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SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION REPORT, LONDON, THURSDAY MARCH 4
1993
BROADCAST MEDIA
BOSNIA
ON BBC TV'S BREAKFAST NEWS THIS MORNING, REPORTER JON
TEXT:

***** INCOMPLETE MESSAGE *****

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 14 LONDON 04019

USIA

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E.O.12356:N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT, LONDON, THURSDAY MARCH 4
1993
BROADCAST MEDIA
BOSNIA
ON BBC TV'S BREAKFAST NEWS THIS MORNING, REPORTER JON
LEYNE SAID FROM NEW YORK :
"AFTER TWO DAYS OF UNPRODUCTIVE TALKS, FINALLY THERE WAS
PROGRESS TO REPORT. PRESIDENT IZETBEGOVIC SIGNED AN
ACCORD AGREEING DETAILS FOR AN EVENTUAL CEASEFIRE, TO THE
DELIGHT OF THE PEACE NEGOTIATORS. ...AND THE SECURITY
COUNCIL HELD AN EMERGENCY SESSION, PARTLY TO REASSURE THE
BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN. MEMBERS
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ISSUED A STRONG STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE FIGHTING. "

A. TODAY'S MAJOR NEWS STORIES

1. BOSNIA
2. U.S. POLITICS
3. EASTERN EUROPE
4. HONG KONG

B. SUMMARY

1. BOSNIA

MANY NEWSPAPERS TODAY REPORT THE CONTINUATION OF
ATROCITIES IN EASTERN BOSNIA AND THE PROGRESS OF THE
PEACE TALKS. ANOTHER ITEM OF INTEREST IS THE APPARENT
DIFFERENCE OF OPINION BETWEEN PRESIDENT CLINTON AND
DEFENSE SECRETARY ASPIN YESTERDAY ON WHETHER THE AIR
DROPS SHOULD CONTINUE.

THE CENTRIST INDEPENDENT REPORTED ON ITS FRONT PAGE :
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"THOUSANDS OF MUSLIMS FLED A SERBIAN ADVANCE INTO THE ENCLAVE OF CERSKA IN EASTERN BOSNIA YESTERDAY. ...THE FALL OF CERSKA, AFTER THE U.S. AIR DROPS OF HUMANITARIAN AID IN THE AREA, HAS CAST A DEEP SHADOW OVER UN PEACE TALKS BETWEEN LEADERS OF BOSNIAN'S THREE ETHNIC GROUPS. THE CONSERVATIVE TABLOID DAILY EXPRESS REPORTED:

"PRESIDENT CLINTON'S FIRST FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVE -- DROPPING FOOD AID TO BOSNIA -- WAS GRIPPED BY CONFUSION LAST NIGHT. HE PERSONALLY OVERRULED DEFENSE SECRETARY LES ASPIN BY ORDERING U.S. PLANES TO FLY MORE MISSION.

...

"MR CLINTON, WIDELY SEEN AS A NOVICE ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE, ACTED HOURS AFTER MR ASPIN TRIED TO HALT THE HIGH-RISK FLIGHTS. "

2. U.S. POLITICS

THERE IS INTEREST HERE IN AMERICAN GUN LAWS, IN THE LIGHT OF THE SIEGE IN TEXAS IN WHICH BRITONS ARE INVOLVED. THE CONSERVATIVE TIMES REPORTED, NEXT TO A PHOTO OF A GIANT INFLATABLE SCHWARZENEGGER IN NEW YORK :

"WASHINGTON'S LEGENDARY LOBBYISTS HAVE ENDED THEIR SELF-IMPOSED PURDAH AND HAVE COME OUT PUBLICLY AGAINST SOME OF PRESIDENT CLINTON'S ECONOMIC REFORM PLANS AND HIS RADICAL ATTACKS ON VESTED INTERESTS. ...AMONG THE FIRST GROUPS TO SHOOT BACK AT THE PRESIDENT ARE AMERICA'S GUN LOBBY, THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY, THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE BANKS. THEY HAVE ALL COME UNDER CRITICISM AND ARE LIKELY VICTIMS OF SOME PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES. "

3. EASTERN EUROPE

THE INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL TIMES EDITORIALIZED:

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"IT MAY ALREADY BE TOO LATE TO SUCCEED. BUT IT CANNOT BE TOO LATE TO TRY. THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION SHOULD COMMIT ITSELF TO ONE BIG PUSH. THE QUESTION IS NOT

WHETHER IT CAN AFFORD TO TAKE THE RISK. IT IS WHETHER IT CAN AFFORD NOT TO. "

4. HONG KONG

THE CONSERVATIVE TIMES EDITORIALIZED:

"FOR FIVE MONTHS CHINA HAS CONDUCTED A VICIOUS CAMPAIGN AIMED AT UNDERMINING THE GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY AND INTIMIDATING SUPPORTERS OF DEMOCRATIC REFORM IN HONG KONG. CHINA MAY HAVE CHANGED TACTICS ; BUT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT ITS HOSTILITY TO DEMOCRACY IN HONG KONG HAS ABATED. "

C. HEADLINES

1. BOSNIA

"U.S. DITHERS ON BOSNIA AID" (DAILY EXPRESS REPORT)

"MUSLIMS FLEE SERBIAN SLAUGHTER" (INDEPENDENT FRONT PAGE REPORT)

"IT'S NOT ENOUGH" (LONDON EVENING STANDARD EDITORIAL)

"ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER THAN AID" (GUARDIAN COMMENTARY)

"THE SLIPPERY SLOPE TO WAR" (INDEPENDENT EDITORIAL)

2. U.S. POLITICS

"U.S. RIFLE LOBBY GUNS FOR CLINTON" (TIMES REPORT)

"WILL BILL BITE THE BULLET?" (LONDON EVENING STANDARD

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COMMENTARY)

"WILL CLINTON KILL RECOVERY?" (TIMES COMMENTARY)

"CLINTONS' OBSESSION WITH JOBS FOR GAYS AND BLACKS PARALYZES THE WHITE HOUSE" (SUN REPORT)

3. EASTERN EUROPE

"CORRIDOR OF OPPORTUNITY" (TIMES EDITORIAL)

"LAST CHANCE IN RUSSIA" (FINANCIAL TIMES EDITORIAL)

4. HONG KONG

"POWER PLAY IN PEKING" (TIMES EDITORIAL)

D. TEXT

BOSNIA

LAST NIGHT, THE CONSERVATIVE TABLOID LONDON EVENING STANDARD EDITORIALIZED:

"JUST BEFORE CERSKA FELL, THE AMERICANS DECIDED TO DO SOMETHING -- TO DROP DRIED FOODS AND MEDICINE IN THE

GENERAL AREA FROM A HEIGHT OF 10,000 FEET, WITH EVERY REASSURANCE TO THE SERBIAN ATTACKERS THAT THERE IS NOTHING IN THE AID PARCELS TO WHICH THEY NEED POSSIBLY TAKE EXCEPTION. IT IS, AT LEAST, MORE THAN OUR OWN GOVERNMENT HAS DONE. WE KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SERBIAN FORCES TAKE AN AREA LIKE CERSKA : PEOPLE ARE MURDERED -- THE MEN, THE SICK, THE YOUNG ; THEIR CORPSES ARE MUTILATED ; WOMEN ARE RAPED, SYSTEMATICALLY OR UNSYSTEMATICALLY; THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES ARE FORCED TO FLEE INTO THE MOUNTAINS. THIS IS TAKING PLACE NOW. IT IS HARDLY CREDIBLE THAT OUR ONLY RESPONSE TAKES THE FORM OF PROTEIN BISCUITS AND BLANKETS -- IF, THAT IS, THE SERBS ARE GOOD ENOUGH TO LET THE LORRIES CARRYING THEM UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 14 LONDON 04019

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THROUGH TO THOSE WHO REMAIN. AID IS NOT ONLY NOT ENOUGH IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES; IT IS A RESPONSE SO INADEQUATE AS TO BE OBSCENE.

"NO DOUBT WE WILL CONTINUE TO EXHORT THE BOSNIAN SERBS' POLITICAL LEADERS TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE THEY HAVE CONQUERED. NO DOUBT WE WILL CONTINUE TO UPHOLD THE ARMS EMBARGO IMPARTIALLY ON SERBS, CROATS AND MUSLIMS ALIKE. BUT WHEN WE COME TO SEE THE MASS GRAVES THAT CERSKA YIELDS -- PROBABLY IN A MOVING (BBC) PANORAMA DOCUMENTARY -- OUR HEARTS SHOULD FEEL SICK WITH SHAME THAT WE DID NOTHING TO PREVENT IT. "

THIS MORNING, THE CENTRIST INDEPENDENT EDITORIALIZED:

"AMERICAN AIRDROPS OVER BOSNIA MAY HAVE COST MORE LIVES THAN THEY SAVED. THE RESPONSE OF SERB FORCES IN THE AREA WAS TO MOW DOWN PEOPLE TRYING TO REACH THE IVACKAGES AND TO LAUNCH A FEROCIOUS ASSAULT ON CERSKA, REPORTEDLY MASSACRING LARGE NUMBERS OF ITS INHABITANTS. THIS IS THE HUMANITARIAN IMPULSE REWARDED. THE AMERICANS NOW JOIN THE EUROPEANS IN EXPERIENCING THE HUMILIATION OF BEING MOCKED BY PEOPLE WHO HAVE ABANDONED ALL VESTIGES OF CIVILIZED BEHAVIOR. BUT EUROPEANS MUST SHARE RESPONSIBILITY BECAUSE THEY WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN RESTRAINING PRESIDENT CLINTON FROM MORE ACTIVE

INTERVENTION.

"IF THERE IS ANY BENEFIT, APART FROM FEEDING A FEW LUCKY ONES, IT IS THAT THE CREDIBILITY OF THE U.S. IS NOW AS MUCH AT STAKE AS THAT OF THE EUROPEANS AND THE UN. ALL ARE SLOWLY LEARNING THE MAIN LESSON OF THE CONFLICT IN FORMER YUGOSLAVIA : THAT OUTSIDERS WILL GAIN NEITHER RESPECT NOR ATTENTION UNTIL THEY ARE READY TO FIRE A SHOT IN ANGER. THE SERBS HAVE CLEAR AIMS AND ARMED FORCES TO ACHIEVE THEM. THEY HAVE NO INTEREST IN WHAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THINKS, WHAT VALUES IT PREACHES, WHAT RESOLUTIONS IT PASSES OR WHAT PROPOSALS IT ENDORSES AS LONG AS THEY CAN PURSUE THEIR CONQUESTS.

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THE LIBERAL GUARDIAN COMMENTED:

"THE AMERICAN HERCULES C130 AIRCRAFT WHICH PARACHUTED RELIEF SUPPLIES INTO ENCLAVES IN EASTERN BOSNIA REPRESENT THE FIRST STAGE OF A DUBIOUS INITIATIVE. ASIDE FROM BEING A WELL-STAGED PR EXERCISE FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION, THE AIR DROP IS INTENDED TO KEEP THE INCREASINGLY EXASPERATED BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION IN THE NEW YORK PEACE TALKS.

"HOWEVER, THIS HIGHLY VISIBLE INITIATIVE CAN NEITHER SOLVE THE SHORT-TERM HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN THESE AREAS NOR BEGIN TO ADDRESS THE WIDER ISSUE OF WHETHER THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS PREPARED TO ALLOW SERB FORCES IN EASTERN BOSNIA TO SURROUND AND STARVE INTO SUBMISSION ITS ISOLATED MUSLIM COMMUNITIES. ALSO, THE STATED AIM OF AIRLIFTING SUPPLIES TO MUSLIM, CROAT AND SERB AREAS IS A BIZARRE EXERCISE IN FALSE NEUTRALITY. ... ONLY BOSNIA'S MUSLIMS, BLOCKADED BY SERBS AND CROATS ALIKE, ARE IN NEED OF SUCH AN OPERATION. ...

"BUT ASIDE FROM THE FEASIBILITY OF TARGETING ISOLATED HAMLETS, THE QUESTION HAS TO BE ASKED : HOW LONG CAN THE U.S. SUSTAIN THESE EASTERN ENCLAVES BY AIR-DROPPING SUPPLIES? IF NOT INDEFINITELY , WHEN HOW WILL THEY SURVIVE WHEN THE AIRDROPS END?

