



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

Preserving American Jewish History

MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series D: International Relations Activities. 1961-1992

Box 76, Folder 2, Waldheim, Kurt, 1985-1988.



Report prepared by

Marc H. Tanenbaum, Director
AJC International Relations Department

September 10, 1986

HIGHLIGHTS OF AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE FACT-FINDING
VISIT TO AUSTRIA, AUGUST 25-29, 1986

In response to the critical moral and political issues raised by the recent election of Dr. Kurt Waldheim as President of Austria, the American Jewish Committee's Board of Governors authorized on June 23, 1986, an AJC delegation to undertake a fact-finding mission in Austria. The group was to be headed by AJC President Theodore Ellenoff, who unfortunately, became temporarily ill. He designated Leo Nevas, of Westport, Conn., chairman of AJC's Board of Governors, to head the group.

The other members of the delegation were: Edward E. Elson of Atlanta, chairman of AJC's Board of Trustees; Miles Jaffee of Detroit, chairman of AJC's International Relations Commission; David M. Gordis, AJC Executive Vice-President; Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of AJC's International Relations Department; and William Trosten, AJC's Associate director. The group's itinerary lasted from Aug. 25 through 29.

The initiative for this fact-finding trip -- the first undertaken by a Jewish group to Austria since the Presidential elections -- began with a series of meetings between Mr. Nevas, Rabbi Tanenbaum, and Mr. Trosten with the Austrian Ambassador to the United States, Thomas Klestil; the Austrian Consul General in New York, Helga Winkler-Campagna; and Dr. Heinz Kienzl, General Director of the Austrian National Bank in Vienna. In behalf of the Austrian government, Dr. Kienzl coordinated the schedule of meetings for the AJC representatives in Vienna N.Y.

Prior to making the decision to go to Austria, there was also extended conversations and correspondence between Dr. Ivan Hacker, president of the Austrian Jewish community, other Jewish leaders in Vienna; the Israeli Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizur; and Rabbi Tanenbaum and Mr. Trosten. Their encouragement to come to Vienna reinforced the AJC decision to carry out this effort.

Exchange of views also took place between the directors of the European and Austrian desks of the U.S. State Department, respectively, Dr. Michael Habib and John Nesvig, and Dr. Gordis and Rabbi Tanenbaum. The State Department officials supported the AJC mission from the perspective of American-Austrian relations.

The purposes of the mission were severalfold:

- (1) To gain first-hand knowledge about the situation of the 9,000-member Austrian Jewish community in the wake of the Presidential elections;
- (2) To obtain a more precise picture of the nature and extent of anti-Semitism in Austria, and specifically, the political exploitation of anti-Jewish bigotry during the recent elections;

- (3) To ascertain what the Austrian government and other key public officials and institutions are doing - or are not doing - in facing up to Austria's role in the Nazi period, and in combatting the legacy of various forms of anti-Semitism - religious, racial, and cultural - in that nation;
- (4) To develop a clearer picture of Austria as an East-West crossroads of asylum for refugees and immigrants, particularly the Jewish emigrants from the Soviet Union, among others;
- (5) To understand Austria's critical geo-political role in East-West relations, the European community, and the Middle East.

Depending on the outcome of this fact-gathering, the AJC group was open to the possibility of undertaking a series of cooperative projects with key Austrian institutions that share our concerns over these issues. As indicated at the conclusion of this report, we are gratified that a series of understandings have been arrived at for such joint projects designed to help combat anti-Semitic tendencies which linger in Austria and to promote improved Austrian-Jewish relations based on a frank and honest confrontation of Austrian history.

In pursuit of our objectives, it was encouraging that we were able to meet with the highest authorities of the Austrian government - the Chancellor, Dr. Franz Vranitzky; the Foreign Minister, Dr. Peter Jankowitsch - leaders of both major political parties, banking and industry; experts in social science research, education, culture, and media; refugee experts; and a key personality in Christian-Jewish relations. There were extensive discussions with the recently-appointed U.S. Ambassador to Austria, Mr. Ronald S. Lauder, and key members of his embassy staff. At their request, there were four separate, official meetings with leaders of the Austrian Jewish community. (The full schedule of the AJC itinerary is attached.)

With the concurrence of President Ellenoff, the AJC group issued no press releases prior or during this visit. That decision was made in order to assure maximum opportunity for objective fact-gathering away from the glare and pressures of publicity, and to avoid any possible charges that the mission was carried out for the sake of institutional or personal publicity. Following return to New York, and after consultation with Austrian authorities, a press conference was held at AJC on Wednesday, September 10, at which a report was given on the Austrian visit. (See attached clippings.)

There was also agreement that the AJC representatives would not meet with Dr. Kurt Waldheim under any circumstances. That consensus was rigorously observed.

AUSTRIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY

Following are highlights of the AJC's findings on this visit to Austria: Our first meeting in Vienna was held with the key leaders of the Austrian Jewish Community in their offices on Monday, Aug. 25, at 4 p.m. Dr. Hacker warmly welcomed the AJC group and said that the Jewish community "attached much importance to the visit of a group of your standing and influence."

Despite ideological and generational differences, many leaders of the Austrian Jewish community told us that their "situation has changed dramatically during the last six months" since the Presidential elections. For the first time in 40 years, since the end of World War II, they said, "anti-Semitism was used for political purposes. While there is latent anti-Semitism in the streets, this is the first time in 40 years that anti-Semitism was manipulated from the top downward." This had led many in the Austrian Jewish community to feel "pushed aside" in Austrian life by political leaders in both parties, and they therefore feel insecure and vulnerable. They asked for solidarity and fraternal support from the American Jewish Committee and American Jewry generally, and they seek reassurance from the Austrian Government.

Dr. Simon Wiesenthal, the legendary Nazi hunter, told the AJC group that "the Jews of Austria are not alone," and that "there are friends and enemies in both political parties." He added that of the Austrian population of 7,500,000 people, some 5 million were born during or after the war. He said that "many of these younger Austrians voted against the World Jewish Congress, not for Waldheim." Dr. Wiesenthal added that "the real victim of the Presidential campaign is the image of Austria."

While there is a law against purveying Nazi propaganda and against anti-Semitic defamation, Dr. Wiesenthal stated, there is little support in the Ministries of Justice and Interior for implementing the law. (See copy of Dr. Wiesenthal's letter to Rabbi Tanenbaum, also, Foreign Ministry letter from Mr. Sucharipa to Mr. Nevas.) Since 1975, there have been no trials against Austrian Nazis, even though, he specified, "three-quarters of the staff operating the Nazi extermination camps were Austrians; 80% of Adolph Eichmann's staff were Austrian; and 58% of the war crimes were committed by Austrian Nazis."

Since the election of Chancellor Bruno Kreisky in 1970, he added, the image of Austria suffered decline for he included four former Nazis in his government. Of 600 acknowledged Nazis, only 6 were brought to trial. While Austria has on its books the same law as the Federal Republic of Germany outlawing the "Auschwitz lie," (the notion that the Nazi holocaust never took place), former Nazis or sons of former Nazis in the government won't allow its implementation.

Through this process of denial and repression, Austria has avoided making any moral or material restitution to the Jewish people during the

past 40 years, he said.

Dr. Grosz told the AJC delegation that as a result of the Presidential elections, "the majority of Austrians, especially the younger generation, are aware that anti-Semitism exists and can be used politically." He said that "our task is not to continue the fight against Waldheim; our common purpose is to fight the situation of anti-Semitism as it exists now in Austria."

Both Dr. Grosz and Dr. Musikand indicated that 40% of the Austrian Jewish community is over 65 years old, and that some 2,000 income-earning Austrian Jews support the entire Jewish communal structure, including part of the care of Soviet and Iranian Jewish emigres. They added that there were no restitution funds available from the Austrian government to help maintain the Jewish survivors as is the case in West Germany -- since the Austrians see themselves as a "victim" of Nazism rather than a participant in war crimes.

The AJC reflected this range of concerns to the Austrian government and other public officials with whom they met.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN AUSTRIA

Under the chairmanship of Dr. Kienzl, the AJC group held an extended discussion with a group of the leading social scientists in Austria who have specialized in research and public opinion polling on anti-Semitism. Our meeting was held on Tuesday morning, Aug. 26, 9:00 a.m., in the offices of the Austrian National Bank. The experts were:

Dr. Rudolf Bretschneider, of Fessel-Gfk-Institute (conservative);
Dr. Ernst Gehmacher, of Ifes Institute (social democratic);
Dr. Christian Haerfer, Institute for Conflict Resolution;
Dr. Roland Pohoryles, social scientist specializing in Jewish affairs.

In addition, Dr. Herbert Kroll, counselor to the Austrian Foreign Ministry, and Rudolf Klier, deputy chairman of the board of directors of the Austrian National Bank, were present.

The social scientists presented the results of their several public opinion polls and research studies on the state of anti-Semitism in Austria. The findings were complex and each needs to be examined carefully in terms of its specialized methodology, including whether "soft" or "hard" indicators of anti-Semitism were used.

If any generalizations could be wagered, they would be along following lines:

1) They dismissed as "journalistic distortions" earlier reports that 85% of the Austrians were prejudiced against Jews, and 15% were

without any anti-Semitic prejudice.

2) Their polls indicated that "10 to 15%" of the population was prejudiced against Jews, and that anti-Semitism was deeply rooted in the older generation, in rural populations, and among the less educated. Anti-Semitism is "lower in the younger generation," and among better educated persons in the urban centers. They anticipate a decline in anti-Semitism as a result of generational trends. Much change in attitudes cannot be expected in the older generation in whom anti-Semitism is "deeply-seated." Education must be seen therefore as an important weapon against anti-Semitism among the young.

3) Those who are prejudiced against Jews are "prone to prejudice against migrant workers, ethnic minorities, and particularly colored people."

4) There is need to be very concerned about the role of such newspapers as the Kronen Zeitung, a mass circulation daily, which wrote strong articles and editorials with "anti-Semitic tones" during the Presidential elections. This newspaper "made it fashionable to use anti-Semitism in politics." (During the election, the Kronen Zeitung used yellow-and-black borders around front-page editorials suggesting the yellow stars which Jews were forced to wear under the Nazis.)

5) Attitudes towards Jews have also been influenced by "heavily charged images of Israel" growing out of the invasion of Lebanon, and other political issues emerging out of the Middle East conflict.

6) An estimated 10 to 15% of the population is "philo-Semitic and anti-Fascist," and this includes people from the conservative People's Party.

7) It was suggested that Waldheim gained 3-4% of the vote from anti-Semitic people that he might not have gained otherwise, but he lost the same percentage as a result of the anti-Semitic issue. Therefore, this view held, anti-Semitism did not influence decisively the election outcome.

8) Anti-Semitism, some argued, "never plays alone, but is part of a complex ideology. It is affected by the fact that Austria is a small nation, surrounded largely by Communist states. Its extreme geography leads it to be fearful of attacks, and therefore reacts in a nationalistic way."

