARAFAT GAVE AN INTERVIEW AFTERWARDS, WHICH ORF BROADCAST IN ITS DAILY EVENING NEWS PROGRAM "ZEIT IM BILD I". DURING THEIR TALK, THE AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR MADE IT CLEAR THAT AUSTRIA IS FULLY PARTICIPATING IN THE SANCTIONS IMPOSED ON IRAQ. ARAFAT WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT HE IS VERY UNHAPPY ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE GULF. HE CONSIDERED THE SITUATION DANGEROUS AND SAID EVERYTHING HAD TO BE DONE TO ALLOW AN INNER-ARAB SOLUTION. HE REFUSED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AS TO WHY HE IS NOT CONDEMNING IRAQ'S AGGRESSION.

ASKED WHAT HE CONSIDERED KREISKY'S POLITICAL HERITAGE TO THE MIDDLE EAST, HE SAID "WE HAVE TO FOLLOW IN THE LINE OF KREISKY'S PRINCIPLES, WHICH ARE FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY, AND HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS". ARAFAT REFUSED TO RESPOND TO A QUESTION AS TO WHAT HE IS DOING TO CONVINCE IRAQ OF THESE PRINCIPLES. (DIE PRESSE, P.2; ORF DAILY EVENING NEWS ROUND-UP, AUGUST 7)


WHILE A BAN ON ARMS SUPPLIES AND A TRADE EMBARGO POSE NO LEGAL PROBLEMS, THE LOCKING OF IRAQI AND KUWAITI ACCOUNTS IS, ACCORDING TO THE HEAD OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL SECTION AT THE OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR, A "VERY DELICATE QUESTION". (DIE PESSE, -P.4)

4. AUSTRIAN DAILIES REPORT OF NEWS ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION: SEVERAL MAJOR AUSTRIAN DAILIES RUN A REPORT, BASED ON A WIRE-SERVICE STORY, ON U.S. CITIZEN RICKY DON WHITE'S CLAIM THAT THREE AGENTS OF THE U.S. SECRET SERVICE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR JOHN F. KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION AND THAT HIS FATHER HAD ASSASSINATED THE FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT. (DER STANDARD, P.4; NEUE KRONEN BT

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