"CREATING HUMANITARIAN LAND CORRIDORS TO THE CUT-OFF

AREAS IN EASTERN BOSNIA IS THE ONLY STEP WHICH CAN BEGIN TO SOLVE THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM. BUT A WIDER REVIEW OF UN AID POLICY IN BOSNIA IS ALSO IN ORDER. TUZLA AIRFIELD, WHICH IS BOTH SAFE AND INTACT, SHOULD BE OPENED TO INCREASE THE LEVEL OF AID REACHING NORTHERN AND EASTERN BOSNIA. ALSO, PRESSURE MUST BE PUT ON CROATIA TO USE ITS INFLUENCE WITH THE BOSNIA CROATIAN FORCES TO STOP THEIR BLOCKADE OF CENTRAL BOSNIA. THE UN SHOULD REFUSE TO WATCH PEOPLE BEING STARVED INTO SUBMISSION WHEN THERE ARE LIMITED ACTIONS WHICH COULD HALT SUCH A TRAGEDY. "

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2. U.S. POLITICS

THE CONSERVATIVE LONDON EVENING STANDARD'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT, JEREMY CAMPBELL, COMMENTED:

"BILL CLINTON'S OPEN SUPPORT THIS WEEK FOR A LITTLE BIT OF GUN CONTROL MAY SOUND TIMID TO ENGLISH EARS, BUQ IT IS LOUD, WHOOP-IT-UP BRASS BAND MUSIC FOR THE STRUGGLING ANTI-GUN LOBBY IN AMERICA.

"ESSENTIALLY, ALL THE PRESIDENT SAID ON A VISIT TO NEW JERSEY WAS THAT A BILL IN CONGRESS NAMED AFTER JIM BRADY, RONALD REAGAN'S PRESS SECRETARY, WHO WAS SHOT IN THE HEAD BY A CRAZED GUNMAN, OUGHT TO BE PASSED. PITIFULLY MODEST IN ITS AIMS, THE BRADY BILL WOULD MERELY REQUIRE A BRIEF WAITING PERIOD FOR ANYONE WHO BUYS A GUN.

"HARDLY HAD CLINTON UTTERED SUPPORT FOR THIS PUNY MEASURE THAN, IN THE SAME BREATH, HE PROCLAIMED HIS BELIEF IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT OF AMERICANS TO BEAR ARMS. ...

"BUT DISREGARD THE LITERAL SENSE OF BILL CLINTON'S WORDS AND READ THEM AS A PORTENT, A PEEPHOLE TO THE FUTURE. NO PRESIDENT IN U.S. HISTORY HAS EVER SAID SUCH THINGS OUT IN THE OPEN. EVERY PREVIOUS PRESIDENT HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, THE MOST POTENT GUN LOBBY ANYWHERE, WHICH GAVE A MILLION DOLLARS TO GEORGE BUSH'S ELECTION CAMPAIGN. THIS IS A FIRST, A BREAKTHROUGH, A TINY WISP OF HOPE THAT AMERICA'S INSANE TOLERANCE OF FIREARMS IS ON THE WANE.

"CLINTON HIMSELF IS REFLECTING A DEFINITE CHANGE IN

PUBLIC OPINION. IF THERE IS ONE REASON WHY AMERICANS ARE BEGINNING TO TURN SHARPLY AGAINST GUNS, IT CAN BE SUMMED UP IN A PHRASE : THERE IS NO LONGER ANY PLACE WHERE A PERSON CAN BE SAFE.

"IN THE PAST YEAR, PEOPLE HAVE BEEN GUNNED DOWN IN UNCLAS SECTION 09 OF 14 LONDON 04019

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RESTAURANTS AND OFFICES. A JUDGE WAS SHOT AS HE SAT IN COURT. AND MOST OFFENSIVE OF ALL TO PUBLIC SENTIMENT, CHILDREN ARE INCREASINGLY BEING SHOT ON THEIR WAY TO AND FROM SCHOOL. ...

"SO A NEW WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY HAS BEE CREATED BY A NEW CLIMATE OF PUBLIC OPINION AND A NEW PRESIDENT WHO IS AT LEAST TALKING ABOUT THE ISSUE. THE BRADY BILL, WEAK AS IT IS, WILL CERTAINLY PASS, AND THEN THE STAGE IS SET FOR NEW MEASURES. "

THIS MORNING, THE CONSERVATIVE TIMES CARRIED THE FOLLOWING COMMENTARY BY ITS FORMER EDITOR WILLIAM REES-MOGG :

"PRESIDENT CLINTON IS THE WORLD'S PRESIDENT, BOTH IN TERMS OF DEFENSE POLICY -- WHERE THE U.S. IS THE ONLY SURVIVING SUPERPOWER -- AND IN ECONOMIC POLICY. NORMALLY THEE WORLD HAS THREE BIG ECONOMIC LOCOMOTIVES, THE U.S., JAPAN AND GERMANY. JAPAN IS STILL SUFFERING WHAT IS PROBABLY THE WORST RECESSION SINCE THE WAR, THOUGH THE CASH FLOW IN JAPANESE INDUSTRY IS VERY STRONG AND INTEREST RATES ARE LOW. GERMANY IS IN INDUSTRIAQ CRISIS. ...AT LEAST FOR 1993, THE WORLD ECONOMY IS PARTICULARLY DEPENDENT ON AMERICA.

"THE LATEST ECONOMIC NEWS FROM AMERICA IS, AT BEST, MIXED. ...THE AIM OF PRESIDENT CLINTON'S TAX AND EXPENDITURE PACKAGE IS TO CONTINUE THE RECOVERY OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY, AND TO CUT THE U.S. BUDGET DEFICIT DURING HIS PERIOD IN OFFICE. IF IT FAILS TO ACHIEVE EITHER OF THESE OBJECTIVES, HE WILL BE IN POLITICAL TROUBLE; THE U.S. WILL BE IN ECONOMIC TROUBLE, AND SO WILL THE REST OF THE WORLD. HE CERTAINLY DOES NOT LACK

PUBLIC SUPPORT. ...THERE IS LITTLE EFFECTIVE REPUBLICAN
OPPOSITION, THOUGH, AS ALWAYS, SPENDING CUTS WILL BE
DIFFICULT TO GET THROUGH CONGRESS.

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"MUCH MORE FORMIDABLE IS THE INTELLECTUAL CRITICISM.

...WHEN I WAS IN WASHINGTON I HEARD MUCH OF THIS
CRITICISM FROM ECONOMISTS, BOTH IN THE CAPITAL AND ON
WALL STREET. ONE CAN SUM UP THEIR CRITICISM BY SAYING
THAT THE CLINTON PACKAGE WILL NOT CUT THE DEFICIT BUT
WILL KILL THE ECONOMY. ...

"IF ONE ADDED UP HEALTH CARE, CRIME, LAWYERS AND DEFENSE
THEY ALONE COME TO AROUND 30 PER CENT OF THE GDP OF THE
U.S. ON TOP OF THAT THERE IS THE COST OF AN AGEING
POPULATION AND OTHER WELFARE COSTS, ALSO RISING. THERE
IS AN OBVIOUS DANGER THAT THE TOTAL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
OVERHEAD WILL CROWD OUT THE INVESTMENT NEEDED TO MAINTAIN
OR IMPROVE AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL
COMPETITIVENESS. ...

"IT IS EASY TO SEE WHY THE CLINTON PACKAGE OF HIGHER
TAXES AND DEFENSE CUTS BALANCED BY HIGHER NON-DEFENSE
SPENDING MIGHT ATTRACT POLITICAL SUPPORT IN OTHER G7
COUNTRIES, WHERE ALL THE GOVERNMENTS ARE UNDER SIMILAR
PRESSURES. YET IT DOES NOT SEEM TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM
OF GROWING NATIONAL OVERHEADS, NOR IS IT LIKELY TO CUT
THE U.S. DEFICIT. PEOPLE ALSO RESENT TAXES WHICH THEY
HAVE BEEN WILLING TO SUPPORT IN OPINION POLLS WHEN THEY
ACTUALLY HAVE TO PAY FOR THEM.

"THE FELDSTEIN CRITIQUE (IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL) DOES
SEEM LIKELY TO PROVE CORRECT. YET IF IT DOES, THAT IS
BAD NEWS FOR THE WORLD. WE NEED PRESIDENT CLINTON TO BE
A SUCCESS. WE NEED THE AMERICAN RECOVERY TO CONTINUE,
FOR THE GERMAN, IF NOT THE JAPANESE INFLUENCE IN 1993 IS
GOING TO BE NEGATIVE. THE U.S. IS THE ONLY ECONOMY THAT
CAN LEAD THE WORLD OUT OF DEPRESSION, THIS YEAR, OR
PERHAPS NEXT YEAR. IF THE CLINTON PACKAGE FAILS, THE
WORLD ECONOMY WILL SUFFER. "

THE CONSERVATIVE TABLOID MASS-CIRCULATION SUN COMMENTED:

UNCLAS SECTION 11 OF 14 LONDON 04019

USIA

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION - DO NOT SERVICE "

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE

USIA FOR P/M; R/C; R/M; P/P; P/G; (RMCLELLAN); P/F; P/FW;
P/FN; P/PFN; P/PPE; P/PFE; P; EU; NEA; VOA NEWS/CA; PL
(LSECREST); B/TV/WP;

STATE FOR EUR/P AND PLS PASS ACDA/PA; EUR/PA; EUR/P/SP;
EUR/WE; EUR/NE; IO/CU; NEA/P; EB/TT; INR/P; PM;

CSD ISA FOR ILN; FOR NEA; OASD/PA;

USDOC PASS USTR/PA (PAT NORMAN)

WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC-WEUROPE;

USMISSION USNATO FOR USIS;

PARIS FOR USIS; UNESCO; OECD;

VIENNA PASS USDEL-CSCE;

GENEVA PASS USDEL-NST; USIS; ACDA;

RAF MILDENHALL FOR PA;

BRITISH ARMY STAFF COLLEGE FOR USLO

E.O.12356:N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT, LONDON, THURSDAY MARCH 4
1993

"THE WHITE HOUSE IS GRINDING TO A HALT -- BECAUSE OF THE
CLINTONS' OBSESSION WITH GIVING ENOUGH TOP JOBS TO
BLACKS, GAYS AND WOMEN.

"MORE THAN 100 SENIOR POSTS ARE STILL VACANT -- BUT
UNLESS YOU BELONG TO A MINORITY GROUP YOU HAVE LITTLE
CHANCE OF LANDING ONE.

"PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON, DRIVEN BY WIFE HILLARY, IS
DETERMINED TO BE SEEN TO BE POLITICALLY CORRECT. SO MUCH
SO THAT MANY TALENTED WHITE CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN TURNED
DOWN FOR JOBS IN FAVOR OF LESS ABLE PEOPLE.

"ANYONE WHO FAILS TO FIT HILLARY'S RIGHT-ON CREDENTIALS
HASN'T A CHANCE. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO THEY ARE. ...IT
MEANS THE CLINTONS' CONSCIENCE IS CLEAR -- BUT AT WHAT
COST TO AMERICA? "

3. EASTERN EUROPE

THE INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL TIMES EDITORIALIZED:

"FAILURE BREEDS FAILURE. IN RUSSIA TODAY IT EVEN SEEMS
PREDESTINED. BUT DESPAIR IS AN UNAFFORDABLE LUXURY,
UNAFFORDABLE FOR THE RUSSIANS AND UNAFFORDABLE FOR THE
WEST AS WELL. RUSSIA IS A COUNTRY OF VAST RESOURCES,
COPIOUS SKILLS AND GREAT IMPORTANCE. NO EFFORT SHOULD BE
SPARED TO PREVENT IT FROM SINKING INTO CHAOS OR RETURNING
TO AN INWARD-LOOKING DESPOTISM. IT IS THIS THOUGHT, NOT
FEAR OF FAILURE OR WORRIES ABOUT RELATIVELY SMALL SUMS,
WHICH SHOULD INFORM THE RECONSIDERATION OF POLICY TOWARDS
RUSSIA TO WHICH THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION IS COMMITTED.

"IN ANY SUCH RECONSIDERATION, THE ADMINISTRATION --
INDEED THE WEST AS A WHOLE -- NEEDS TO ASK ITSELF A FEW
FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS : HOW MUCH DOES RUSSIAN REFORM
MATTER ? WHAT ARE THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC OBSTACLES
TO SUCCESS? AND HOW CAN THE WEST IMPROVE THE CHANCES?