The AJC delegation engaged in a forceful exchange, making the following points:

1) Public opinion polls and social science research while useful in themselves cannot be disengaged from the historic reality that political anti-Semitism was incubated in Austria during the 19th and 20th centuries, particularly exemplified in the political parties

organized on anti-Semitic platforms by George von Schonerer and Mayor Karl Lueger of Vienna. Hitler in fact acknowledged his indebtedness to their model of political anti-Semitism as a means of gaining political power. That historic consciousness has pervaded much of Austrian culture and history down to contemporary times.

✓ 2) The recent Presidential election was "a shock" to the Jewish people everywhere because it led to:

- (a) The destabilization of the small Austrian Jewish community;
- (b) Anti-Semitism becoming acceptable as a vehicle for political discourse.

The AJC group acknowledged that Austria is a western democracy, and has made a critical contribution through its civilized treatment of refugees. But democracy presupposes an intense commitment to civility and uncivil language has cost Austria the loss of much goodwill in the Western world. It is important to restore that goodwill by making it clear that anti-Semitism must never again be allowed to serve as an acceptable vehicle for political discourse. (Miles Jaffe's formulations.)

In response, Dr. Bretschneider stated that "there are anti-Semites in Austria, but there is no anti-Semitic ideology." He pointed to the fact that Austria has become a key center of asylum for refugees and immigrants, many of them Jews from the Soviet Union, the 1956 Hungarian rebellion, the 1968 Czechoslovakia uprising, and the 1980-81 Polish struggle.

Ambassador Herbert Kroll of the Austrian Foreign Ministry said he was glad that this AJC visit was taking place, that Austria was a place of dialogue, and that through dialogue conflict could be reduced. He acknowledged that there is "xenophobia" in Austria, but that "anti-Semitism is not acceptable" and "we need help from the outside."

CHANCELLOR DR. FRANZ VRANITZKY

On Tuesday, Aug. 26, 12:45 p.m., the AJC group met with the Federal Chancellor of Austria, Dr. Franz Vranitsky at the Bundeskanzleramt. The Chancellor began the discussion with "an explanation" of the election campaign of Dr. Waldheim. He said that "because of the personal history of Waldheim, his supporters were not ready to accept criticism from the outside. They insisted that 'we vote for our President'." He added that the "campaign develops a rhetoric of its own."

As Chancellor, he said, he cannot criticize his President nor the opposition party. But, he explained further, that "those Austrians who served in the German army and their widows could not accept the unverified charges that Waldheim was a war criminal for they would have to accept that they or their husbands were war criminals." He admitted

that "part of the Austrians still subscribe to the views of the Austrian Republic from 1938-45."

The Chancellor then said, "My government needs to regain the confidence of a number of countries. Our position as partner in NATO has not changed." He added that business, banking, artists, cultural figures will need to inform their peers that "what happened during the Presidential campaign is not basic to the Austrian people." He also said that the Austrian Jewish community needs to be assured of that fact.

The AJC representatives told the Chancellor that they did not come to Austria to discuss or debate the Waldheim issue. What concerns us, they said, is the fact that "there were no statements of revulsion when anti-Semitic statements were used in the campaign and by both political parties." For the past 40 years, they added, it appears that Austria has engaged in denial and repression of Austria's deep involvement in the Nazi holocaust and in the persistence of anti-Semitism. The Presidential campaign has broken that out into the open, and now is the time to begin a process of coming to terms with those harsh realities.

As for Austria's image in the world, they said, cosmetics and public relations will not change those negative views; only a change in substance will produce new realities which can then be interpreted positively. The first need, as we see it, is to face up to the facts of Austria's history during the Nazi period, the persistence of anti-Semitism today in certain quarters, ending the delusion that Austria was only a "victim" of the Nazi anschluss, and beginning a process of education and consciousness-raising that will bring those messages to the Austrian people.

The Chancellor said he understood what our group was saying and promised that he would consult with Dr. Heinz Kienzl, whom he called his "tutor" from their days together in the banking business. They would then determine what practical programs would need to be undertaken to realize the objectives that we discussed.

Thursday, Aug. 28, 2 p.m., RENNER INSTITUTE (a "think-tank" associated with the Social Democratic Party)

Meeting with Dr. Erick Froeschl, director; Dr. Scholz, secretary to the Mayor of Vienna and formerly a member of the Ministry of Education; ...Rathkalb, H. Zoitl; P. Eppl, Spann, Mrs. Morawek, Ministry of Education. These persons were identified as "experts working in the field of 'anti-Fascist education' and in combatting anti-Semitism.

Dr. Scholz in his opening statement asserted that "there are significant changes in the teaching of contemporary history in the Austrian secondary school system. Through our Institute of Contemporary History, headed by Dr. Spann since 1966, we are trying to correct 40 years of silence about our recent history. We needed a new generation

to break the silence after 1945."

Dr. Scholz, Ms. Morawek, Dr. Spann and others reported that the teaching of contemporary history - that is, the history of Austria from 1918-1986, including the First Republic of National Socialism - is now obligatory for 14 and 18-year-old Austrian youths, as well as in all universities. They said that "interest is very high among young people, and they complain they are not getting enough contemporary history in school. They want frank answers."

They indicated that new materials have been prepared to meet these needs - textbooks, curricula, audio-visual materials. The key to effective teaching on the Holocaust, fascism and anti-Semitism is the adequate training of teachers.

Mrs. Morawek pointed to "media boxes" prepared by the Education Ministry that contain books, tapes, projection materials, posters, reproduction of Nazi pamphlets and posters, Nazi newspapers, letters from concentration camps victims, last issue of a 1941 Jewish newspaper, cassettes of concentration camp survivors, a copy of a Nazi death sentence against a Catholic resistance fighter. These began to be produced in 1975.

In addition, there is a textbook exchange on these subjects with other European countries, as well as an exchange with Israel (arranged through Israeli Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizur.)

These materials, they said, seek to teach a "correct view of the Nazi holocaust" and has the full agreement of both major political parties. They indicated, however, that there was resistance to disseminating these materials in "conservative and clerical circles."

Mrs. Morawek also reported that there is a teacher training institute to help sensitize teachers on how to teach honestly and forthrightly about the Nazi holocaust, Austria's involvement, and anti-Semitism. Concentration camp survivors are invited to address both schools and these institutes.

Dr. Spann reported that every year 80-100 orders for these materials are received, and that whole schools pay visits to concentration camps as a means of helping them confront the Nazi tragedy.

Dr. Scholz and Mrs. Morawek gave us copies of instruction sheets from the Ministry of Education that require all secondary school teachers to take mandatory courses on "National Socialism and Neo-Nazism" as well as to attend seminars at the Austrian Jewish Museum in Eisenstadt headed by Catholic scholar, Dr. Kurt Schubert.

Dr. P. Eppel spoke about the Austrian Resistance Archives which seeks to present information about resistance and persecution in Austria. In March 1987-88, there will be a traveling exhibit of these

archives both in Austria and the United States. (AJC agreed to be helpful in arranging the U.S. tour.)

A study is also being conducted by the Renner Institute of radical right activity in Austria from 1925-1986, as a means of sensitizing the Austrian population to the threat of extremism.

Mr. Nevas, and other AJC representatives, expressed their gratification at learning about these important education activities for combatting Nazism and anti-Semitism and wondered why more is not known about them.

✓ Rabbi Tanenbaum reported on the Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish textbook programs conducted in the U.S. in cooperation with the AJC, as well as about the joint textbook and teachers training program with the University of Duisburg in West Germany and the Aachen and Freiburg textbook projects. He gave Dr. Scholz copies of German textbooks published in that program. Dr. Scholz asked whether the AJC was interested in a similar cooperative program with the Austrian educational institutions and the AJC reply was yes. They agreed to remain in touch with each other for possible follow-up.

Mr. Trosten reported on the parallel textbook project with the Eckert Foundation in the FRG. They are studying the portrayal of Jews in German textbooks, and AJC is examining the presentation of Germany in American secondary textbooks.

Thursday, Aug. 28, 4 p.m. - FOREIGN MINISTER DR. PETER JANKOWITSCH

Dr. Jankowitsch greeted Leo Nevas warmly recalling their earlier meetings at the United Nations. The Foreign Minister welcomed the group and said that he attached much importance to dialogue with the Jewish community.

The AJC group spoke of its concern over the use of anti-Semitism during the presidential campaign and the unsettling effect it has had on the Jewish community in Austria. They also gave a brief report of our earlier meetings in Vienna on refugees and asylum, the Renner Institute educational programs, and the proposal to establish joint working groups between Austrian institutions and AJC.

Dr. Jankowitsch said he welcomed these developments, and said that we must employ "our best intellectual resources" to remove the residue of anti-Semitism from Austria.

He noted that the Austrian parliament had voted a law against neo-Nazi propaganda. We reported Dr. Wiesenthal's concern that there was resistance to implementing that law in the Ministries of Justice and Interior. He responded that that would have to be looked into and overcome.

As an indication of the Government's commitment to face the Nazi past, he said that police and the army soldiers are brought to the Mathausen Concentration Camp and as part of their induction procedures they are called to face the past and what Nazism and anti-Semitism have led to. He also noted that 1988 will mark the 50th anniversary of Hitler's occupation of Austria and that should become an occasion for confronting the past history.

In closing, Dr. Jankowitsch said he would be in New York at the end of September to attend the UN General Assembly, and that he would welcome an opportunity to meet with AJC leadership at that time. (The meeting was held at the UN Plaza Hotel on Sept. 29th.)

Tuesday, Aug. 26, 1 p.m.

Prof. Dr. Kurt Schubert, a Catholic scholar and director of the Institute of Judaic Studies, hosted a kosher luncheon for us at the Arche Noah restaurant. Dr. Schubert, wearing a yarmulka and speaking excellent modern Hebrew, began telling us about his history and his institute over a high-cholesterol luncheon. From other sources we learned that Dr. Schubert was a vigorous anti-Nazi during his student days at the University of Vienna. The retired Cardinal (Franz) Koenig, former Archbishop of Austria, was his patron who sponsored his establishing the Institute.

Cardinal Koenig, whom Rabbi Tanenbaum knew at Vatican Council II, launched one of the first studies of Catholic religious textbooks used in Austrian parochial schools resulting in the removal of much anti-Semitic teachings. He supported the setting up Dr. Schubert's Institute as a means of teaching Catholics and all interested Austrians about Jewish history, Judaism, anti-Semitism, the Nazi holocaust, and Israel. (The present Archbishop, a traditionalist, is believed to be much less interested in this area.) He was being installed during our visit and was not available, we plan to meet with him during a fourth coming trip to Vienna.)

Following luncheon, we accompanied Dr. Schubert to his Institute. It was an impressive display of books, research documents, audio-visual aides, posters, etc. Seminars, classes, and lectures are held here mainly for Christian students who generally number about 200 persons. (The Austrian Government supports financially this Institute which is related to the University of Vienna.)

There was a friendly exchange of views between our AJC group and Dr. Schubert. There was gratitude for his impressive commitment to improving Christian-Jewish relations in Austria, but also the feeling that his Institute is an underutilized facility. We talked briefly with him about the possibility of joint sponsorship of Catholic-Jewish Institutes with AJC, about which he was quite positive.

On Wednesday afternoon, 2 p.m., we made our hour-long trip (each

way) to the Jewish Museum in Eisenstadt, in the home of Dr. Samson Wertheimer, former chief rabbi of Austria and a "hofjude." Dr. Enid MB. Schubert gave us an interesting guided tour of the museum.

Tues., Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m. - RECEPTION AT HOME OF MAX BERGER

A leader of the Austrian Jewish Community, Mr. Berger, who manufactures furniture and calls himself a "commercial adviser," sponsored a warm and friendly reception for our group. Leaders of the Austrian Jewish gemeente, some of whom were not present at other meetings, some U.S. Jewish visitors and several Israeli guests, were present.

Mr. Berger's home contained a most impressive collection of Jewish art objects which some called the most valuable collection of Judaica in Europe. Following a light repast, the entire group joined in a long and intensive discussion of the themes and issues we had begun to talk about during our first day's meetings with Jewish leaders. They repeated their concerns about their deteriorated situation since the Presidential elections, the need for our support with the Austrian government in their behalf, Dr. Wiesenthal's concern over lack of enforcement of laws curtailing Nazi propaganda.

The AJC group was again responsive to their anxieties and sought to reassure them that we would use influence to support them in all our talks with government officials (which we did.) We also made clear, however, that we did not want to play "Jewish politics" playing off one Jewish group against another, and that it was important to build a trust relationship based on mutual confidence. There was some startled reaction, but there was general understanding of the point on both sides.

Ed Elson, who chaired the session, expressed the appreciation of AJC, for their heartwarming hospitality.

WEDNESDAY, Aug. 27, 9:00 A.M. - REFUGEES IN AUSTRIA

CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

The role of Dr. Kurt Waldheim, President of Austria, as an intelligence officer in the Nazi army during World War II, has become an inflamed cause célèbre on many levels on the international scene.

The intense controversy over his past has caused strain between the United States and Austria, culminating in the U.S. Government placing Dr. Waldheim on its "watch-list" forbidding his entry to our country.

It has resulted in stress between West European democracies and Austria.

This heated debate has precipitated antagonisms between Israel and Austria, aggravating their normally constructive diplomatic and other relationships.

It has created a scenario in which World Jewry and Austria appear to be arraigned against each other in hostility and distrust.

Most recently, the audience which Dr. Waldheim held with Pope John Paul II has triggered off antagonisms and resentments between Catholics and Jews, clouding over some twenty years of significant progress in interreligious understanding and friendship resulting from the historic decisions of Vatican Council II.

Those are enormous global and destructive consequences to flow from this single case centering on the World Jewish Congress' charges of war criminality against Dr. Waldheim.

The American Jewish Committee clearly holds no brief for Dr. Waldheim, who, in our judgment has lied about and denied his responsibilities as a Nazi army officer in Group E in the Balkans. No more than we would seek to exculpate any head of state who lied to his people would we participate even remotely in any effort to absolve Dr. Waldheim.

But the core of the issue we wish to address is located precisely there. Numerous charges have been made that Dr. Waldheim is a "Nazi war criminal," "a mass murderer," a "participant in the Kozara massacres," a deporter of our fellow Jews in Salonika and elsewhere in Greece. These charges have not been confirmed by the U.S. Department of Justice.

It is an issue of conscience and truth for us, both as Jews and as Americans, that verifiable evidence substantiating these charges be made public. Before the bar of justice, charges are far from the same order of truth as incriminating evidence. If due process results in convincing evidence of his personal guilt as a war criminal, than Dr. Waldheim should suffer the full consequences appropriate for such crimes. The Austrian Government and people would then be expected to draw the necessary moral and political conclusions.

If the evidence does not support the charges that have been made than let us finally have the *courage* and *moral* integrity to say so and place the Waldheim case in the less than primary place in world consciousness that it has come to occupy.

Plainly spoken, this passionate drama has gotten out of hand to the detriment of fundamental Jewish, Israeli, American, Austrian, and Western democratic interests.

It is nor in our interest to allow anyone to array the Jewish community against the world, especially on the basis of claims and charges not yet publicly proven and demonstrated.

The American Jewish Committee - indeed, we are convinced - the most thoughtful elements of the world Jewish community, including Israel, are not hostile or opposed to the Austrian Government or people.

It is a material fact that two-thirds of the Austrian population was born during or after World War II, and cannot therefore be held responsible in any way for the deeds of their parents or grandparents in the Nazi holocaust. From our recent personal experiences in Austria, the AJC is convinced that thousands of young Austrians wish to confront the past, and are determined to learn the necessary moral and political lessons in order to assure that Nazism, Fascism, and anti-Semitism will not again surface in their country. The AJC respects that conviction and we are committed to cooperate with that generation of future leaders of a democratic Austria.

We do not believe it is in the interests of the State of Israel to allow further deterioration in its diplomatic, economic, political, and cultural relations with Austria. If for no other reason, Austria has been a haven of first asylum for at least 250,000 Jewish refugees from the Soviet Union, Iran, Syria, and elsewhere. Austria, as a matter of democratic conscience, has provided safe haven and transit for the majority of these Jewish refugees to Israel, the United States, and elsewhere. This Waldheim tragedy must not be allowed to obscure the crucial importance of that humanitarian Austrian policy which is equally vital for the future as for the past.

While we differ about the wisdom of the judgment of the recent Papal-Waldheim audience, we are in no way antagonistic to the person of Pope John Paul II nor to the Roman Catholic Church, among whom we count millions as our friends and neighbors. The furor over the Papal-Waldheim audience must not be allowed to overshadow "the revolution in mutual esteem" which has developed between the Catholic Church and the Jewish People in recent years.

And finally, it is not in the interest of the United States and of Western democratic societies that Austria become alienated from the family of nations committed to constitutional democracy and human rights. During the 40 years of the Second Republic, Austria has become increasingly integrated into the orbit of Western societies, while retaining its special bridge role between East and West.

In a world in which democratic societies are a scarce minority, all who are committed to democracy and human liberties have a profound stake in strengthening those ties with democratic forces in Austria. It is irresponsible, indeed, even madness, to undermine and alienate those democratic Austrian leaders and people with whom we share a common future and destiny.



BUNDESMINISTERIUM FÜR UNTERRICHT, KUNST UND SPORT

Sachbearbeiter:
Prof. Elisabeth MORAWEK
Tel. · 0222/6620/4438-DW

Zl. 33.275/5-I/11/85

An die
Landesschulräte für
Niederösterreich,
Steiermark, Burgenland,
An den
Stadtschulrat für Wien

An die
Direktionen der Pädagogischen
und Berufspädagogische Akademien

An die
Direktionen der Zentrallehranstalten

Betr.: Empfehlung des Besuches des "Österreichischen
jüdischen Museums in Eisenstadt"

Das Bundesministerium für Unterricht, Kunst und Sport empfiehlt für Schulen den Besuch des Österreichischen jüdischen Museums in Eisenstadt. Der Schwerpunkt der dort gezeigten ständigen Ausstellung "1000 Jahre österreichisches Judentum" liegt in der Information über das Judentum, seine Geschichte bis zur Gegenwart und unterschiedliche historische Formen des Antisemitismus. Es wird versucht, den häufig vorhandenen Informationslücken und deshalb oft falschen Vorstellungen über das Judentum entgegenzuwirken, indem die sehr komplexen historischen Hintergründe für Antisemitismus und auch dessen unterschiedliche Funktionen in einzelnen historischen Epochen aufgezeigt werden.

Die Ausstellung "Der gelbe Stern in Österreich", der die Geschichte und Geschehnisse der österreichischen Juden im 20. Jahrhundert zeigt, ist besonders um eine für Jugendliche verständliche Darstellungsweise bemüht.

Gemäß dem Auftrag des Grundsatzerlasses "Politische Bildung in den Schulen", "für unantastbare Grundwerte, wie Freiheit und Menschenwürde, einzutreten und Vorurteile abzubauen", sind alle Lehrer aufgefordert, sich in ihrem Unterricht mit dem Antisemitismus auseinanderzusetzen. Dieser wird - wie die Geschichte zeigt - durch nicht hinterfragte Traditionen weitergegeben und wurde - vielfach in rational nicht begründbaren Emotionen wurzelnd - politisch wiederholt mißbraucht.

Durch den Besuch des Österreichischen jüdischen Museums in Eisenstadt können hier den Schülern wichtige Einsichten vermittelt werden.

Anmeldungen zu einem Besuch der Ausstellungen sind direkt an das Österreichische jüdische Museum, 7000 Eisenstadt, Unterbergstraße 6, Tel. 02682/5145 zu richten. Geöffnet ist täglich außer Montag von 10.00 bis 17.00 Uhr.

Das Bundesministerium für Unterricht, Kunst und Sport stellt jenen Lehrern, die mit ihren Klassen das Österreichisch jüdische Museum in Eisenstadt besuchen, den Katalog "1000 Jahre österreichisches Judentum" und den Katalog "Der gelbe Stern in Österreich" kostenlos zur Verfügung. Anforderungen sind an die Abteilung Politische Bildung des Bundesministeriums für Unterricht, Kunst und Sport, Abt. I/11, Minoritenplatz 5, 1014 Wien zu richten.

Wien, 21. Mai 1986

Für den Bundesminister:

Dr. RETTINTER

F.d.R.d.A.:

Rechtling

e/1986

Anti-fascist education in Austria

NEW SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS. VISITS TO MAUTHAUSEN CAMP

"If we are to win the battle against antisemitism and all the other excrescent manifestations of fascism, we must start in the schools." This was the unanimous conclusion reached by a meeting of the Federal Committee of Austrian Resistance Fighters and Victims of Fascism held in June 1986. One of the central items on the meeting's agenda was a paper entitled "How is the period 1938-1945 dealt with in school text books?", which was delivered by Leopold Rettinger, department head at the Austrian Ministry of Education.

Knowledge about the time since 1918, and especially about those events which led to the Second World War as well as about the War itself, is increasingly imparted by history teaching in a very thorough way. The textbook "Zeitbilder" ("Images of History") is a typical illustration of the way the new series of school books deals with this era. No fewer than six chapters are devoted to the period 1938-1945: "Adolf Hitler Seeks War", "The Outbreak of the Second World War", "The War Spreads", "National Socialism Reveals its Full Inhumanity", "Austria under Hitler's Rule" and "The Unconditional Defeat of Hitler and his Allies".