UNCLAS SECTION 12 OF 14 LONDON 04019

USIA

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION - DO NOT SERVICE "

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USIA FOR P/M; R/C; R/M; P/P; P/G; (RMCLELLAN); P/F; P/FW;
 P/FN; P/PFN; P/PPE; P/PFE; P; EU; NEA; VOA NEWS/CA; PL
 (LSECREST); B/TV/WP;
 STATE FOR EUR/P AND PLS PASS ACDA/PA; EUR/PA; EUR/P/SP;
 EUR/WE; EUR/NE; IO/CU; NEA/P; EB/TT; INR/P; PM;
 CSD ISA FOR ILN; FOR NEA; OASD/PA;
 USDOC PASS USTR/PA (PAT NORMAN)
 WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC-WEUROPE;
 USMISSION USNATO FOR USIS;
 PARIS FOR USIS; UNESCO; OECD;
 VIENNA PASS USDEL-CSCE;
 GENEVA PASS USDEL-NST; USIS; ACDA;
 RAF MILDENHALL FOR PA;
 BRITISH ARMY STAFF COLLEGE FOR USLO
 E.O.12356:N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT, LONDON, THURSDAY MARCH 4
 1993

"AFTER SPENDING TRILLIONS OF U.S. DOLLARS IN PROTECTING
 ITSELF AGAINST THE ALTERNATIVE, THE WEST SHOULD NEED NO
 PERSUADING OF THE DESIRABILITY OF A DEMOCRATIC
 TRANSFORMATION. GIVEN RUSSIA'S LOCATION, RESOURCES,
 HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE AND NUCLEAR ARMAMENT, FEW FOREIGN
 POLICY GOALS CAN RIVAL THE DESIRABILITY OF RUSSIAN
 SUCCESS. . . .

"WHAT DOES THE WEST NEED TO DO? FIRST, IT SHOULD DECIDE
 THAT \$24BN A YEAR IN LONG-TERM ASSISTANCE -- A MERE 0.2
 PER CENT OF ITS AGGREGATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT -- IS A
 PRICE WELL WORTH PAYING FOR THE CHANCES OF SUCCESSFUL
 RUSSIAN REFORM.

"SECOND, AUTHORITY FOR NEGOTIATING AND IMPLEMENTING
 WESTERN ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO A SMALL HIGH-LEVEL
 TEAM WORKING DIRECTLY FOR THE G7 GROUP OF INDUSTRIAL
 COUNTRIES. THIRD, A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF LONG-TERM
 ASSISTANCE -- \$2.5BN - \$3BN, PLUS DEBT RELIEF -- SHOULD
 BE GIVEN ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, IN RETURN FOR SOME DEGREE OF
 CONTROL OVER THE CENTRAL BANK AND THE BUDGET.

"FOURTH, ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR BALANCE OF
 PAYMENTS SUPPORT; FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND POLITICALLY
 EFFECTIVE SOCIAL SAFETY NET; FOR SUPPORT FOR LONG-TERM
 INVESTMENT IN VIABLE INDUSTRIES ; AND FOR SMALL BUSINESS
 DEVELOPMENT. FINALLY, ALL ASSISTANCE MUST BE
 CONDITIONAL, BUT THE CONDITIONS SHOULD BE NEITHER OVER-
 DETAILED NOR EXCESSIVELY UNREALISTIC.

"IT MAY ALREADY BE TOO LATE TO SUCCEED. BUT IT CANNOT BE
 TOO LATE TO TRY. THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION SHOULD
 COMMIT ITSELF TO ONE BIG PUSH. THE QUESTION IS NOT
 WHETHER IT CAN AFFORD TO TAKE THE RISK. IT IS WHETHER IT
 CAN AFFORD NOT TO. "

THE CONSERVATIVE TIMES EDITORIALIZED:

"POLAND YESTERDAY CHALLENGED BRITAIN TO THINK HARD ABOUT
 UNCLAS SECTION 13 OF 14 LONDON 04019

USIA

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION - DO NOT SERVICE "
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USIA FOR P/M; R/C; R/M; P/P; P/G; (RMCLELLAN); P/F; P/FW;
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PARIS FOR USIS; UNESCO; OECD;
VIENNA PASS USDEL-CSCE;
GENEVA PASS USDEL-NST; USIS; ACDA;
RAF MILDENHALL FOR PA;
BRITISH ARMY STAFF COLLEGE FOR USLO
E.O.12356:N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT, LONDON, THURSDAY MARCH 4
1993

ITS RELATIONSHIP TO CENTRAL EUROPE. MRS HANNA SUCHOCKA,
THE POLISH PRIME MINISTER, WANTS BRITISH HELP IN SECURING
EARLY ENTRY TO THE EC. SHE DESERVES SUCH SUPPORT, AND
BRITAIN, IN GIVING IT, SHOULD FOCUS MORE DELIBERATELY ON
ITS GOALS IN THE EAST OF THE CONTINENT.

"QHE POLES HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE VAGUEST OF PROMISES BY THE
EC. THE PRESENT ASSUMPTION IS THAT...IN 2002, FULL
MEMBERSHIP OF THE EC CAN BE CONSIDERED. THAT IS AN
UNREASONABLY LONG PERIOD TO SPEND IN SUCH A COLD WAITING
ROOM.

"THE POLISH ECONOMY, AS MRS SUCHOCKA TOLD MR MAJOR
YESTERDAY, HAS MADE IMPORTANT STRIDES. ...SOME OF THESE
GAINS WILL BE THREATENED IF THE EC FAILS QUICKLY TO BRING
CENTRAL EUROPE INTO THE FOLD. ...UNLESS CENTRAL EUROPE
IS ECONOMICALLY FORTIFIED, CHAOS COULD SPREAD WESTWARDS.
ONE POSSIBILITY IS THAT A QUARTER OF A MILLION OR MORE
REFUGEES MIGHT MOVE TO THE RELATIVELY PROSPEROUS POLAND
AND SWAMP THE OVERSTRAINED SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEM. IF
RUSSIA SNEEZES -- IF PRESIDENT BORIS YELTSIN IS DISLODGED
-- CENTRAL EUROPE WILL CATCH MORE THAN A COLD. "

4. HONG KONG

THE CONSERVATIVE TIMES EDITORIALIZED:

"THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE THE
RESUMPTION OF DIALOGUE BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA ON HONG
KONG TOMORROW. AFTER MONTHS OF CHINESE OBSTRUCTION, SUCH
A DEVELOPMENT MIGHT APPEAR TO BE PROMISING : BUT NOT IF
CHINA USES THE TALKS TO BYPASS HONG KONG'S GOVERNOR,
CHRIS PATTEN, AND CUT HONG KONG'S LEGISLATURE OUT OF
VITAL DECISIONS ON THE WAY IT IS GOVERNED. MR PATTEN WAS
NOT A PARTY TO THE INTENSIVE SOUNDINGS OF RECENT WEEKS IN
PEKING, NOR WILL HE PARTICIPATE IN THE FORMAL TALKS.
HONG KONG'S PEOPLE MUST NOT BE PRESENTED, AS SEEMS
ALTOGETHER TOO PROBABLE, WITH YET ANOTHER SINO-BRITISH
FAIT ACCOMPLI. ...

"FOR FIVE MONTHS CHINA HAS CONDUCTED A VICIOUS CAMPAIGN
UNCLAS SECTION 14 OF 14 LONDON 04019

USIA

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION - DO NOT SERVICE "

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USIA FOR P/M; R/C; R/M; P/P; P/G; (RMCLELLAN); P/F; P/FW;
P/FN; P/PFN; P/PPE; P/PFE; P; EU; NEA; VOA NEWS/CA; PL
(LSECREST); B/TV/WP;
STATE FOR EUR/P AND PLS PASS ACDA/PA; EUR/PA; EUR/P/SP;

EUR/WE; EUR/NE; IO/CU; NEA/P; EB/TT; INR/P; PM;
CSD ISA FOR ILN; FOR NEA; OASD/PA;
USDOC PASS USTR/PA (PAT NORMAN)
WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC-WEUROPE;
USMISSION USNATO FOR USIS;
PARIS FOR USIS; UNESCO; OECD;
VIENNA PASS USDEL-CSCE;
GENEVA PASS USDEL-NST; USIS; ACDA;
RAF MILDENHALL FOR PA;
BRITISH ARMY STAFF COLLEGE FOR USLO
E.O.12356:N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT, LONDON, THURSDAY MARCH 4
1993
AIMED AT UNDERMINING THE GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY AND
INTIMIDATING SUPPORTERS OF DEMOCRATIC REFORM IN HONG
KONG. CHINA MAY HAVE CHANGED TACTICS ; BUT THERE IS NO
EVIDENCE THAT ITS HOSTILITY TO DEMOCRACY IN HONG KONG HAS
ABATED. ...
"SENIOR CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THEY WILL
DEMAND GUARANTEES FROM BRITAIN TO IMPLEMENT ANY DEAL
REACHED ON THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ELECTIONS IN HONG KONG IN
1995. FOR BRITAIN TO GIVE WAY WOULD BE MORALLY AND
LEGALLY DISGRACEFUL. HONG KONG'S LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(LEGCO) HAS THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT AND DUTY TO ENACT
LAWS. ...Q
"THE LEGISLATION (TO IMPLEMENT THE PATTEN PROPOSALS)
SHOULD BE PUBLISHED NOW; AND CHINA MUST ON NO ACCOUNT BE
ALLOWED TO USE TALKS TO PREVENT THE DEBATE IN LEGCO FROM
STARTING. IF DEMOCRATIC REFORMS ARE TO BE IN PLACE IN
TIME FOR THE SCHEDULED ELECTIONS, LEGCO MUST COMPLETE
WHAT IS BOUND TO BE A LENGTHY DEBATE BEFORE THE END OF
ITS CURRENT SESSION IN JULY. THAT TIMETABLE MUST BE
ADHERED TO. THERE MUST BE NO REPEAT OF THE SAGA OVER
HONG KONG'S NEW AIRPORT, WHICH CHINA HAS DELIBERATELY
DRAGGED OUT IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THAT IT, NOT BRITAIN
OR THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, HOLDS THE WHIP HAND EVEN
BEFORE TAKING OVER IN 1997.
"DESPITE THE PROPAGANDA BARRAGE FROM PEKING, TWO OUT OF
THREE HONG KONG PEOPLE STILL SUPPORT THE PATTEN
PROPOSALS. THEY UNDERSTAND THAT THE ARGUMENT IS NOT
ABOUT THE FINE PRINT OF LEGISLATION, BUT ABOUT WHETHER
CHINA IS PREPARED TO HONOR ITS LEGALLY BINDING COMMITMENT
THAT HONG KONG WILL HAVE A 'HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY'
AFTER 1997. MR PATTEN HAS CHAMPIONED THIS CARDINAL
PRINCIPLE. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT MUST STAND BY HIM, AND
HONG KONG." COURTNEY
BT
#4019
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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 14

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SIT: VAX

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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHVIA0094 0041531-UUUU--RUEADWW.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 041531Z JAN 94
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
OSRI: RUEHVI
DTG: 041531Z JAN 94
ORIG: AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO: RUEADWW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0458
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9770
INFO: ****
SUBJ: AUSTRIAN MEDIA REACTION

TEXT:

UNCLAS VIENNA 000094
USIS
FOR P/P, P/FN, P/FW, P/M, EU-LEMAISTRE, VOA/X
STATE FOR EUR/CE
WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC/WEUROPE
E.O. 12356: N/A
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN MEDIA REACTION

SUMMARY:

THE JANUARY 4 EDITION OF THE INDEPENDENT DAILY "DER STANDARD" CONTAINED A COMMENTARY BY FOREIGN-AFFAIRS WRITER ERIC FREY, UNDER THE HEADLINE "THE RETURN OF THE 'COMEBACK KID'," IN PRAISE OF PRESIDENT CLINTON. FREY NOTED THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD MANY SUCCESSES THIS PAST YEAR, THOUGH HE MADE EACH OF THEM SEEM LIKE A VICTORY HE HAD TO STIVE HIS UTMOST TO WIN, TOTALLY EXHAUSTING HIMSELF IN THE PROCESS. YET HE SEEMS TO RECOVER FAST FROM BOTH HIS OPPONENTS' AND THE MEDIA'S BLOWS.

"IN HIS FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE, BILL CLINTON PROVED MANY OF HIS CRITICS WRONG":

"'HE MUST BE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT,' WROTE THE FINANCIAL TIMES A FEW DAYS AGO ABOUT PRESIDENT CLINTON'S FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE. THE MAN FROM THE AMERICAN PROVINCES HAS IN THESE TWELVE MONTHS PUT HIS FOOT IN IT COUNTLESS TIMES, HAS SET A NEW MINUS-RECORD OF POPULARITY IN THE OPINION POLLS, HAS CAST DOUBT ON THE UNITED STATES' ROLE AS A GLOBAL LEADER, AND YET HE HAS ACHIEVED MORE THAN MOST OF HIS PREDECESSORS. HE GOT NINETY PERCENT OF HIS DOMESTIC BILLS THROUGH CONGRESS IN HIS FIRST YEAR. HE TACKLED SOCIAL ISSUES THAT WERE EITHER IGNORED OR A VICTIM OF THE STALEMATE BETWEEN THE WHITE HOUSE AND CONGRESS DURING TWELVE YEARS OF REPUBLICAN PRESIDENCY.

HE BOLTED, EVEN IF WEAKLY, THE DOOR TO THE SPREAD OF
HANDGUNS WITH THE BRADY BILL, AND HIS AMBITIOUS PLAN FOR
NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE MIGHT REMEDY THE AILING U.S.
HEALTH-CARE SYSTEM....

THE PROFILE OF HIS PRESIDENCY IS TAKING SHAPE. CLINTON
WILL NOT BE THE SOVEREIGN BELOVED BY ALL THE PEOPLE A LA
RONALD REAGAN; NOR WILL HE, WHO AVOIDED (SERVICE IN)
VIETNAM, BE ABLE TO BECOME OR WANT TO BECOME A SOVEREIGN
WARRIOR LIKE GEORGE BUSH. BUT CLINTON HAS AN INSTINCT
FOR THE NEEDS OF THE AMERICANS IN THE NINETIES. AND
PROVIDED THE ECONOMIC UPSWING LASTS, EVEN HIS OPPONENTS
ADMIT HE HAS FAIR CHANCES OF ENDING THE DECADE IN THE
WHITE HOUSE."

END EXCERPTS.

SPRINGER

BT

#0094

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0094

TOR: 940104103834 M0808987

DIST:

SIT: VAX

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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHOLA1268 0191244-UUXX--RUEADWW.

LINE2: ZNR UUJXX

LINE3: O 191244Z JAN 94 ZNZ1

LINE4: FM USIS BONN

OSRI: RUEHOL

DTG: 191244Z JAN 94

ORIG: USIS BONN

TO: RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO: RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP/ISA/DSAA//
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//DC-4A//
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEATR3/TREASURY WASHDC
RUEHC/DEPT/LABOR WASHDC//MCCAFFREY//
RUEAHQA/HQUSAF WASHDC//XOXX//
RUCNFRG/FRG COLLECTIVE
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS//NESSEE//
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME
RUFQAAA/USNMR SHAPE BE//PAA//
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USVIENNA//CSBM/CSCE/PAA//
RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//PA/POLAD//ECPA/POLAD/ECJ5/CJ1-HN//
RHFQAAA/AFOSI DET 501 RAMSTEIN AB GE//EAC//
RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
RUFTAKC/UDITUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
RHFQSAA/17AF SEMBACH AB GE//CCH//
RXFMB/USSUPPORT ELEMENT HQ BALTAP//PIO/NA//

SUBJ: GERMAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT

FOLLOWING IS A REVIEW OF GERMAN MEDIA OF JANUARY 19, 1994

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 07 BONN GE 01268

USIA

USIA FOR EU, P/M, P/FW, P/FN, P/P, R, VOA/BRE; STATE FOR
EUR/P/PA (VTADIE), EUR/CE, S/CSCE, PM, INR/RWE, ALSO PASS
FSI/CSFA; FRG POSTS FOR USIS; BRUSSELS FOR USIS AND
USEC; EMBASSIES FOR USIS, LONDON ALSO FOR POL; USNATO
ALSO FOR USDELMC; USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN ALSO FOR ECPAO,
POLAD, CJ1-HN, ECJ5-E, ECPA (CAPT. PETERSON); USSUPPORT
ELEMENT HQ BALTAP ALSO FOR PIO/NATO; HQUSAF WASHDC ALSO
FOR XOXX; FRANKFURT FOR GAO (SBIGGS)

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION -- DO NOT SERVICE"

PART TWO OF TWO

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: GERMAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT

FOLLOWING IS A REVIEW OF GERMAN MEDIA OF JANUARY 19, 1994

E. U.S.: CLINTON ONE YEAR IN OFFICE

RIGHT-OF-CENTER DIE WELT OF BERLIN CARRIES A REPORT BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT FRITZ WIRTH UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"BILL CLINTON, THE APOSTLE OF CHANGE."

"THE MAGIC WORD WAS 'CHANGE.' THE PROMISE OF MAJOR CHANGE IN THE CRISIS-SHAKEN AMERICA WAS THE REASON FOR AND SECRET OF BILL CLINTON'S OVERWHELMING ELECTION SUCCESS. IT IS NECESSARY AND FAIR TO MEASURE HIM AND HIS FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE AGAINST THIS PROMISE.

"ON CLOSER EXAMINATION THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT: THE U.S. DOMESTIC POLICY SCENE HAS INDEED CHANGED UNDER BILL CLINTON. THE NATION THAT SEEMED TO BE LOSING ITS SELF-CONFIDENCE ONE YEAR AGO AND WAS GRAPPLING WITH A SEVERE RECESSION, IS PRESENTING ITSELF AS NOTABLY RELIEVED, CONFIDENT AND OPTIMISTIC THESE DAYS. THE ECONOMIC CRISIS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN OVERCOME. ONE IS MAKING PLANS FOR THE FUTURE AGAIN.

"BILL CLINTON HAS NO TROUBLE LOCATING THE UNDERLYING CAUSES FOR THIS AND THE TRAILBLAZER OF THIS CHANGE. WITH SELF-ASSURANCE AND WITHOUT HESITATION HE IS POINTING AT HIMSELF. BECAUSE IN THE DESPERATE SEARCH FOR SUCCESSES, WHICH HAD BEEN RATHER SCARCE IN THE FIRST HALF YEAR OF HIS TERM, BILL CLINTON HAS BECOME HIS OWN BEST DRUMMER BOY. OBJECTIVE OBSERVERS DOUBT THAT. THEY ARE POINTING OUT THAT THE ECONOMIC TURNABOUT OCCURRED PRIOR TO THE ELECTION...."

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 07 BONN GE 01268

USIA

USIA FOR EU, P/M, P/FW, P/FN, P/P, R, VOA/BRE; STATE FOR EUR/P/PA (VTADIE), EUR/CE, S/CSCE, PM, INR/RWE, ALSO PASS FSI/CSFA; FRG POSTS FOR USIS; BRUSSELS FOR USIS AND USEC; EMBASSIES FOR USIS, LONDON ALSO FOR POL; USNATO ALSO FOR USDELMC; USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN ALSO FOR ECPAO, POLAD, CJ1-HN, ECJ5-E, ECPA (CAPT. PETERSON); USSUPPORT ELEMENT HQ BALTAP ALSO FOR PIO/NATO; HQUSAF WASHDC ALSO FOR X0XX; FRANKFURT FOR GAO (SBIGGS)

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION -- DO NOT SERVICE"

PART TWO OF TWO

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: GERMAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT

REFERRING TO HIS CURRENT HIGH POPULARITY RATINGS, WIRTH GOES ON TO SAY: "CLINTON HAS ENOUGH SUCCESSES WHICH JUSTIFY THIS TRUST. HIS BATTLE FOR NAFTA, HIS VICTORY AT THE GATT FRONT, THE INITIATIVES LAUNCHED BY HIM AND HIS WIFE HILLARY FOR A HEALTH CARE REFORM AND THE BRADY BILL ARE ALL SOLID POSITIVE SIGNALS. IT IS, HOWEVER, NO COINCIDENCE THAT ALL OF THEM FALL IN THE SECOND HALF OF HIS TERM IN OFFICE.

"THEY ARE GLOSSING OVER THE FACT THAT THIS YOUNG MAN FROM THE PROVINCES ACTUALLY HAD A DISASTROUS START AND OBVIOUSLY UNDERESTIMATED THE OBSTACLES AND PITFALLS IN THE CENTER OF POWER. HIS LARGEST OBSTACLE PROVED TO BE HIS PERSONNEL POLICY AS WELL AS THE FACT THAT HIS CAMPAIGN CALLS FOR CHANGE MANIFESTED THEMSELVES PRIMARILY IN BILL CLINTON HIMSELF.

"ALL OF A SUDDEN, MANY OF THE POLITICAL CREDOS THAT THE ELECTION CAMPAIGNER HAD CLEARLY AND COURAGEOUSLY VOICED NO LONGER APPEARED TO BE VALID FOR CLINTON. AMONG

THOSE WERE HIS VIEW ON THE CONFLICTS IN SOMALIA, BOSNIA AND HAITI, HIS POLICY TOWARD CHINA AND HIS PROMISE TO THE MIDDLE CLASS TO CUT TAXES. CONCLUSION: HIS CREDIBILITY SUFFERED GREATER DAMAGE DURING PRESIDENT CLINTON'S FIRST TWELVE MONTHS IN OFFICE THAN ANYTHING ELSE. IT HAS TURNED THE AGGRESSIVE ELECTION CAMPAIGNER INTO A REMARKABLY DEFENSIVE PRESIDENT, WHO CONSTANTLY FINDS HIMSELF DEFENDING HIS ACTIONS.

"A NO LESS SIGNIFICANT WEAK POINT HAS BEEN HIS PERSONNEL POLICY. HE SURROUNDED HIMSELF EITHER WITH PEOPLE FROM THE PROVINCES WHO INITIALLY HAD TROUBLE GETTING THEIR FEET ON THE GROUND IN WASHINGTON OR WERE CLEARLY OVERBURDENED. AMONG THEM ARE HIS CHIEF OF STAFF MCLARTY, HIS SECURITY ADVISOR ANTHONY LAKE, WHO HAS BASICALLY REMAINED INVISIBLE, AND HIS SECRETARY OF STATE CHRISTOPHER. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT CLINTON HAD BEEN DETERMINED TO IGNORE FOREIGN POLICY AT FIRST, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN NECESSARY TO BRING A MAN TO THE WHITE HOUSE WITH ENOUGH STATURE TO FILL THIS GAP. CHRISTOPHER WAS NOT AND WILL NEVER BE THIS MAN.

"IN FACT, ONLY TWO PEOPLE IN CLINTON'S IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS HAVE SHARPENED THEIR PROFILE AND BECOME STRONGER SINCE THE BEGINNING OF HIS TERM: FIRST LADY HILLARY AND VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE.

"IT HAS BEEN A BETTER YEAR FOR CLINTON THAN HIS CRITICS PREDICTED AND A MORE DISAPPOINTING ONE THAN THE APOSTLE OF CHANGE HAD ENVISIONED. NEVERTHELESS HE HAS GOOD REASON TO ENJOY THIS TO HIM UNSATISFACTORY OUTCOME BECAUSE THE NEXT YEAR WILL BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT.

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 07 BONN GE 01268

USIA

USIA FOR EU, P/M, P/FW, P/FN, P/P, R, VOA/BRE; STATE FOR EUR/P/PA (VTADIE), EUR/CE, S/CSCE, PM, INR/RWE, ALSO PASS FSI/CSFA; FRG POSTS FOR USIS; BRUSSELS FOR USIS AND USEC; EMBASSIES FOR USIS, LONDON ALSO FOR POL; USNATO ALSO FOR USDELMC; USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN ALSO FOR ECPAO, POLAD, CJ1-HN, ECJ5-E, ECPA (CAPT. PETERSON); USSUPPORT ELEMENT HQ BALTAP ALSO FOR PIO/NATO; HQUSAF WASHDC ALSO FOR X0XX; FRANKFURT FOR GAO (SBIGGS)

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION -- DO NOT SERVICE"

PART TWO OF TWO

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: GERMAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT

CONGRESS WILL BE RE-ELECTED AND THE POLITICAL SCENE IN WASHINGTON THUS BECOME EVEN MORE SLIPPERY AND UNPREDICTABLE THAN BEFORE."