"Eyewitness Reports"

The new series of textbooks is of course just one facet of a comprehensive syllabus of anti-fascist education in Austrian schools. A programme entitled "Enlightenment on Fascism, Neo-fascist Tendencies and the Propensity to Prejudice" has been launched, and this comprises the following individual projects:

- * the extension of school syllabuses to place greater emphasis on modern history and social studies;
- * the improvement and extension of teacher training and further training of qualified teachers at the Pedagogic Academies and in large-scale seminars run by the Ministry of Education as well as in seminars at Pedagogic Institutes;
- * in co-operation with the "Comité International des Camps" speakers will be sent to schools throughout the country to deliver lectures in the series "Eyewitness Reports". This also involves collaboration with the political science and modern history departments at Vienna, Linz and Innsbruck universities;
- * teaching aids: the revision, vetting and updating of textbooks, the compilation of an information series entitled "Modern History I-III", a modern history "mediatheque", and a series of publications under the heading "Political Education;"
- * besides the "Eyewitness Reports" series the principal supplementary measures taken so far include: the Austrian National Day project "Schoolchildren Conduct Research: Modern History", carried out in 1978 and 1980 and followed up by the visit by a group of Austrian teachers to Israel; regular school field trips to Mauthausen concentration camp; and the "Jews in Austria" series run in 1983 in collaboration with the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF);
- * closer co-operation with all the relevant institutions such as the documentary archives of the Austrian Resistance Movement, Vienna University's Department of Modern History, the Austrian Society for Political Education and the Austrian Society for Political Enlightenment.

Leopold Rettinger notes: "Both in Austria and abroad these measures have met with genuine approval. A further proof of the success of our efforts is a change in attitudes towards prejudice amongst young Austrians today."

The Mauthausen Memorial

A special ministerial decree has been issued governing school visits to the former concentration camp at Mauthausen. This decree states:

"The Memorial at Mauthausen is a symbolic warning which should prevent us from forgetting the consequences of disregard for humanitarian ideals and human life. The public memorial and museum are dedicated to the memory of all those who defied the terror of the National Socialist regime and who thereby laid the foundation stone for the liberty we enjoy today."

The Ministry of Education encourages school field trips to the memorial, which is an important aspect of modern history education. So many teachers and school classes have taken the opportunity to visit Mauthausen in recent years that they have represented an increasingly disproportionate ratio of the total number of visitors to the site. Judging by the follow-up reports from schools it is apparent that more and more teachers are laying the groundwork for such visits by explaining the historical background in detail and ahead of time.

Not only Austrian schoolchildren but also many young people from abroad (10,000 every year) visit the Mauthausen Memorial.

On the basis of an agreement with Hungarian resistance fighters and victims of National Socialism, Hungarian schoolchildren accompanied by their teachers acting as guides will be visiting Mauthausen in future. The teachers have already spent several days at the site, learning the detailed history of the camp from members of the Mauthausen Camp Committee. Two groups comprising 77 Hungarian students have already paid visits to the memorial.

The ultimate objective of anti-fascist education is to give schoolchildren the opportunity to draw their own conclusions about the past on the basis of the full historical facts as they have been made available to them.

DRAFT

The election of Kurt Waldheim to the presidency of Austria is a sad and perplexing event. Notwithstanding the absence of a "smoking gun", sufficient reliable and authoritative evidence indicates that Mr. Waldheim was associated with the murderous operations of the Nazis in the Balkans, and that he lied about this association in his official biographical memoirs. Apparently, a majority of Austrian citizens, in determining what kind of man should fill the high office of the presidency in their country, either chose to overlook this past or refused to take it into account. Furthermore, the blatant and crude anti-Semitism that flared up during the election is something about which not only Jews but all Austrians should be profoundly troubled. People concerned with the moral health of our world cannot allow the monstrous and unparalleled crimes of the Nazis to be swept under the rug or forgotten in the ongoing tide of world events. It is a phenomenon that must be ever kept alive to insure that it will not be repeated. The election of Waldheim constitutes an obstacle to the achievement of this important goal.

[start]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible



SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA

327 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016 • (212) 686-8670



RABBI HERBERT M. BAUMGAID
President
RABBI MORDECAI WAXMAN
Honorary President
RABBI GILBERT KLAPERMAN
First Vice-President
RABBI IRWIN GRÖNER
Second Vice-President
MARTIN C. BARELL
HERBERT BERMAN
MYRON POMERANTZ
Vice-Presidents
JOYCE D. RUDNICK
WILLIAM UNGAR
Secretaries
JUDAH FEINERMAN
Treasurer
RABBI IRVING LEHRMAN
Chairman, National Society of Patrons
PHILIP GREENE
Chairman, National Advisory Council
RABBI IRWIN BLANK
Washington Representative

RABBI HENRY D. MICHELMAN
Executive Vice-President

MARTIN C. BARELL
Chairman, Board of Governors

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

HERBERT BERMAN
Administration and Budget
RABBI ARNOLD GOODMAN
Domestic Affairs

RABBI ABRAHAM KELMAN
Task Force on the Family
RABBI RONALD B. SOBEL
Task Force on International Affairs
RABBI WALTER S. WURZBURGER
Interreligious Affairs
RABBI HASKEL LOOKSTEIN
Israel Affairs

SAMUEL S. BROCHSTEIN
Roll Call of Synagogues
SEYMOUR L. KATZ
Task Force on Soviet Jewry
RABBI MURRAY SALTZMAN
RABBI RICHARD YELLIN
Task Force on Minority Rights

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Central Conference of American Rabbis
RABBI JACK STERN,
President

Rabbinical Assembly
RABBI ALEXANDER M. SHAPIRO,
President

Rabbinical Council of America
RABBI LOUIS BERNSTEIN,
President

Union of American Hebrew
Congregations
RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER,
President

Union of Orthodox Jewish
Congregations of America
SIDNEY KWESTEL, *President*
United Synagogue of America
FRANKLIN D. KREUTZER, *President*

GUNTHER LAWRENCE
*Director, Development &
Public Information*

DR. LEON FELDMAN
*Consultant, Interreligious
Affairs*

April 10, 1986

Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar
The Secretary-General
The United Nations
Room 3800
U.N. Plaza
New York, New York 10017

Dear Secretary-General de Cuellar:

We appreciate the cooperation that the United Nations has finally extended to the Government of Israel and others, affording them the opportunity to study the United Nations files of former Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim who is accused of aiding and carrying out Nazi war crimes against Jews and other citizens of Greece and Yugoslavia as an officer of the German Armed Forces of World War II.

We highly commend the World Jewish Congress, its President, Edgar Bronfman, and its Secretary-General, Israel Singer, as well as the staff of this international Jewish body, for assuming the leadership in revealing the documentation which will lead to knowledge of the true facts regarding Mr. Waldheim.

We are, however, extremely disturbed at the dark cloud which hangs over the United Nations as a residue of the Waldheim era. We wonder whether his alleged Nazi past persuaded the former UN Secretary-General to encourage nations to promulgate the infamous Zionism-is-Racism Resolution of 1975, to extend an invitation to Yasir Arafat and to lend diplomatic respectability to the Palestine Liberation Organization, whose main objective is the destruction of Israel.

We urge the United Nations to conduct an independent inquiry into the influence of the Waldheim leadership, thus enabling this international body to show the world its fairness and objectivity.

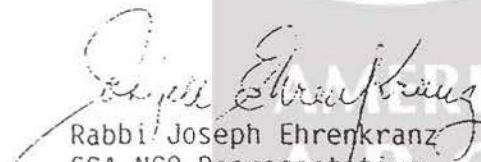
As the representative NGO's of the Synagogue Council of America, the organization which represents the rabbinic and congregational groups of Conservative, Orthodox and Reform Judaism.

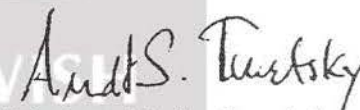
Secretary-General de Cuellar
April 10, 1986
Page Two

in the United States, we are prepared to offer any assistance in the development of such an inquiry.

May we thank you in advance for your consideration, and wish you continued success in the carrying out of your responsibilities as the Chief Officer of the United Nations.

Cordially,


Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz
SCA-NGO Representative
Cong. Agudath Shalom
301 Strawberry Hill
Stamford, CT 06905


Rabbi Arnold S. Turetsky
SCA-NGO Representative
Temple Israel Center
280 Old Mamaroneck Road
White Plains, New York 10605



SCA NEWS

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA



327 LEXINGTON AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016 • (212) 686-8670

CONTACT: GUNTHER LAWRENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL CALLS UPON UNITED NATIONS TO CONDUCT INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO WALDHEIM ERA AS SECRETARY-GENERAL

NEW YORK, NY--The Synagogue Council of America has asked the United Nations to conduct an independent study of the Waldheim era as Secretary-General to determine if his alleged Nazi past in any way influenced UN policies or decisions.

In a letter to Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar, the SCA posed the question: "We wonder whether his alleged Nazi past influenced the former UN Secretary General to encourage nations to promulgate the infamous Zionist-Racism resolution of 1975, or to extend an invitation to Yasir Arafat and to lend diplomatic respectability to the Palestine Liberation Organization, whose main objective is the destruction of Israel".

The SCA urges the UN to eliminate "a cloud of darkness which now hangs over the international body" by conducting an independent inquiry thus "enabling the UN to show the world its fairness and objectivity". The letter was signed by the SCA's UN Non-Governmental representatives Rabbis Joseph Ehrenkranz, Stamford, CT (Orthodox) and Arnold S. Turetsky, White Plains, NY (Conservative).

The SCA represents the rabbinic and congregational organizations of Conservative, Orthodox and Reform Judaism serving four million congregational members in the U.S. and Canada.

In the SCA letter the religious body further said:

We appreciate the cooperation that the United Nations has finally extended to the Government of Israel and others, affording them the opportunity to study the United Nations files of former Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim who is accused of aiding and carrying out Nazi war crimes against Jews and other citizens of Greece and Yugoslavia as an officer of the German Armed Forces of World War II.

We highly commend the World Jewish Congress, its President, Edgar Bronfman, and its Secretary-General, Israel Singer, as well as the staff of this international Jewish body, for assuming the leadership in revealing the documentation which will lead to knowledge of the true facts regarding Mr. Waldheim.

4/10/86

SCA is the national coordinating agency for the Conservative, Orthodox and Reform rabbinic and congregational organizations.

CONSTITUENT AGENCIES

Conservative:	RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY	UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA
Orthodox:	RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA	UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA
Reform:	CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS	UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF JUDAISM AND JEWISH/CHRISTIAN RELATIONS

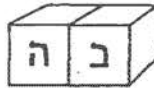
Central House
Telephone: (021-)472 4231

Selly Oak Colleges

Bristol Road
Telefax: (021-)4550434

Birmingham B29 6LQ U.K.
Telex: 337676 TELPES G

President of the Colleges:
John Ferguson MA BD FIAL



Director of the Centre:
Rabbi Norman Solomon MA PhD

Our ref: NS/MMC

4 April 1986

Dr Leon Feldman
Synagogue Council of America
327 Lexington Avenue
NEW YORK
NY 10016
USA

Dear *Leon*

I recently spoke with the Chief Rabbi, Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, about the proposed Anglican/Jewish Consultation.

It has now been agreed on both sides that we should proceed with convening the postponed conference in a few months' time along lines which will be agreed by all the parties concerned. The Chief Rabbi has once more asked me to act on his behalf in doing this.

I wonder if you could help me to formulate something appropriate by letting me have copies of some recent programmes which have been supported by IJCIC including its orthodox component. Unfortunately Canon Phillips, who was my Anglican co-convenor, has had to withdraw as he recently accepted new appointment which would not allow him to devote sufficient time to the preparations for the Consultation. As the Bishop of Ripon, who is Chairman of the Archbishops' Consultants, will be on sabbatical for another month or so, it is unlikely that they will appoint a new convenor until then, although suggestions have already been put forward.

With all best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Norman Solomon

Rabbi Dr Norman Solomon

RECEIVED

APR - 9 1986

[end]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible



HIGHLIGHTS OF AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE FACT-FINDING
VISIT TO AUSTRIA, AUGUST 25-29, 1986

In response to the critical moral and political issues raised by the recent election of ~~Dr. Kurt Waldheim~~ as President of Austria, the American Jewish Committee's Board of Governors authorized on June 23, 1986, an AJC delegation to undertake a fact-finding mission in Austria. The group was to be headed by AJC President Theodore Ellenoff, who unfortunately, became temporarily ill. He designated Leo Nevas, ^{of Westport, Conn.,} chairman of AJC's Board of Governors, to head the group.

9 The other members of the delegation were: Edward E. Elson of Atlanta, chairman of AJC's Board of Trustees; Miles Jaffe of Detroit, chairman of AJC's International Relations Commission; David M. Gordis, AJC Executive Vice-President; Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of AJC's International Relations Department; and William Trosten, AJC's Associate director. The group's itinerary lasted from Aug. 25 through 29.

The initiative for this fact-finding trip - the first undertaken by a Jewish group to Austria since the Presidential elections - began with a series of meetings between Mr. Nevas, Rabbi Tanenbaum, and Mr. Trosten with the Austrian Ambassador to the United States, Thomas Klestil; the Austrian Consul General in New York, Helga Winkler-Campagna; and Dr. Heinz Kienzl, General Director of the Austrian National Bank in Vienna. ^{In behalf of the Austrian government,} ~~Dr. Kienzl~~ coordinated the schedule of meetings for the AJC representatives in Vienna.

Prior to making the decision to go to Austria, there was also extended conversations and correspondence between ~~AJC and the Austrian government~~ ~~and~~ Dr. Ivan Hacker, president of the Austrian Jewish community, other ~~and~~ Jewish leaders in Vienna; the Israeli Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizur; and Rabbi Tanenbaum and Mr. Trosten. Their encouragement to come to Vienna reinforced the AJC decision to carry out this effort.

Exchange of views also took place between the directors of the European and Austrian desks of the ^{U.S.} State Department, respectively, Dr. Michael Habib and John Nesvig, ~~who supported the AJC mission~~ ~~from the perspective~~ and Dr. Gordis and Rabbi Tanenbaum. The State Department officials supported the AJC mission ^{from} ~~the~~ the perspective of American-Austrian relations.

The purposes of the mission were severalfold:

- (1) To gain first-hand knowledge about the situation of the 9,000-member Austrian Jewish community in the wake of the Presidential elections;
- (2) To obtain a more precise picture of the nature and extent of anti-Semitism in Austria, and specifically, the political exploitation of anti-Jewish bigotry during the recent elections;
- (3) To ascertain what the Austrian government and other key public officials and institutions are doing - or are not doing - in facing up to Austria's role in the Nazi period, and in combatting the legacy of various forms of anti-Semitism - religious, racial, and cultural - in that nation;
- (4) To develop a clearer picture of Austria as an East-West crossroads of asylum for refugees and immigrants, particularly the Jewish emigrants from the Soviet Union, among others;
- (5) To understand Austria's critical geo-political role in East-West relations, the European community, and the Middle East.

~~In pursuit of the above objectives~~

~~Based~~ ^{Depending} on the outcome of this fact-gathering, the AJC group was open to the possibility of undertaking a series of cooperative projects with key Austrian institutions that share our concerns over these issues. As indicated at the conclusion of this report, we are gratified that a series of understandings have been arrived at for such joint projects designed to help combat anti-Semitic tendencies which linger in Austria and to promote improved Austrian-Jewish relations based on a frank and honest confrontation of Austrian history.

In pursuit of our objectives, it was encouraging that we were able to meet with the highest authorities of the Austrian government - the Chancellor, Dr. Franz Vranitzky; the Foreign Minister, Dr. Peter Jankowitsch - ^{major} leaders of both political parties, banking and industry; ^{experts in} social science research, education, culture, and media; refugee experts; and a key personality in Christian-Jewish relations. There were extensive discussions with the recently-appointed U.S. Ambassador to Austria, Mr. Ronald S. Lauder, and key members of his embassy staff. At their request, there were four separate, official meetings

AUSTRIA

-3-

AJC group and said that ~~the~~ the Jewish community "attached much importance to the visit of a group of your standing and influence."

~~XXXX~~ with leaders of the Austrian Jewish community. (The full schedule of ~~meetings~~ ^{The AJC Itinerary} is attached.)

With ~~max~~ the concurrence of President Ellenoff, the AJC group issued no press releases prior or during this visit. That decision was made in order to assure maximum opportunity for objective fact-gathering ~~awxxxx~~ away from the glare and pressures of publicity, and to avoid any possible charges that the mission was carried out for ~~the~~ sake of institutional or personal publicity. There was also agreement that the AJC representatives would not meet with Dr. Hurt Waldheim under any circumstances. That consensus was rigorously observed.

- - -

Following are highlights of the AJC's findings on this visit to Austria ~~(a more detailed report of the many conversations and discussions will be presented shortly)~~.

AUSTRIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY - Our first meeting in Vienna was held with key leaders of the Austrian Jewish Community in their offices on Monday, Aug. 25, at 4 p.m. Dr. Hacker warmly welcomed the

Despite ideological and generational differences, many leaders of the Austrian Jewish community told us that their "situation has changed dramatically during the last six months" since the Presidential elections. For the first time in 40 years, since the end of World War II, they said, "anti-Semitism was used for political purposes. While there is latent anti-Semitism in the streets, this is the first time in 40 years that anti-Semitism was manipulated from the top downward." This has led many in the Austrian Jewish community to feel "pushed aside" in Austrian life by political leaders in both parties, and they therefore feel insecure and vulnerable. They asked for solidarity and fraternal support from the American Jewish Committee and American Jewry generally, and they seek reassurance from the Austrian Government.

Dr. Simon Wiesenthal, the legendary Nazi hunter, told the ^{AJC} group that "the Jews of Austria are not alone," and that "there are ~~xxxx~~ friends and enemies in both political parties." He added that of the Austrian population of 7,500,000 people, some 5 million were born during or after the war. He said that "many of these younger Austrians voted against the World Jewish Congress, not for Waldheim." Dr. Wiesenthal added that

"the ~~real~~ real victim of the Presidential campaign is the image of Austria."

While there is a law against ~~Max~~ surveying Nazi propaganda and against anti-Semitic defamation, Dr. Wiesenthal stated, there is little support in the Ministries of Justice and Interior for implementing the law. *(See copy of Dr. Wiesenthal's letter to Rabbi Tanenbaum.)* Since 1975, there have been no trials against Austrian Nazis, even though, he specified, ~~that~~ "three-quarters of the staff operating the Nazi extermination camps were Austrians; 80% of Adolph Eichmann's staff were Austrian; and 58% of the war crimes were committed by Austrian Nazis."

Since the election of Chancellor Bruno Kreisky in 1970, he added, the image of Austria suffered decline for he included four former Nazis in his government. Of 600 acknowledged Nazis, only 6 were brought to trial. While Austria has on its books the same law as the Federal Republic of Germany outlawing the "Auschwitz lie," (the notion that the Nazi holocaust never took place), former Nazis or sons of former Nazis in the government won't allow its implementation.

Through this process of denial and repression, Austria has avoided making any moral or material restitution to the Jewish people during the past 40 years, he said.

Dr. Grosz told the AJC delegation that as a result of the Presidential elections, "the majority of Austrians, especially the younger generation, are aware that anti-Semitism exists and can be used politically." He said that "our ~~task~~ task is not to continue the fight against Waldheim; our common purpose is to fight the situation of anti-Semitism as it exists now in Austria."

Both Dr. Grosz and Dr. Musikand indicated that 40% of the Austrian Jewish community is over 65 years old, and that some 2,000

[start]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible



income-earning Austrian Jews support the entire Jewish communal structure, including part of the care of Soviet and Iranian Jewish emigres. They added that there were no restitution funds available from the Austrian government to help maintain the Jewish survivors as is the case in West Germany. Since the Austrians see themselves

as a "victim" of Nazism rather than a participant in war crimes.

The AJC reflected this range of concerns to the Austrian government and other public officials with whom they met.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN AUSTRIA

Under the chairmanship of Dr. Kiendl, the AJC group held an extended discussion with a group of the leading social scientists

in Austria who have specialized in research and public opinion polling on anti-Semitism. These were:

Our meeting was held on Tuesday morning, Aug. 26, 9:00 am., in the offices of the Austrian National Bank. The experts were:

- Dr. Rudolf Bretschneider, of Fessel-Gfk-Institute (conservative);
 - Dr. Ernst Gehmacher, of Ifes Institute (social democratic);
 - Dr. Christian Haerfer, Institute for Conflict Resolution;
 - Dr. Roland Pohoryles, social scientist specializing in Jewish affairs.
- In addition, Dr. Herbert Kroll, counselor to the Austrian Foreign Ministry, and Rudolf Klier, deputy chairman of the board of directors of the Austrian National Bank, were present.

The social scientists presented the results of their several public opinion polls and research studies on the state of anti-Semitism in Austria. The findings were complex and each needs to be examined carefully in terms of its specialized methodology, including whether "soft" or "hard" indicators of anti-Semitism were used.

If any generalizations could be wagered, ~~xxxx~~ they would be along following lines:

- 1) They dismissed as "journalistic distortions" earlier reports that 85% of the Austrians were prejudiced against Jews, and 15% were without any ~~xxxx~~ anti-Semitic prejudice.