F. U.S.-CHINA: TEXTILE AGREEMENT

DIETRICH ZWAETZ, WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT FOR BUSINESS NEWSPAPER HANDELSBLATT OF DUESSELDORF, WRITES IN TODAY'S ISSUE:

"KANTOR'S SABRE RATTLING."

"IN TRADE POLICY, A WAR IS ALWAYS THE WORSE ALTERNATIVE. THE FACT THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO WAGE TRADE WARS IS SOMETHING U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE MICKEY KANTOR IS INCESSANTLY STRESSING. IT IS TRUE THAT THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE CANNOT ALWAYS ASSERT HIS AMBITIOUS OBJECTIVES, BUT WITH HIS SABRE RATTLING IN TRADE POLICY, KANTOR ACHIEVED

CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS IN HIS FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE.

"THIS IS ALSO TRUE FOR THE LATEST TEXTILE AGREEMENT WITH CHINA. BUT IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT THE WASHINGTON GOVERNMENT HAD TO USE A TOUGH STANCE TOWARDS THE CHINESE.... THE U.S.-CHINESE TEXTILE AGREEMENT...IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF KANTOR'S TACTICS. HE LEFT NO DOUBT...THAT HE, IN CASE OF INSUFFICIENT CHINESE OFFERS, WAS PLANNING TO CUT IMPORT QUOTAS FOR TEXTILES AND INSISTED ON INSPECTIONS OF CHINESE PLANTS THAT WORK FOR AMERICAN MARKETS....

"WITH THE LATEST AGREEMENT, SANCTIONS WILL BECOME SUPERFLUOUS...BUT IT WILL RESULT IN EVEN MORE: IT OPENS THE DOORS FOR FURTHER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. FOR YEARS, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS PRESSED THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO OPEN ITS MARKETS TO A GREATER EXTENT FOR U.S. PRODUCTS.... FOR KANTOR, THE NEW AGREEMENT IS A KIND OF SOOTHING BALM, BUT FOR HIS FUTURE APPEARANCE IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLITICS, IT DOES NOT OFFER TOO MANY POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS. JAPAN COULD SOON LEARN THIS SINCE THERE HAS BEEN A LONG LIST OF CONTROVERSIAL U.S.-JAPANESE TRADE QUESTIONS...."

G. GERMANY: OBERHOF TRIAL, RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM

1. CENTRIST SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG OF MUNICH CARRIES AN EDITORIAL UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"WITH LENIENCY AND TOUGHNESS."

"THE JUSTICE AUTHORITIES, WHICH HAD BEEN ASLEEP MUCH TOO LONG, HAVE FINALLY WOKEN UP: FOR MUCH TOO LONG HAVE UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 07 BONN GE 01268

USIA

USIA FOR EU, P/M, P/FW, P/FN, P/P, R, VOA/BRE; STATE FOR EUR/P/PA (VTADIE), EUR/CE, S/CSCE, PM, INR/RWE, ALSO PASS FSI/CSFA; FRG POSTS FOR USIS; BRUSSELS FOR USIS AND USEC; EMBASSIES FOR USIS, LONDON ALSO FOR POL; USNATO ALSO FOR USDELMC; USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN ALSO FOR ECPAO, POLAD, CJ1-HN, ECJ5-E, ECPA (CAPT. PETERSON); USSUPPORT ELEMENT HQ BALTAP ALSO FOR PIO/NATO; HQUSAF WASHDC ALSO FOR X0XX; FRANKFURT FOR GAO (SBIGGS)

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION -- DO NOT SERVICE"

PART TWO OF TWO

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: GERMAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT

THE VIOLENT CRIMES OF RIGHT-WING RADICALS GANGS HAVE BEEN DISMISSED AS LEGAL TRIFLES. THE VERDICT ON THE MAIN CULPRITS OF THE SKINHEAD ATTACK ON U.S. LUGERS IN OBERHOF MARKS A TURNING POINT. IT SHOWS THAT THE APPLICABLE JUVENILE LAW IS NOT NECESSARILY LAX SINCE THIS FREQUENTLY CRITICIZED LAW INCLUDES ALL POSSIBLE RECOURSE THAT A JUDGE NEEDS TO REACT FLEXIBLY TO JUVENILE CRIMES - ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS WITH EITHER LENIENCY OR TOUGHNESS.

"THE APPROPRIATE VERDICT ON THE TWO BULLIES IS PROVING ALL THOSE WRONG WHO HAVE BEEN CLAIMING THAT THE LAWS ARE UNSATISFACTORY. THE CALL FOR NEW LAWS WAS ACTUALLY A CALL OF ONE'S OWN BAD CONSCIENCE DESIGNED TO CONCEAL YEARS OF SHORTCOMINGS IN APPLYING EXISTING LAWS. ONE WAS PRETENDING THAT THE HANDS OF THE POLITICIANS, THE POLICE AND THE JUSTICE AUTHORITIES WERE TIED WHILE IN FACT THEIR EYES WERE BLINDFOLDED. ONE WAS SIMPLY REFUSING TO REALIZE THE DANGER OF XENOPHOBIC CRIMES....

ONE SHOULD NOT SPEAK OF A SIGNAL, NOR DEMAND THAT SIGNALS BE SENT ABROAD. COURTS ARE NO FIRE BRIGADES WHICH MUST IMPRESS ONLOOKERS WITH TOUGH ACTS. BUT THE PUNISHMENT SHOULD FIT THE CRIME AND THE CRIMINALS WHO COMMITTED THEM AND THIS AS FAST AS POSSIBLE. THE SUHL VERDICT IS THUS NO SIGNAL, BUT AN EXAMPLE."

2. RIGHT-OF-CENTER FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE CARRIES AN EDITORIAL UNDER THE HEADLINE:

"NO ALL CLEAR."

"ACCORDING TO THE NEWS AGENCY ASSOCIATED PRESS, THE NUMBER OF RIGHT-WING MOTIVATED CRIMES DECLINED FROM 2,584 IN 1992 TO 1,814 LAST YEAR. BUT THIS IS NO REASON TO SOUND THE ALL CLEAR. IN 1992, SEVENTEEN VICTIMS OF RIGHT-WING RADICALS DIED, IN 1993, THE NUMBER WAS EIGHT - MEANING STILL EIGHT TOO MANY. FURTHERMORE, THESE FIGURES DO NOT ALLOW THE CONCLUSION THAT THE NUMBER OF RIGHT-WING RADICALS HAS DECLINED AS WELL. AFTER ALL, RADICAL RIGHT-WING CRIMES IN WHICH NO FORCE WAS USED ARE CLEARLY ON THE RISE. WHILE ATTACKS ON FOREIGNERS HAVE DROPPED BY ALMOST 50 PERCENT, THE NUMBER OF ATTACKS ON HOMELESS PEOPLE AND THE HANDICAPPED HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED. VIOLENCE IS EXPRESSING ITSELF IN A MORE UNINHIBITED, BRUTAL AND COWARDLY WAY THAN EVER.... IT IS THUS NOT ENOUGH TO MERELY COMBAT RIGHT-WING RADICALISM, BUT TO COUNTER VIOLENCE IN WHATEVER SHAPE OR FORM IT OCCURS."

H. GERMANY: CUTS IN DEFENSE BUDGET

1. EKKEHARD KOHRS COMMENTS ON CALLS THE MAKE FURTHER CUTS IN THE GERMAN DEFENSE BUDGET IN CENTRIST GENERAL-ANZEIGER OF BONN UNDER THE HEADLINE:

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USIA

USIA FOR EU, P/M, P/FW, P/FN, P/P, R, VOA/BRE; STATE FOR EUR/P/PA (VTADIE), EUR/CE, S/CSCE, PM, INR/RWE, ALSO PASS FSI/CSFA; FRG POSTS FOR USIS; BRUSSELS FOR USIS AND USEC; EMBASSIES FOR USIS, LONDON ALSO FOR POL; USNATO ALSO FOR USDELMC; USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN ALSO FOR ECPAO, POLAD, CJ1-HN, ECJ5-E, ECPA (CAPT. PETERSON); USSUPPORT ELEMENT HQ BALTAP ALSO FOR PIO/NATO; HQUSAF WASHDC ALSO FOR X0XX; FRANKFURT FOR GAO (SBIGGS)

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION -- DO NOT SERVICE"

PART TWO OF TWO

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: GERMAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT

"THE BUNDESWEHR AS A PIGGY BANK."

"IT HAS LONG SINCE BECOME TRENDY WITHIN THE CDU/CSU TO LOOK TO THE BUNDESWEHR FIRST WHEN A COST-CUTTING MEASURE MAKES FALSE FINANCIAL POLICY (NOT FALSE DEFENSE POLICY) NECESSARY.... THEN QUESTIONS ARE ASKED ABOUT COSTS - HOW MUCH MONEY IS AVAILABLE FOR WHAT? EVERY MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESS PLANS LIKE THIS: MARKET ANALYSIS, PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT PLUS COSTS, SALE PLUS PROFIT. IN THE CASE OF THE BUNDESWEHR, THE PROFIT GOES UNDER THE NAME OF SECURITY. IT ALSO HAS PARTNERS TO WHOM IT IS BOUND BY TREATIES AND THE OBLIGATION TO DISPLAY SOLIDARITY. AT PRESENT, THE POLITICIANS ARE DOING EVERYTHING THE WRONG WAY ROUND. THE BUNDESWEHR IS THE NATION'S PIGGY BANK - TO BE PLUNDERED FOR ANY AND EVERY REASON....

"PERHAPS THE DEFENSE MINISTER SHOULD HAVE BUILT A

SOUND PATH INTO THE FUTURE OF THE BUNDESWEHR INSTEAD OF BRIDGES IN SOMALIA. BUT HOW IS HE SUPPOSED TO DO THIS IF HE HAS TO READ IN THE NEWSPAPERS THAT HIS BUDGET IS TO BE CUT AGAIN? A MAN WITH LESS AMBITION WOULD RESIGN TO MAKE A POINT.... THE FUTURE OF THE BUNDESWEHR, THE NECESSITY FOR WHICH CANNOT BE OVERLOOKED BY ANYONE BUT A BLIND MAN, IS MORE UNCERTAIN THAN EVER."

2. NATIONAL DEUTSCHLANDRADIO OF BERLIN CARRIES A COMMENTARY BY R. PUTZ, SAYING:

"THE SAVINGS ROUND HAS NOT LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS BASED ON A WELL-CONCEIVED CONCEPT, SHOWING A SENSE OF REALISM AND COURAGE. NOT LONG OVERDUE SUBSIDIES WERE CUT, BUT A PREVIOUSLY PREFERRED CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PROTECTIVE AREA: THE DEFENSE BUDGET. THE CUTS STRIKE DEEP TO THE SUBSTANCE. ANYBODY THINKING ABOUT THE DEFENSE OF OUR COUNTRY MUST KEEP IN MIND THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION DOES NOT PARTICULARLY GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF PEACEFUL STATES. DISARMAMENT SHOULD THUS BE TEMPORARILY HALTED. ANYBODY COMPLAINING ABOUT A LACK OF ORIENTATION IN OUR SOCIETY AND SEEING THE DANGER OF RIGHT- AND LEFT-WING EXTREMISM SHOULD BEWARE OF ADOPTING THE BASICALLY IRRESPONSIBLE IDEA OF ABANDONING THE DRAFT OR LETTING IT BECOME A FARCE."

I. GERMANY: AUSTERITY PROGRAM

1. REGIONAL RADIO WESTDEUTSCHER RUNDFUNK OF COLOGNE CARRIED THE FOLLOWING COMMENTARY BY ULLA FOEHMER:

"THE GOVERNMENT COALITION KNOWS VERY WELL HOW TO SHOW A LIKING FOR ITS CLIENTELE. NOT BY GIVING THEM

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USIA

USIA FOR EU, P/M, P/FW, P/FN, P/P, R, VOA/BRE; STATE FOR EUR/P/PA (VTADIE), EUR/CE, S/CSCE, PM, IN/RWE, ALSO PASS FSI/CSFA; FRG POSTS FOR USIS; BRUSSELS FOR USIS AND USEC; EMBASSIES FOR USIS, LONDON ALSO FOR POL; USNATO ALSO FOR USDELMC; USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN ALSO FOR ECPAO, POLAD, CJ1-HN, ECJ5-E, ECPA (CAPT. PETERSON); USSUPPORT ELEMENT HQ BALTAP ALSO FOR PIO/NATO; HQUSAF WASHDC ALSO FOR X0XX; FRANKFURT FOR GAO (SBIGGS)

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PART TWO OF TWO

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: GERMAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT

SOMETHING, BUT BY SHOWING NO CONSIDERATION FOR TAKING SOMETHING AWAY FROM THEM.... ENTIRE INDUSTRIAL SECTORS ARE SUPPORTED AS IN THE PAST. THIS IS A SCANDAL NOT ONLY FROM A NATIONAL ECONOMIC POINT OF VIEW BUT ALSO FROM A FINANCIAL POINT OF VIEW, SINCE WE NEED MONEY EVERYWHERE....

"YOUTH CENTERS ARE BEING CLOSED BECAUSE OF A LACK OF FUNDS, UNIVERSITY BUDGETS ARE BEING DRASTICALLY CUT AND HOSPITALS ARE FORCED TO MAKE SAVINGS AT THE EXPENSE OF PATIENTS. LOOKING AT THE LATEST AUSTERITY PROGRAM OF THIS GOVERNMENT, IT BECOMES CLEAR WHOSE VOTES IT WANTS TO ATTRACT WITH ITS ELECTION PRESENTS.

"IT IS TRUE THAT THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PLAN TO CUT SOCIAL BENEFITS, BUT THE LABOR MINISTRY MUST SAVE ANOTHER DM 500 MILLION. BUT THIS CAN COME ONLY AT THE EXPENSE OF

THE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WHO ARE HOPING IN VAIN FOR A NEW JOB. IN VIEW OF FURTHER DISMISSAL PLANS, THE ATMOSPHERE IN COMPANIES IS GETTING COOLER. THE EMPLOYERS ARE PROFITING FROM THIS, AND THEY NO LONGER NEED A LOBBY IN BONN, SINCE THE BONN GOVERNMENT IS REPRESENTING THEIR INTERESTS MUCH BETTER THAN THEY COULD HOPE FOR. BUT BY DOING SO, THE GOVERNMENT IS OFFENDING THOSE WHO FINANCE WITH THEIR TAXES THE STATE AND ITS GOVERNMENT. THE BILL THAT WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT BE LONG IN COMING."

2. ARD TV (NATIONAL CHANNEL ONE), IN ITS LATE EVENING NEWSCAST TAGESTHEMEN, CARRIED AN EDITORIAL BY M. HILDEBRANDT SAYING:

"THIS IS THE CURRENT STATE IN GERMANY: WE LIVE IN MISERABLE TIMES WITH BILLIONS OF DEBTS AND MILLIONS OF UNEMPLOYED. IN VIEW OF 19 ELECTIONS, WHERE THE GOVERNMENT COULD BE PUNISHED FOR ITS POLICY, THE COALITION HAS NOW REALIZED THAT THIS SITUATION CANNOT GO ON AS BEFORE. LATE BUT AS USUALLY - THE CONSEQUENCES IT HAS DRAWN ARE HALFHEARTED. WITH A DEFIANT 30-POINT PROGRAM, THE COALITION HAS BROKEN SOME CHINA. IN AN UNCONCEALED MANNER IT TRIES TO COVER UP THE DEBT FIASCO, BUT ONLY UNTIL THE BIG LOOMING BUNDESTAG ELECTIONS IN THE FALL.

"NOBODY HAD REALLY EXPECTED TO BE PRESENTED WITH A COMPREHENSIVE CORRECTION, A CORRECTION OF ITS FAILED FINANCE CONCEPT OR ITS FAILED LABOR MARKET POLICY. THE INSENSITIVITY THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW SHOWING WITH ITS SCRAPING TOGETHER OF THE REMAINING MILLIONS IS INFURIATING.... IN 1994, IT IS UP TO THE ADDRESSEE TO RETURN THIS PACKAGE TO THE SENDER...."

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USIA

USIA FOR EU, P/M, P/FW, P/FN, P/P, R, VOA/BRE; STATE FOR EUR/P/PA (VTADIE), EUR/CE, S/CSCE, PM, INR/RWE, ALSO PASS FSI/CSFA; FRG POSTS FOR USIS; BRUSSELS FOR USIS AND USEC; EMBASSIES FOR USIS, LONDON ALSO FOR POL; USNATO ALSO FOR USDELMC; USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN ALSO FOR ECPAO, POLAD, CJ1-HN, ECJ5-E, ECPA (CAPT. PETERSON); USSUPPORT ELEMENT HQ BALTAP ALSO FOR PIO/NATO; HQUSAF WASHDC ALSO FOR XXXX; FRANKFURT FOR GAO (SBIGGS)

"PERISHABLE INFORMATION -- DO NOT SERVICE"

PART TWO OF TWO

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: GERMAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT

3. KLAUS HOFMEIER OF NATIONAL RADIO DEUTSCHLANDFUNK COMMENTED:

"(THE GOVERNMENT) DID SOME PATCHWORK AND IMPROVISED, BUT THE REAL TASK - TO OVERCOME THE FINANCIAL CRISIS - WAS DEFERRED TO THE NEXT LEGISLATURE.... UNFORTUNATELY, THE COALITION COULD NOT RESIST THE TEMPTATION TO LURE THE VOTERS WITH EXPENSIVE PROMISES DESPITE THE CONTINUING PRECARIOUS FINANCIAL SITUATION.... ONE CAN SAY THAT THE COALITION PARTIES HAVE NOW DECORATED THEIR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC POLICY DISPLAY WINDOW WITH NEW VOUCHERS...."

MILLER

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 07

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PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHMOA2687 0311549-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 311549Z JAN 94
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
OSRI: RUEHMO
DTG: 311549Z JAN 94
ORIG: AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO: RUCPDC/USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7928
INFO: RUEHLN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG 7345
RUEHSF/AMEMBASSY SOFIA 0133
SUBJ: RUSSIA'S REGIME FOR LICENSING AND
REGULATING IMPORT, DOMESTIC SALE AND USE OF
SHOTGUNS
TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 MOSCOW 002687
STATE FOR EB/ESP/LROEDER
STATE FOR EUR/ISCS/MWONG
STATE PASS DOD/D TSA/LMCMILLAN
USDOC FOR BXA/GENE LEWIS
USDOC FOR 3133/USFCS/OIO/NIS/GKNOWLES
USDOC FOR 4231/IEP/EUR/OEERIS/RISD/JBROUGHER
USDOC FOR 4201/IEP/EUR/OEERIS/BISNIS/LNEMEC
E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: ETTC, RS
SUBJECT: RUSSIA'S REGIME FOR LICENSING AND
REGULATING IMPORT, DOMESTIC SALE AND USE OF
SHOTGUNS
REF: (A) STATE 38870; (B) STATE 3488; (C) MOSCOW
1136; (D) MOSCOW 2238
1. COMMOFF MET ON JANUARY 24 WITH VLADIMIR N.
RTISHEV OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION MINISTRY OF
INTERNAL AFFAIRS (MVD) LICENSING DIVISION. THE
MVD IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ISSUING LICENSES TO RUSSIAN
FIRMS WISHING TO IMPORT SHOTGUNS AS WELL AS FOR
REGULATING THEIR RETAIL SALE WITHIN RUSSIA. IN
IMPLEMENTING THESE RESPONSIBILITIES, RTISHEV
EMPHASIZED THAT THE FEDERAL MVD RELIES HEAVILY ON
ITS 80 REGIONAL BRANCHES, EACH OF WHICH IS FURTHER
DIVIDED INTO APPROXIMATELY 30 LOCAL PRECINCTS
(ROUGHLY 2400 LOCAL PRECINCTS COUNTRY-WIDE). EACH
PRECINCT IS STAFFED BY MVD OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE
FOR ADMINISTERING CENTRAL CONTROLS OVER THE
DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF IMPORTED HUNTING WEAPONS
AND FOR ISSUING LICENSES TO INDIVIDUALS WISHING TO
PURCHASE HUNTING WEAPONS.
2. ACCORDING TO RTISHEV, THE PROCESS OF ISSUING
AND ADMINISTERING IMPORT LICENSES FOR SHOTGUNS IS
MULTI-LAYERED AND STRICT. IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE

TO OBTAIN A SHOTGUN IMPORT LICENSE, A RUSSIAN FIRM MUST FIRST POSSESS THE LEGAL RIGHT TO SELL FIREARMS DOMESTICALLY IN RUSSIA. THE FIRM OBTAINS THIS RIGHT BY DECLARING IN ITS ORIGINAL REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS AND FOUNDING CHARTER THAT ITS PRIMARY LINE OF BUSINESS WILL BE THE DOMESTIC RETAIL SALE OF HUNTING WEAPONS. BEFORE THE NEW FIRM IS REGISTERED AS AN AUTHORIZED SELLER OF HUNTING WEAPONS, THE LOCAL MVD PRECINCT REVIEWS THE REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS AND INSPECTS THE FIRM'S PREMISES TO ENSURE THAT IT HAS THE PROPER PHYSICAL FACILITIES FOR THE STORAGE AND SALE OF FIREARMS (FIRMS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE SECURE STORAGE FOR THE WEAPONS WITH AN ALARM SYSTEM OR ARMED GUARD). THE MVD THEN MAKES A DETERMINATION, BASED ON THE FIRM'S PHYSICAL FACILITIES AND THE LIKELY SALES VOLUME OF HUNTING WEAPONS IN THE REGION IN WHICH THE FIRM IS LOCATED, AS TO THE QUANTITY OF HUNTING WEAPONS THAT THE FIRM WILL BE ALLOWED TO HAVE ON ITS PREMISES AT ANY GIVEN TIME.

3. ACCORDING TO RTISHEV, THE MVD'S LICENSING DIVISION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROCESSING AND ISSUING OF IMPORT LICENSES. FOR EACH IMPORT LICENSE APPLICATION, THE MVD CONDUCTS A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE APPLICANT FIRM WHICH INCLUDES: (1) REVIEWING THE APPLICANT'S REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS; (2) CONFIRMING THE APPLICANT'S LEGAL RIGHT TO RETAIL HUNTING WEAPONS; (3) SCRUTINIZING THE SALE CONTRACT TO ENSURE THAT THE QUANTITY AND TYPES OF SHOTGUNS ORDERED ARE IN LINE WITH THE STATED END-USE, THE STORAGE CAPACITY OF THE CONSIGNEE'S PREMISES, AND THE LIKELY DEMAND FOR SHOTGUNS IN THE REGION IN WHICH THE FIRM OPERATES; AND (4) CONFIRMING THAT THE SHOTGUN MODELS IN QUESTION MEET CERTAIN SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AS ESTABLISHED BY THE RUSSIAN STANDARD ORGANIZATION "GOSSTANDART."

4. THE MVD IS ALSO INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS OF LICENSING INDIVIDUAL BUYERS/OWNERS OF SHOTGUNS. AS DESCRIBED IN REF C, A RUSSIAN CITIZEN WISHING TO PURCHASE A SHOTGUN MUST APPLY FOR A LICENSE FROM THE LOCAL MVD PRECINCT. THE PRECINCT PERFORMS BACKGROUND CHECKS ON ALL APPLICANTS, LOOKING INTO SUCH ISSUES AS THE APPLICANTS PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, HIS POLICE RECORD, AND THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE APPLICANT PLANS TO STORE THE WEAPON. THIS PROCESS TAKES ABOUT ONE MONTH. THE MVD PRECINCT ISSUES SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS A LICENSE WHICH CONTAINS A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE APPLICANT AND IS VALID FOR A SPECIFIED TERM. UPON PURCHASING A SHOTGUN FROM A DEALER, THE CITIZEN IS REQUIRED TO PRESENT HIS LICENSE. THE DEALER AND THE BUYER THEN JOINTLY FILL OUT A REGISTRATION DOCUMENT WHICH INCLUDES THE NAME AND LICENSE NUMBER OF THE BUYER, THE NAME OF THE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 MOSCOW 002687 STATE FOR EB/ESP/LROEDER

STATE FOR EUR/ISCS/MWONG
STATE PASS DOD/DTSA/LCMILLAN
USDOC FOR BXA/GENE LEWIS
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USDOC FOR 4201/IEP/EUR/OEERIS/BISNIS/LNEMEC
E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: ETC, RS

SUBJECT: RUSSIA'S REGIME FOR LICENSING AND
REGULATING IMPORT, DOMESTIC SALE AND USE OF
SHOTGUNS

DEALER, AND THE SERIAL NUMBER OF THE SHOTGUN. ONE
COPY OF THIS REGISTRATION GOES TO THE BUYER, ONE
REMAINS WITH THE DEALER, AND A THIRD GOES TO THE
LOCAL MVD PRECINCT. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE BUYER MUST
AGAIN REPORT TO THE LOCAL MVD PRECINCT WHERE THE
SERIAL NUMBER OF HIS SHOTGUN IS REGISTERED.
ANNUALLY, THE SHOTGUN OWNER MUST RETURN TO THE
PRECINCT TO CONFIRM HIS CONTINUED POSSESSION OF
THE REGISTERED WEAPON.