2) Their polls indicated that "10 to 15%" of the population was prejudiced against Jews, and that anti-Semitism was deeply rooted in the older generation, in rural populations, and among the less educated. ~~It~~ Anti-Semitism is "lower in the younger generation," and among better educated persons in the urban centers. They anticipate a decline in anti-Semitism as a result of generational trends. Much change in attitudes cannot be expected in the older generation in whom anti-Semitism is "deeply-seated." Education must be seen therefore as ~~as an xxx~~ important weapon against anti-Semitism among the young.

3) Those who are prejudiced against Jews are "prone to prejudice against migrant workers, ethnic minorities, and particularly colored people."

4) There is need to be very concerned about the role of such newspapers as the Kronen Zeitung, a mass circulation daily, which wrote strong articles and editorials with "anti-Semitic tones" during the Presidential elections. This newspaper "made it fashionable to use anti-Semitism in politics." (During the election, the Kronen Zeitung used yellow-and-black borders around front-page editorials suggesting the yellow stars which Jews were forced to wear under the Nazis.)

5) Attitudes toward Jews have also been influenced by "heavily charged images of Israel" growing out of the invasion of Lebanon, and other political issues emerging out of the Middle East conflict.

6) An estimated 10 to 15% of the population is "phil~~o~~-Semitic and anti-fascist," and this includes people from ^{the} conservative People's Party.

7) It was suggested that Waldheim gained 3-4% of the vote from anti-Semitic people that he might not have gained otherwise, but he lost the same percentage as a result of the anti-Semitic issue. Therefore, this view held, anti-Semitism did not influence decisively the election outcome.

8) Anti-Semitism, some argued, "never plays alone, but is part of a complex ideology. It is affected by the fact that Austria is "a small nation, surrounded largely by Communist states. Its extreme geography leads it to be fearful of attacks, and therefore reacts in a nationalistic way."

The AJC delegation engaged in a forceful exchange, making the following points:

1) Public opinion polls and social science research while useful in themselves cannot be disengaged from the historic reality that political anti-Semitism was incubated in Austria during the 19th and 20th century, ^{ies} particularly exemplified in the political parties organized on anti-Semitic platforms by George von Schonerer and Mayor Karl Lueger of Vienna. Hitler in fact acknowledged his indebtedness to their model of political anti-Semitism as a means of gaining political power. That historic consciousness has pervaded much of Austrian culture and history down to contemporary times.

2) The recent Presidential election was "a shock" to the Jewish people everywhere because it led to:

- (a) ~~The~~ The destabilization of the small Austrian Jewish community;
- (b) Anti-Semitism becoming acceptable as a vehicle for political discourse.

The AJC group acknowledged that Austria is a western democracy, and has made a critical contribution ~~xxxxxx~~ through its civilized treatment of refugees. But ~~xxxx~~ democracy presupposes an intense commitment to civility and uncivil language has cost Austria the loss of much goodwill in the Western world. It is important to restore that goodwill by making it clear that anti-Semitism must never again be allowed to serve as an acceptable vehicle for political discourse.

*x In response, Dr. Bretschneider stated that "there are anti-Semites in Austria, but there is no anti-Semitic ideology." He pointed to the fact that Austria has become a key center of asylum for refugees and immigrants, many of them Jews from the Soviet Union, the 1956 Hungarian rebellion, ~~and~~ the 1968 Czechoslovakia uprising, and the 1980-81 Polish struggle.

Ambassador Herbert Kroll of the Austrian Foreign Ministry said he was glad that this AJC visit was ~~take~~ taking place, that Austria was a place of dialogue, and that through dialogue conflict could be reduced. He acknowledged that ~~xxxx~~ there is "xenophobia" in Austria, but that "anti-Semitism is not acceptable" and "we need help from the outside."

CHANCELLOR DR. FRANZ VRANITZKY

On Tuesday, Aug. 26, 12:45 p.m., the AJC group met with the Federal Chancellor of Austria, Dr. Franz Vranitzky at the Bundeskanzleramt. The Chancellor began the discussion with "an explanation" of the election campaign of Dr. Waldheim. He said that "because of the personal history of Waldheim, his supporters were not ready to accept criticism from the outside. They insisted that 'we vote for our President.'" He added that the "campaign develops a rhetoric of its own."

As Chancellor, he said, he cannot criticize his ~~resident~~ ^{Austrians} nor the opposition party. But, he explained further, that "those/who served in the German army and their widows ~~xxxx~~ could not accept the unverified charges that Waldheim was a war criminal for they would have to accept that they or their husbands were war criminals." He admitted that "part of the Austrians still subscribe to the views of the Austrian Republic from 1938-45."

The Chancellor then said, "My government needs to regain the confidence of a number of countries. Our position as partner in NATO has not changed." He added that business, banking, artists, cultural figures

will need to inform their peers that "what happened ~~was~~ during the Presidential campaign is not basic to the Austrian people." He also said that the Austrian Jewish community needs to be assured of that fact.

The AJC representatives told the Chancellor that they did not come to Austria to discuss or debate the Waldheim issue. What concerns they said, us is the fact that "there were no statements of revulsion when anti-Semitic statements were used in the campaign and by both political parties." For the past 40 years, they added, it appears that Austria has engaged in denial and regression of Austria's deep involvement in the Nazi holocaust and in the persistence of anti-Semitism. The Presidential ~~xxxx~~ campaign has broken that out into the open, and now is the time to begin a process of coming to terms with those harsh realities.

As for Austria's image in the world, they said, cosmetics and public relations will not change those negative views; only a change in substance will produce new realities which can then be interpreted positively. The first need, as we see it, is to face up to the facts of Austria's history during the Nazi period, the ~~xxxx~~ persistence of anti-Semitism today in certain quarters, ending the delusion that Austria was only a "victim" of the Nazi anschluss, and beginning a process of education and consciousness-raising that will bring those messages to the Austrian people.

The Chancellor said he understood what our group was saying and promised that he would consult with Dr. Heinz Kienzl, whom he called his "tutor" from their days together in the banking business. They would then determine what practical programs would need to be undertaken to realize the objectives that we discussed.

[end]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible



AUSTRIA

Thursday, Aug. 28, 2p.m., RENNER INSTITUTE (a "think-tank" associated with the Social Democratic Party)

Meeting with Dr. ~~Erich~~ Froeschl, director; Dr. Scholz, secretary to the Mayor of Vienna and formerly a member of the Ministry of Education; Rathkalb, H. Zoitl; P. Ebel, Spann, Mrs. Morawek, Ministry of Education. These persons were identified as "experts working in the field of 'anti-Fascist education' and in combating anti-Semitism."

Dr. Scholz in his opening statement asserted that "there are significant changes in the teaching of contemporary history in the Austrian secondary school system. Through our Institute of Contemporary History, headed by Dr. Spann since 1966, we are trying to correct 20 years of silence about our recent history. We needed a new generation to break the silence after 1945."

Dr. Scholz, Ms. Morawek, Dr. Spann and others reported that the teaching of contemporary history - that is, the history of Austria from 1918-1986, including the First Republic of National Socialism - ~~xxxx~~ is now obligatory for 14 and 18-year-old Austrian youths, as well as in all universities. They said that "interest is very high among young people, and they complain they are not getting enough contemporary history in school. They want frank answers."

They indicated that new materials have been prepared to meet these needs - textbooks, curricula, audio-visual materials. The key to effective teaching on the Holocaust, fascism and anti-Semitism is the adequate training of teachers.

Mrs. Morawek pointed to "media boxes" prepared by the Education Ministry that contain books, tapes, projection materials, posters, reproduction of Nazi pamphlets and posters, Nazi newspapers, letters

from concentration camps victims, last issue of a 1941 Jewish newspaper, cassettes of concentration camp survivors, a copy of a ^{Nazi} death sentence ~~of~~ against a Catholic resistance fighter. These began to be produced in 1975.

In addition, there is a textbook exchange on these subjects with other European countries, as well as an exchange with Israel (arranged through Israeli Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizur.)

These materials, they said, seek to teach a "correct view of the Nazi holocaust" and has the full agreement of both major political parties. They indicated, however, that there was resistance to disseminating these materials in "conservative and clerical circles."

Mrs. Morawek also reported that there is ^a teacher training institute to help sensitize teachers on how to teach honestly and forthrightly about the Nazi holocaust, Austria's involvement, and anti-Semitism. Concentration camp survivors are invited to address both schools and these institutes.

Dr. Spann reported that every year 80-100 orders for these materials are received, and that whole schools pay visits to concentration camps as a means of helping them confront the Nazi tragedy.

^{insert A → over}
Dr. P. Eppel spoke about the Austrian Resistance Archives which seeks to present information about a resistance and persecution in Austria. In March ¹⁹1988, there will be a traveling exhibit of these archives both in Austria and the United States. (AJC agreed to be helpful in arranging the U.S. tour.)

A study is also being conducted by the Renner Institute of radical right activity in Austria from 1925-1986, as a means of sensitizing the Austrian population to the threat of extremism.

Mr. Nevas, and other AJC representatives, expressed their

AUSTRIA

GRATIFICATION at learning about these important education activities for combatting Nazism and anti-Semitism and wondered why more is not known about them.

Rabbi Tanenbaum reported on the Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish textbook programs conducted in the U.S. ~~xxxxxx~~ in cooperation with the AJC, as well as about the joint textbook and teachers training program with the University of Duisberg in West Germany ^{and the Aachen and Freiburg textbook projects,} He gave Dr. Scholz copies of ~~xxxxxx~~ German textbooks published in that program. Dr. Scholz asked whether the AJC was interested in a similar cooperative program with the Austrian educational institutions and the AJC reply was yes. They agreed to remain in touch with each other for possible followup.

Mr. Trosten reported on the parallel textbook project with the Eckert Foundation in the FRG. They are studying the portrayal of Jews in German textbooks, and AJC is examining the presentation of Germany in American secondary textbooks.

Thursday, Aug. 28, 4 p.m. - FOREIGN MINISTER DR. PETER JANKOWITSCH

Dr. Jankowitsch greeted Leo Nevas warmly recalling their earlier meetings ^{at} the United Nations. ~~Max~~ The Foreign Minister welcomed the group and said that he attached much importance to dialogue with the Jewish community.

The AJC group spoke of its concern over the use of anti-Semitism during the Presidential campaign and the unsettling effect it has had on the Jewish community in Austria. They also gave a brief report of our earlier meetings in Vienna on refugees and asylum, the Renner Institute educational programs, and the proposal to establish joint working groups between Austrian institutions and AJC,

Dr. Jankowitsch said he welcomed these developments, and said that we must employ "our best intellectual resources" to remove the residue of anti-Semitism from Austria.

He noted that the Austrian parliament had voted a law against neo-Nazi propaganda. We reported Dr. Wiesenthal's concern that there was resistance to implementing that law in the Ministries of Justice and Interior. He responded that that would have to be looked into and overcome.

As an indication of the Government's commitment to face the Nazi past, he said that police and the army soldiers are brought to Mathausen ^{the Concentration Camp} and as part of their induction procedures they are called to face the past and what Nazism and anti-Semitism have led to. He also noted that 1988 will mark the 50th anniversary of Hitler's occupation of Austria and that should become an occasion for confronting the past history.

In closing, Dr. Jankowitsch said he would be in New York at the end of September to attend the UN General Assembly, and that he would welcome an opportunity to meet with AJC leadership at that time.

Tuesday, Aug. 26, 1 p.m.

Prof. Dr. Kurt Schubert, a Catholic scholar and director of the Institute of Judaic Studies, hosted a kosher luncheon for us at the Arche Noah restaurant. Dr. Schubert, wearing a yarmulka and speaking excellent modern Hebrew, began telling us about his history and his institute over a high-cholesterol luncheon. From other sources we learned that Dr. Schubert was a vigorous anti-Nazi during his student days at the University of Vienna. The retired Cardinal (Franz) Koenig, former Archbishop of Austria, was his patron who sponsored his establishing the Institute.

Cardinal Koenig, whom Rabbi Tanenbaum knew at Vatican Council II, launched one of the first studies of ~~ax~~ Catholic religious textbooks used in Austrian parochial ~~xx~~ schools resulting in the removal of much anti-Semitic teachings. He supported the setting up Dr. Schubert's Institute as a means of teaching Catholics and all interested Austrians about Jewish history, Judaism, antisemitism, ^{(the Nazi holocaust,} and Israel. ^(The present Archbishop, a traditionalist, is believed to be much less interested in this area.)

Following luncheon, we accompanied Dr. Schubert to his Institute. It was an impressive display of books, research documents, audio-visual aids, posters, etc. Seminars, classes, and lectures are held here mainly for Christian students who generally number about 200 persons. ^(The Austrian Government supports financially this Institute which is related to the University of Vienna.)

There was a friendly exchange of views between our AJC group and Dr. Schubert. There was gratitude for his impressive commitment to improving Christian-Jewish relations in Austria, but also the feeling that his Institute is an underutilized facility. We talked briefly with him about the possibility of ~~being~~ joint sponsorship of Catholic-Jewish Institutes with AJC, about which he was quite positive.

Tues., Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m. - RECEPTION AT HOME OF MAX BERGER

A leader of the Austrian Jewish Community, Mr. Berger, who manufactures furniture and calls himself a "commercial adviser," sponsored a warm and friendly reception for our group. Leaders of the Austrian Jewish Gemeinde, some of whom were not present at other meetings, some U.S. Jewish visitors and several Israeli guests, were present.

On Wednesday afternoon, 2 p.m., we made an hour-long trip (each way) to the Jewish Museum in Eisenstadt, in the home of Dr. Samson Wientner, former chief Rabbi of Austria and a "Kof Jude." Dr. and Mrs. Schubert gave us an interesting guided tour of the museum.

Mr. Berger's home contained a most impressive collection of Jewish art objects which some called the most ~~imprax~~ valuable collection of Judaica in Europe. Following a light repast, the entire group joined ~~x~~ in a long and intensive discussion of the themes and issues we had begun to talk about during our first days's meetings with Jewish leaders. They repeated their concerns about their deteriorated situation since the Presidential elections, the need for our support with the Austrian government in their behalf, Dr. Wiesenthal's concern over lack of enforcement ~~fax~~ of laws curtailing Nazi propaganda.

The AJC group was ~~again~~ again responsive to their anxieties and sought to reassure them that ~~x~~ we would use our ~~infx~~ influence to support them in all our ~~salkis~~ talks with government officials (which we did.) We also made clear, however, that we did want to play "Jewish politics" playing off one Jewish group against another, and that it was important to build a trust relationship based on mutual confidence. There was some startled reaction, but there was general understanding of the point on both sides.

Ed Elson, who chaired the session, expressed the appreciation of AJC, for their heartwarming hospitality.

WEDNESDAY, Aug. 27, 9:00 A.M. - REFUGEES IN AUSTRIA

~~Six~~ Top leaders of American Jewish Committee will report on just-completed ground-breaking mission to Austria to assess impact of Kurt Waldheim's election as Austrian President on Austrian Jewish community and Austrian politics at news conference Wednesday, Sept. 11, starting 10:30 A.M., at AJC headquarters, 165 East 56th Street, corner Third Avenue. AJC leaders, following week of frank discussions with top officials of Austrian government (including Chancellor Vranitsky and Foreign Minister Jancowitz, but not ~~aided~~) and with leaders of major political parties and Austrian Jewish community, will report unprecedented agreement to launch joint American Jewish-Austrian program aimed at ~~see~~ rooting out anti-Semitism from Austria. As result of this first mission of a Jewish group to Austria since Waldheim's election, AJC leaders will outline major effort to measure Austrian anti-Semitism, identify role of Jews in Austria's ~~past~~ history, and reduce anti-Semitism through education, conferences, media work, and other techniques. Your coverage welcome.

ON WALDHEIM

Reagan / ~~was~~
to join in this request

The American Jewish Committee welcomes the decision of the Israeli Government to obtain from the United Nations the sequestered UN files on Dr. Kurt Waldheim. We believe that the cause of justice will be served by a full and careful scrutiny of the record of Waldheim's involvement in the Nazi war machine which destroyed so many millions of Jews and other human beings.

Following the Israeli investigation of those records, we would propose that an impartial International Tribunal of jurists should have all the documentation placed before them for a judgment to be rendered on ~~Waldheim's~~ the extent and exact nature of Waldheim's complicity in the murder of Yugoslav partisans ~~of~~ and of Greek Jewry.

Implicit in such a judicial investigation is not only the question of the accountability of Waldheim's wartime behavior, but his moral fitness to serve as president of Austria, should he win the election in May. Equally significant would be the need to face the issue of how was it possible for someone involved with the Nazi SA to be voted into the ~~presidential~~ position of Secretary General of the United Nations without adequate screening of his background. The credibility of the United Nations is at stake in providing satisfactory answers to such crucial questions.

The Consul General of Austria
Helga Winkler-Campagna
and Mr. Tino Campagna
request the pleasure of the company of
Rabbi and Mrs. Marc Torenbaum
at a dinner
on Thursday, September 18, 1986
at 7.30 p.m. o'clock

P. F. V. P. M.
794-1950

1016 Fifth Avenue
Apartment 6A
St. 83rd Street

THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

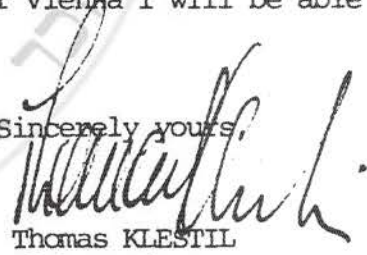
May 27, 1986

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum,

Thank you so much for your letter of May 20, 1986 and the constructive proposal for a co-operative program to advance Austrian-Jewish relationships. I am grateful for your visit at the Embassy in Washington and your positive approach to the period after the Austrian presidential elections.

Since I will be in Vienna during the week after June 8, 1986 for consultations I will use this opportunity to discuss your ideas with members of the Austrian government and other interested officials. I do hope that before leaving for Vienna I will be able to see you again in New York.

Sincerely yours


Thomas KLESTIL
Ambassador

The Honorable
Rabbi Marc H. TANENBAUM
Director
International Relations
Department

The American Jewish Committee
165 East 56 Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

tell 8³⁰ am. | (much) 1³⁰ am | Elzeit - 471 - 429 (th)
 free tell 10⁰⁰ - 12⁰⁰ | or afternoon | 311 - 506 (o)

Hotel Sacher Wien

disunited Jewish front

balanced people -
 drip on both shoulders
 left / 2. shoulder, spat in her
 "didn't happen" face

- Profil - Zelman - & Viennese
- Judengasse - elegant - "still many of them"
- das Jüdische Echo - once a year
- die Presse - "dubious role" in last few months
- Elan Steinberg - "disgraceful"
- (Walldorf - not in photo / not in this place)



DAS HOTEL IST NICHT DER ABSENDER
 HOTEL IS NOT THE SENDER

A-1015 WIEN, PHILHARMONIKERSTRASSE 4
 TELEPHON 51456



TELEGRAMME: SACHERHOTEL WIEN
 TELEX: 01/12520 DVR: 0181439

DRAFT

STATEMENT REPUDIATING APPEALS TO RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE AND ANTI-SEMITISM DURING GOING NATIONAL ELECTIONS

The coming National Assembly elections provides occasion for the ^{Austrian} People's Party to make public its unshakable commitment to the democratic principles on which the Second Republic is founded. These principles form the basis of our nation's social contract which obligates all our citizens to respect the civil, political, and religious convictions of every Austrian.

To that end, the Austrian People's Party calls for a fair democratic debate, and makes clear to the nation that it repudiates any possible appeals from anyone to personal defamation based on religious or ethnic prejudice or hatred.

In light of the moral turbulence created during the last Presidential elections, the Austrian People's Party wishes to underscore especially its unambiguous rejection of anti-Semitism against our fellow Jewish citizens by anyone, ~~and~~ in any form, and under any circumstances.

We welcome and support the recent declaration by retiring Israeli Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizer, - whose departure we will sorely miss - that "anti-Semitism will neither influence nor determine the public policies of Austria."

The Austrian People's Party, founded in 1945 by men and women liberated from Nazi concentration camps, ~~is~~ is proud of great Austrians like Leopold Figl and we are committed to their democratic and anti-Nazi traditions. We are genuinely seeking to learn from the past. We will therefore not tolerate undemocratic or inhumane political sentiments in our country.

We wish to assure our nation, and particularly our respected Jewish citizens, that the People's Party is absolutely determined not

commitment to the democratic principles on which the Second Republic is founded. Those principles form the basis of our nation's Social Contract which obligates all our citizens to respect the civil, political, and religious convictions of every Austrian.

To that end, the Austrian People's Party calls for a fair democratic debate, and makes clear to the nation that it repudiates any possible appeals from anyone to personal defamation based on religious or ethnic prejudice or hatred.

In light of the moral turbulence created during the last Presidential election, the Austrian People's Party wishes to underscore especially its unambiguous rejection of anti-Semitism against our fellow Jewish citizens by anyone, ~~and~~ in any form, and under any circumstances.