5. RTISHEV NOTED THAT A NEW "LAW ON WEAPONS"
WHICH CAME INTO EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1994 HAD
CODIFIED THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED REGULATIONS ON
SHOTGUNS AND GIVEN THEM FULL LEGAL GROUNDING. ONE
CHANGE MADE BY THE NEW LAW TO THE PREVIOUS SYSTEM
OF REGULATIONS (AS REPORTED IN REF C) IS THAT
RUSSIAN CITIZENS NO LONGER HAVE TO BELONG TO A
SOCIETY OF HUNTERS AND FISHERMEN IN ORDER TO BE
ELIGIBLE TO PURCHASE A SHOTGUN. THE REASON FOR
THIS CHANGE, ACCORDING TO RTISHEV, WAS THAT THE
RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO ALLOW ITS
CITIZENS TO OBTAIN SHOTGUNS FOR SELF-DEFENSE AS
WELL AS FOR HUNTING AND SPORTING.

6. RTISHEV EMPHASIZED THAT SHOTGUN DEALERS ARE
REQUIRED TO KEEP RECORDS OF ALL SHOTGUN SALES.
LOCAL MVD STAFF PERFORM QUARTERLY (IN SOME CASES
MONTHLY) CHECK-UPS ON SHOTGUN DEALERS IN THEIR
PRECINCT TO ENSURE THAT THEIR RECORDS ARE IN ORDER
AND CONFORM TO THEIR INVENTORY OF WEAPONS. DUE TO
ITS ROLE IN ISSUING IMPORT LICENSES FOR SHOTGUNS,
THE MVD IS AWARE OF THE QUANTITY OF SHOTGUNS
DELIVERED TO EVERY DEALER. DURING CHECK-UPS, MVD
STAFF COMPARE THEIR LICENSE DATA WITH THE DEALER'S
INVENTORY AND HIS SALES RECORDS. IF THERE IS A
DISCREPANCY (I.E. LOSSES OF INVENTORY NOT
ACCOUNTED FOR BY SALES), THE MVD HAS THE AUTHORITY
TO CLOSE THE SHOP AND ARREST THE DEALER. WHILE
RTISHEV ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS SYSTEM IS NOT FOOL-
PROOF, HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT IT ENABLES THE
MVD TO EFFECTIVELY CONTROL THE SALE OF SHOTGUNS
IMPORTED UNDER AW MVD-ISSUED IMPORT LICENSE.

7. QUERIED ABOUT THE ROLE OF FIREARMS IN
RUSSIA'S INCREASING SERIOUS VIOLENT CRIME PROBLEM,
RTISHEV STATED HIS VIEW THAT SHOTGUNS AND OTHER
HUNTING WEAPONS DO NOT AND ARE NOT LIKELY TO HAVE
A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT IN THIS RESPECT. ACCORDING
TO CURRENT MVD STATISTICS, THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY
THREE MILLION REGISTERED GUN OWNERS IN RUSSIA AT

PRESENT. THIS FIGURE IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE BY APPROXIMATELY THREE TIMES OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, PRIMARILY AS A RESULT OF THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT'S NEW WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW CITIZENS TO PURCHASE SHOTGUNS FOR SELF-DEFENSE PURPOSES. ON THIS SCORE, RTISHEV EMPHASIZED THAT MVD STATISTICS SHOW THAT SHOTGUNS ARE INVOLVED ONLY IN A VERY SMALL NUMBER OF VIOLENT CRIME CASES. RTISHEV NOTED THAT ILLEGALLY-HELD COMBAT WEAPONS, WHICH HE ESTIMATED AT APPROXIMATELY ONE MILLION PIECES, ARE HAVING A MUCH MORE DRAMATIC IMPACT ON THE GROWTH OF CRIMINAL VIOLENCE. HE POINTED OUT THAT ILLEGAL COMBAT WEAPONS CONTINUE TO FLOW INTO RUSSIA AT AN ALARMING RATE FROM RUSSIA'S "NEAR ABROAD."

8. RTISHEV STATED THAT THE MVD IS VERY INTERESTED IN COOPERATION WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES ON A VARIETY OF ISSUES RELATED TO GUN AND CRIME CONTROL. HE WAS VERY INTERESTED IN OBTAINING INFORMATION ON GUN REGULATION IN THE UNITED STATES IN AREAS SUCH AS LICENSING OF DEALERS, QUALITY AND SAFETY STANDARDS FOR MANUFACTURERS, AND THE NEW "BRADY BILL." HE ALSO EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN LEARNING ABOUT TECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGIES USED BY U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO CONDUCT CARTRIDGE AND BULLET COMPARISONS IN CRIME CASES. FINALLY, HE DESCRIBED THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN RUSSIAN STANDARD ORGANIZATION

"GOSSTANDART" AND U.S. SHOTGUN MANUFACTURERS TO FACILITATE THE CERTIFICATION OF U.S. SHOTGUNS IN UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 MOSCOW 002687

STATE FOR EB/ESP/LROEDER

STATE FOR EUR/ISCS/MWONG

STATE PASS DOD/D TSA/LMCMILLAN

USDOC FOR BXA/GENE LEWIS

USDOC FOR 3133/USFCS/OIO/NIS/GKNOWLES

USDOC FOR 4231/IEP/EUR/OEERIS/RISD/JBROUGHER

USDOC FOR 4201/IEP/EUR/OEERIS/BISNIS/LNEMEC

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: ETTC, RS

SUBJECT: RUSSIA'S REGIME FOR LICENSING AND REGULATING IMPORT, DOMESTIC SALE AND USE OF SHOTGUNS

THE RUSSIAN MARKET. IF USG LICENSING AGENCIES HAVE A

NY SUGGESTIONS FOR HOW COOPERATION IN THESE AREAS MIGHT BE PURSUED, FCS MOSCOW WOULD APPRECIATE THEM.

(FCS MOSCOW/DRAFTED RJOHNSON/APPROVED JWINKELMAN) PICKERING

BT

#2687

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 03

<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 03

<^SECT>SECTION: 03 OF 03

SSN: 2687

<^SSN>2687

<^SSN>2687

TOR: 940131105950 M0853053

<^TOR>940131105951 M0853054

<^TOR>940131105953 M0853055

DIST:

SIT: VAX

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Cable

PREC: PRIORITY
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHAOA0214 0742112-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: P 152050Z MAR 94
LINE4: FM AMCONSUL CURACAO
OSRI: RUEHAO
DTG: 152050Z MAR 94
ORIG: AMCONSUL CURACAO
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0545
INFO: RUFHTH/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 0069
RUEBMRA/USCUSTOMS SERVICE WASHDC
SUBJ: EXPORT LICENSES FOR FIREARMS/AMMUNITION DESTINED
FOR THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

TEXT:

UNCLAS CURACAO 0214
E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: KOMC, ETTC, NA
SUBJECT: EXPORT LICENSES FOR FIREARMS/AMMUNITION DESTINED
FOR THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES
REF: A) CURACAO FAX TO ARA/CAR DATED MARCH 4;
B) CURACAO 161 AND PREVIOUS
1. ON MARCH 14, PRINCIPAL OFFICER RECEIVED MR H. DONKER, DUTCH
PROSECUTOR ON CONTRACT TO GOVERNMENT OF NETHERLANDS ANTILLES
OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL. DONKER ADVISED THAT HE HEADED
COMMITTEE TO PERFORM END-USE CHECKS OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION
IMPORTED INTO THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES AT CURACAO, AND TO ESTA-
BLISH AN ACCEPTABLE IMPORT CERTIFICATE FOR THESE ITEMS. HE SAID
THAT HIS COMMITTEE WOULD BE SETTING A DATE TO BEGIN ITS WORK
WITH RENEWED ENERGY, AND THAT HE WOULD ADVISE PRINOFF OF THE DATE
TO BE INITIATED SO THAT U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE COULD PARTICIPATE.
2. DONKER CALLED ON MARCH 15 TO ADVISE THAT THE COMMITTEE HAS
OPTED TO BEGIN THE WEEK OF APRIL 11. HE ASKED IF U.S. CUSTOMS
REPRESENTATIVE(S) COULD ARRIVE CURACAO SO AS TO PARTICIPATE
IN PLANNING MEETING MORNING OF APRIL 11. APRIL 12, 13, WOULD
BE HELD FOR ACTUAL END-USE CHECKS, APRIL 14 FOR A DAY OF PAPER-
WORK, AND APRIL 15 FOR SUMMING UP.
3. U.S. CUSTOMS REP(S) SHOULD BRING SAMPLE U.S.G. FORMS
USED IN ALL FACETS OF INFORMATION AND CONTROL OF FIREARMS AND
AMMUNITION, OMB FORM NO. 1512-0129 (9/31/91), FIREARMS TRANS-
ACTION RECORD FOR OVER-THE-COUNTER SALES, FOR EXAMPLE. FORMS
MAY NOT BE UTILIZED FULLY BY THE COMMITTEE, IF AT ALL, BUT THEY
WILL SERVE TO SHOW U.S.G. PROCEDURES AND THE SERIOUSNESS WITH
WHICH FIREARMS OWNERSHIP IS REGARDED, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE
ENACTMENT OF THE BRADY BILL.
4. PLEASE ADVISE NAME(S), DATE OF ARRIVAL OF CUSTOMS PERSONNEL
WHO WILL TAKE PART IN THIS PROJECT.
WOERZ
BT
#0214
NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0214

TOR: 940315161658 M0936426

DIST:

SIT: BLEICKEN BURGOS VAX

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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHKO4299 0880952-UUUU--RHEHAAA.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: O 290951Z MAR 94

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

OSRI: RUEHKO

DTG: 290951Z MAR 94

ORIG: AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO: RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6703
RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8300
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP;ISA// PRIORITY
RUCPDC/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT WASHDC PRIORITY
RUYNJDK/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RUHQHQB/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//USIA// PRIORITY
RHHMCA/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N514// PRIORITY
RUHVPAC/HQPACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 0880
RUADANB/OAFP CP BUTLER OKINAWA PRIORITY
RUADJNA/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY

INFO: RUEHKOF/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 6633
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 2064

SUBJ: USIS JAPAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT -- MARCH 29,
1994

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 TOKYO 04299

USIA

FOR: USIA FOR P/F, P/FW, P/FL, EA, R/MR; STATE/EAP/J,
EAP/P, PM, TREASURY/IMI; NSC; SECDEF FOR OASD/PA; CP
BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: USIS JAPAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT -- MARCH 29,
1994

1. THIS MEDIA REACTION COVERS COMMENT AND REPORTING ON:
-- LOS ANGELES SHOOTING --

LEAD STORIES: THE ASAHI GAVE TOP COVERAGE TUESDAY
MORNING TO A REPORT ON THE AGREEMENT AMONG PRIME MINISTER
HOSOKAWA, SHINSEITO CO-LEADER OZAWA AND KOMEITO SECRETARY
GENERAL ICHIKAWA TO FORM A NEW POLITICAL PARTY. A NIHON
KEIZAI POLL MARKED A DROP IN PUBLIC SUPPORT TO 47.6
PERCENT FROM LAST MONTH'S 52.5 PERCENT FOR THE HOSOKAWA
COALITION GOVERNMENT.

-- LOS ANGELES SHOOTING --

-- PRESS REPORTS AND EDITORIALS --

2. THE MARCH 28 (MONDAY) EVENING EDITIONS OF MOST TOKYO
PAPERS CARRIED REPORTS SAYING, "AMBASSADOR MONDALE MET
THE PRESS AT THE U.S. EMBASSY AT NOON MONDAY AND OFFERED

CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE TWO COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO WERE FATALLY SHOT IN LOS ANGELES LAST SATURDAY. THE AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE TRAGEDY WOULD NOT HARM RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND JAPAN."

3. HEADLINES: "MONDALE SAYS IT'S SADDEST DAY" (SANKEI); "MONDALE: WE SHARE IN SORROW" (YOMIURI); "MONDALE HOPES 'TRAGEDY WILL NOT HARM U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS" (MAINICHI); "MONDALE DEPLORES SENSELESS ACT OF CRIMINAL VIOLENCE" (NIHON KEIZAI); AND "MONDALE OFFERS DEEP CONDOLENCES" (ASAHI)

4. THE YOMIURI'S EDITORIAL (MARCH 29), ENTITLED QUOTE "NO MORE GUN-RELATED TRAGEDY IN THE U.S. UNQUOTE, SAID, "IT IS VERY HEART-BREAKING TO LEARN THAT TWO COLLEGE STUDENTS FROM JAPAN, BOTH SEEKING THE AMERICAN DREAM AND INTERESTED IN HOLLYWOOD, WERE FATALLY SHOT DURING A CARJACKING IN SUBURBAN LOS ANGELES LAST SATURDAY.

"THE BRADY BILL HAS TAKEN EFFECT IN THE U.S. AMID GROWING MOVES CALLING FOR STRICTER GUN CONTROL AFTER THE SHOOTING DEATH OF YOSHI HATTORI, A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, IN OCTOBER OF 1992. THE EFFECT OF THE NEWLY-ENACTED GUN CONTROL LAW, WHICH REQUIRES A FIVE-DAY POLICE CHECK OF GUN PURCHASERS, HOWEVER, IS SAID TO BE ONLY PSYCHOLOGICAL.

"AT PRESENT, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT AMERICANS POSSESS MORE THAN 200 MILLION HANDGUNS. IT IS VERY SHOCKING THAT AMERICANS ARE STRONG ADMIRERS OF GUNS. THE LATEST TRAGEDY IN LOS ANGELES WAS SO-TO-SPEAK A COMBINATION OF GUN ABUSE AND CARJACKING, ALSO A FEDERAL CRIME.

"IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS EARLIER THIS YEAR, PRESIDENT CLINTON PROMISED TO CRACK DOWN ON VIOLENT CRIME INVOLVING GUNS. WE STRONGLY HOPE THE PRESIDENT WILL TAKE STRONG MEASURES AGAINST SUCH CRIMINAL ACTS.

ACCIDENTALLY, A GROUP OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS FROM MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL IN BATON ROUGE, WHERE THE SLAIN YOUTH HATTORI ATTENDED, WERE VISITING JAPAN WHEN THE SHOOTING OCCURRED IN LOS ANGELES. MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL CLARENCE JONES SAID IN A VERY SAD TONE THAT THE U.S. MUST BE MORE RESPONSIBLE FOR GUN CONTROL."

5. THE SANKEI CARRIED AN EDITORIAL (MARCH 29), TITLED UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 TOKYO 04299

USIA

FOR: USIA FOR P/F, P/FW, P/FL, EA, R/MR; STATE/EAP/J, EAP/P, PM, TREASURY/IMI; NSC; SECDEF FOR OASD/PA; CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: USIS JAPAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT -- MARCH 29, 1994

QUOTE LESSON FROM LOS ANGELES SHOOTING UNQUOTE, SAYING, "THE SHOOTING DEATH OF TWO COLLEGE STUDENTS FROM JAPAN IN SUBURBAN LOS ANGELES THAT FOLLOWED TWO SIMILAR INCIDENTS IN BATON ROUGE (TWO YEARS AGO) AND SAN FRANCISCO (LAST YEAR) CLEARLY SHOWS HOW DEEPLY GUN POSSESSION IS TAKING ROOT IN AMERICAN SOCIETY. THE LATEST TRAGEDY OCCURRED WHEN THE BRADY BILL IS BEGINNING TO TAKE EFFECT IN THE U.S.

"BUT THE U.S. SHOULD NOT BE BLAMED SOLELY FOR THE ROOT CAUSE OF GUN-RELATED VIOLENCE. OVERSTATING IT A LITTLE, WE WONDER WHETHER THE TWO 19-YEAR-OLD BOYS SHOULD HAVE

BEEN MORE CAREFUL IN GOING SHOPPING IN A FLASHY, NEW CAR LATE AT NIGHT. LOS ANGELES IS SAID TO BE ONE OF THE MOST CRIME-PRONE CITIES IN THE U.S."

6. THE MAINICHI'S EDITORIAL (MARCH 29), WITH THE HEADLINE QUOTE GUN-RELATED TRAGEDY OCCURS AGAIN IN THE U.S. UNQUOTE, SAID, "DESPITE THE ENACTMENT OF THE BRADY BILL, THE U.S. IS STILL OPEN TO HANDGUNS. THIS IS VERY ABNORMAL. AMERICANS MUST REFLECT MORE SERIOUSLY ON THIS ABNORMALITY.

"JAPANESE STUDENTS IN THE U.S. SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT AS LONG AS THE GUN SITUATION REMAINS AS IT IS, SAFETY AND DANGER EXIST SIDE BY SIDE IN THE U.S."

-- TV REPORT --

7. COMMERCIALY-RUN TV ASAHI'S NIGHTLY NEWS STATION CO-ANCHOR WADA COMMENTED: "FOR A LONG TIME IN THE U.S. GUN CONTROL HAS BEEN CALLED FOR, BUT NO CONCRETE OR EFFECTIVE MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN YET. WHY? AMBASSADOR MONDALE'S QUICK RESPONSE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON MONDAY, OFFERING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE TWO SLAIN STUDENTS, DEMONSTRATES THE CHANGING ATTITUDE IN THE U.S. TOWARD GUNS. BUT THERE IS NO CHANGE IN OUR FEELING THAT THE U.S. IS STILL A DANGEROUS GUN SOCIETY..." BLACKBURN
BT

#4299

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02

<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02

SSN: 4299

<^SSN>4299

TOR: 940329045728 M0961855

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DIST:

SIT: VAX

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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: O 310841Z AUG 94

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

OSRI: RUEHKO

DTG: 310841Z AUG 94

ORIG: AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO: RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8542
RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5342
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP;ISA// PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATR3/TREASURY DEPT WASHDC PRIORITY
RUYNJDK/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RUHQHQB/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//USIA// PRIORITY
RHHMCA/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N514// PRIORITY
RUHVPAC/HQPACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUADANB/OAFO CAMP BUTLER PRIORITY
RUADJNA/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY

INFO: RUEHKOF/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 8917
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 4547

SUBJ: USIS JAPAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT -- AUGUST 31,
1994

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 TOKYO 12699

USIA

FOR: USIA FOR P/F, P/FW, EA, R/MR; STATE/EA/P, EAP/P, PM,
STATE DEPT. PLS PASS TO USTR/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY/IMI; NSC; SECDEF FOR OASD/PA; CP BUTLER OKINAWA
FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: USIS JAPAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT -- AUGUST 31,
1994

1. THIS MEDIA REACTION COVERS COMMENT AND REPORTING ON:
-- INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT --
-- CRIME BILL --

LEAD STORIES: MOST TOKYO PAPERS GAVE TOP COVERAGE
WEDNESDAY MORNING TO A SOCIALIST PARTY PROPOSAL CALLING
FOR STRICTER CURBS ON JAPAN'S MILITARY RESPONSE TO
POTENTIAL FOREIGN THREATS AND ON TYPES OF MILITARY
EQUIPMENT.

-- INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT --

-- PRESS REPORT --

2. YOMIURI WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT IKUMA FILED A REPORT
(AUGUST 31), ENTITLED QUOTE THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S

POPULATION CONTROL POLICY DRAWS CRITICISM AT HOME AND ABROAD UNQUOTE, SAYING, "WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT OPENING IN CAIRO ON SEPTEMBER 5, THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY ON POPULATION CONTROL, AIMED TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IS DRAWING FIRE FROM CATHOLICS AND MUSLIMS IN THE U.S. AND ABROAD AS PRO-ABORTIONIST.

"THE ADMINISTRATION, TAKING A SERIOUS VIEW OF THE NEGATIVE REACTION FROM THESE FORCES, HAS SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD EASE UP ON THE CONTENTS OF AN ACTION PLAN ON POPULATION CONTROL THAT IS TO BE ADOPTED AT THE CONFERENCE.

"BOTH THE VATICAN AND CATHOLIC, MUSLIM AND JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS HAVE EXPRESSED STRONG OPPOSITION TO WHAT THEY CALL THE ADMINISTRATION'S PRO-ABORTION STANCE. WITH THE MID-TERM ELECTIONS COMING UP IN NOVEMBER, ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAY THE U.S. HAS NO INTENTION OF QUARRELLING WITH THE VATICAN OVER THE ISSUE IN ORDER TO SECURE SUPPORT FROM SUCH RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN THE U.S.

"VICE PRESIDENT GORE, WHO WILL SERVE AS THE CHIEF U.S. DELEGATE TO THE CAIRO CONFERENCE, HAS SAID THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT PRO-ABORTION, THUS SHOWING A CONCILIATORY STANCE TOWARD THE CATHOLICS AND OTHER RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

"WITH THE INTERNATIONAL POPULATION CONFERENCE ONLY A WEEK AWAY, THE ADMINISTRATION'S SUDDEN BACKPEDALING FROM ITS ORIGINAL PRO-ABORTION POSITION, HOWEVER, SHOWS THE VULNERABILITY OF THE ADMINISTRATION TO THE CRITICISM OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN PRESSURE GROUPS."

-- CRIME BILL --

-- EDITORIAL --

3. THE SANKEI (AUGUST 31), WITH THE HEADLINE QUOTE U.S. "GUN" SOCIETY SHOULD BE MODERNIZED UNQUOTE, SAID, "WE FELT AS IF WE SAW PRESIDENT CLINTON'S SMILING FACE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG WHILE. THE PRESIDENT WON A CRITICAL VICTORY WITH SENATE PASSAGE OF A CRIME BILL. HE IMMEDIATELY ISSUED A STATEMENT TO PRAISE SUPRA-PARTISAN EFFORTS TO PASS THE BILL. IT FULFILLS ONE OF THE PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN PLEDGES.

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 TOKYO 12699

USIA

FOR: USIA FOR P/F, P/FW, EA, R/MR; STATE/EA/P, EAP/P, PM, STATE DEPT. PLS PASS TO USTR/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE; TREASURY/IMI; NSC; SECDEF FOR OASD/PA; CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: USIS JAPAN MEDIA REACTION REPORT -- AUGUST 31, 1994

"THE 30 BILLION DOLLAR CRIME BILL BANS ASSAULT-TYPE WEAPONS AND HELPS PUT UP TO 100,000 MORE POLICE ON U.S. STREETS. IT ALSO AUTHORIZES CONSTRUCTION OF THOUSANDS OF PRISON CELLS, ESTABLISHES NEW CRIME-PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND ADDS MORE THAN 50 NEW CRIMES TO COVERAGE BY THE DEATH PENALTY.

"BECAUSE THE US. CONSTITUTION ALLOWS AMERICANS TO POSSESS FIREARMS, THE U.S. IS SAID TO BE TEEMING WITH

ABOUT 200 MILLION HANDGUNS. ACCORDING TO THE FBI, ABOUT
64 AMERICANS DIE DAILY IN GUN-RELATED INCIDENTS.
"IN PARTICULAR, RECENT FATAL INCIDENTS IN THE U.S.
INVOLVING JAPANESE YOUTHS AND BRITISH, CANADIAN AND
GERMAN TOURISTS HAVE MADE GUN POSSESSION IN THE U.S. AN
INTERNATIONAL ISSUE, AND GAVE IMPETUS TO THE BRADY BILL.
"THE CRIME BILL WAS PASSED AGAINST SUCH A BACKGROUND. AS
THE PRESIDENT SAID, THE BILL IS A PRODUCT OF A NATIONAL
DESIRE FOR A BAN ON HANDGUNS. WE DO HOPE THE U.S. 'GUN'
SOCIETY WILL BE MODERNIZED FURTHER TOWARD THIS END."
BLACKBURN

BT

#2699

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02

SSN: 2699
<^SSN>2699

TOR: 940831044743 M1228749
<^TOR>940831044747 M1228753

DIST:
SIT: BRANSCUM NSC VAX
□