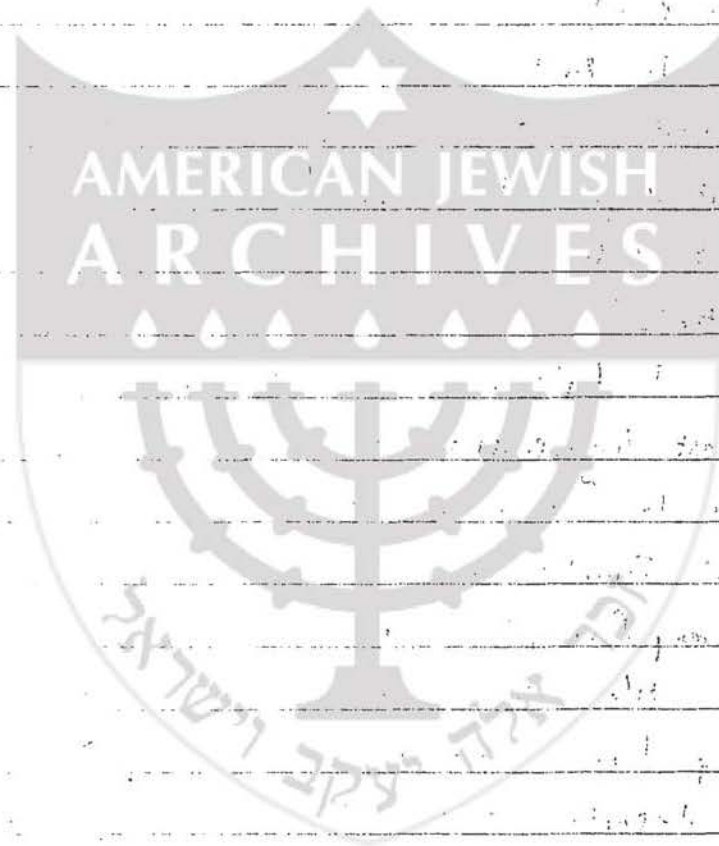
We welcome and support the recent declaration by retiring Israeli Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizer, whose departure we will sorely miss - that "anti-Semitism will neither influence nor determine the public policies of Austria."

The Austrian People's Party, founded in 1945 by men and women liberated from Nazi concentration camps, ~~is~~ is proud of great Austrians like Leopold Figl and we are committed to their democratic and anti-Nazi traditions. We are genuinely seeking to learn from the past. We will therefore not tolerate undemocratic or inhumane political sentiments in our country.

We wish to assure our nation, and particularly our respected Jewish citizens, that the People's Party is absolutely determined not to tolerate any kind of anti-Semitism and to fight against any remnants of this vile prejudice which must become anathema to

Austria and to the civilized world.

Austria must remain an independent, democratic republic, unwaveringly dedicated to human rights.



DRAFT

STATEMENT REPUDIATING APPEALS TO RELIGIOUS PREJUDICE AND ANTI-SEMITISM DURING GOING NATIONAL ELECTIONS

The coming National Assembly elections provides occasion for the ^{Austrian} People's Party to make public its unshakable commitment to the democratic principles on which the Second Republic is founded. Those principles form the basis of our nation's social contract which obligates all our citizens to respect the civil, political, and religious convictions of every Austrian.

To that end, the Austrian People's Party calls for a fair democratic debate, and makes clear to the nation that it repudiates any possible appeals from anyone to personal defamation based on religious or ethnic prejudice or hatred.

In light of the moral turbulence created during the last Presidential elections, the Austrian People's Party wishes to underscore especially its unambiguous rejection of anti-Semitism against our fellow Jewish citizens by anyone, ~~and~~ in any form, and under any circumstances.

We welcome and support the recent declaration by retiring Israeli Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizer, - whose departure we will sorely miss - that "anti-Semitism will neither influence nor determine the public policies of Austria."

The Austrian People's Party, founded in 1945 by men and women liberated from Nazi concentration camps, ~~is~~ is proud of great Austrians like Leopold Figl and we are committed to their democratic and anti-Nazi traditions. We are genuinely seeking to learn from the past. We will therefore not tolerate undemocratic or inhumane political sentiments in our country.

We wish to assure our nation, and particularly our respected Jewish citizens, that the People's Party is absolutely determined not

commitment to the democratic principles on which the Second Republic is founded. Those principles form the basis of our nation's Social Contract which obligates all our citizens to respect the civil, political, and religious convictions of every Austrian.

To that end, the Austrian People's Party calls for a fair democratic debate, and makes clear to the nation that it repudiates any possible appeals from anyone to personal defamation based on religious or ethnic prejudice or hatred.

In light of the moral turbulence created during the last Presidential election, the Austrian People's Party wishes to underscore especially its unambiguous rejection of anti-Semitism against our fellow Jewish citizens by anyone, ~~and~~ in any form, and under any circumstances.

We welcome and support the recent declaration by retiring Israeli Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizer, - whose departure we will sorely miss - that "anti-Semitism will neither influence nor determine the public policies of Austria."

The Austrian People's Party, founded in 1945 by men and women liberated from Nazi concentration camps, ~~is~~ is proud of great Austrians like Leopold Figl and we are committed to their democratic and anti-Nazi traditions. We are genuinely seeking to learn from the past. We will therefore not tolerate undemocratic or inhumane political sentiments in our country.

We wish to assure our nation, and particularly our respected Jewish citizens, that the People's Party is absolutely determined not to tolerate any kind of anti-Semitism and to fight against any remnants of this vile prejudice which must become anathema to

Austria and to the civilized world.

Austria must remain an independent, democratic
republic, unwaveringly dedicated to human rights.





The Ambassador of the United States of America

and Mrs. Lauder

request the pleasure of the company of

Mr. Tanenbaum

at a dinner

on Wednesday, August 27, 1986

at 7:30 p.m. o'clock

R.S.V.P.

31 55 11 x 2231

*Weidlichgasse 1-5
1130 Vienna
(13. district)*

Mare Tanenbaum

Austria



The American Jewish Committee

Institute of Human Relations
165 East 56 Street
New York, New York 10022-2746
212 751-4000

Theodore Ellenoff
President

David M. Gordis
Executive Vice-President

Leo Nevas
Chair, Board of Governors

Robert S. Jacobs
Chair, National Executive Council

Edward E. Elson
Chair, Board of Trustees

Sholom D. Comay
Treasurer

Robert S. Rifkind
Secretary

David H. Peirez
Associate Treasurer

Mimi Alperin
Chair, Executive Committee

Vice-Presidents

David B. Fleeman
Miami

Arnold B. Gardner
Buffalo

Rita E. Hauser
New York

Charlotte G. Holstein
Syracuse

Ann P. Kaufman
Houston

Alfred H. Moses
Washington, D.C.

Idelle Rabin
Dallas

Bruce M. Ramer
Los Angeles

Jerome J. Shestack
Philadelphia

Richard L. Weiss
Los Angeles

Gordon Zacks
Columbus

Honorary Presidents

Morris B. Abram

Howard I. Friedman

Arthur J. Goldberg

Philip E. Hoffman

Richard Maass

Elmer L. Winter

Maynard I. Wishner

Honorary Vice-Presidents

Nathan Appleman

Martin Gang

Ruth R. Goddard

Andrew Goodman

Raymond F. Kravis

James Marshall

William Rosenwald

Shirley M. Szabad

Max M. Fisher

Honorary Chair,
National Executive Council

Executive Vice-Presidents Emeriti

John Slawson

Bertram H. Gold

September 4, 1986

Reply to:

P. O. Box 791
Westport, Ct. 06881

Dr. Ivan Hacker-Lederer
Erdergerlande 6
A 1030 Vienna
Austria

Dear Dr. Hacker:

It is with great appreciation of the opportunity to meet with you, as well as your colleagues in Vienna, that I am writing to you at this time.

We found our meetings with you very helpful and informative. It is our hope that this may be the beginning of an effort to be of assistance particularly to the Jewish community of Austria. We believe that it is important to address these problems and we feel that this approach cannot fail to have anything but a beneficial result.

We believe that we are about to undertake an effort with the cooperation of you and many others, and look forward to successful efforts on the part of all of us.

Mr. William Trosten will be in communication with you from time to time since he will be the main contact under these circumstances.

Please give our best regards to your colleagues.

Sincerely,

Chairman of the Board
of Governors.

LN:eg

W.U.
5205 MILL
RENO NV 89502 08AM

Western Union Mailgram®



1-001508A251 09/08/86 ICS IPMRYNJ RNO NYAC
01511 RENO NV 09-08 0433A PDT RYNI

DR MARC H TANENBAUM
DIRECTOR INTERN RELATIONS
AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE INSTITUE
165 EST 56TH ST
NEW YORK NY 10022

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

1-065476G251 09/08/86
ICS IPMIHA IISS
IISS F M RCA 08 0623
PMS DCNA NY

WUB8680 AUN930 TFI103

URYX CO AUWX 159

WIEN/TEL 159/153 08 1251 PAGE 1/51/50

DR MARC H. TANENBAUM DIRECTOR OF INTERN. RELATIONS THE
AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE INSTITUT OF HUMAN RELATIONS
165 EST 56TH STREET
NEWYORK/10022

DR TANENBAUM: VEK WILL BE TRAVELLING TO THE UNITED STATES
LATER THIS FALL. HE WILL BE ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON D.C. ON THE
AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 27TH 1986 AND WILL
COL 165 56TH NEWYORK/10022 27TH 1986

TFI103 DR PAGE 2/51/50

THAN FLY ON TO NEW

YORK ON OCTOBER 2ND BEFORE WE TURNING TO EUROPE ON THE 3RD OF
OCTOBER IN THE NAME OF DR FEK WOULD LIKE TO CORDIALLY INVITE
YOU TO ATEND THE RECEPTION WHICH IS BEEN JOINDLY ORGANIZED BY
DR FEK AND THE AUSTRIAN PRESS AND INFORMATION-SERVICE IN
COL 2ND 3RD

TFI103 DR PAGE 3/53/50

NEW

YORK THE RECEPTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON OCTOBER 2ND 1986 IN THE
UEBIBBLE ROOM OF THE HAVARD-CLUB LOKATED AT 27 WEST 44TH STREET
NEWYORKNEWYORK BETWEEN 6.30 P.M. AND 8.30 P.M.

WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO WELLCOME YOU TO THE RECEPTION IF YOUR
SCHEDULE PERMITS SINCERELY YOURS

DR DIRISAMER

ZENTRALSPARKASSE

COL 2ND 1986 27 44TH 6.30 8.30

TFI103 DR PAGE 4/4/3

U COMMERZIALBANK WIEN

NNN

0626 EST

AUSTRIA

Elisabeth F. Gay

November 26, 1986.

Dear Rabbi Tannenbaum, Re: Committee to combat
Antisemitism in Austria.

Your efforts to combat antisemitism in Austria are of great interest to me.

Since the November 23 election and the considerable victory of National Socialist Joerg Haider, the situation has become even more acute.

I would like to help and think my background and experience are useful. I am Austrian by birth, went to school there and am completely bilingual. By profession an actress, I have a Ph.D. in Theatre in Education from New York University.

Tackling prejudice via the theatre has been a specialty of mine. With my own acting troupe I have visited schools and presented scenes from world literature which illuminate prejudice. After each performance, we would actively involve the youngsters in a discussion about what they had seen.

This is just one possibility. Another one could be get-togethers for Austrians and Jews. Austria is now a country with very few Jews. Austrians and Jews have virtually no opportunity to meet and exchange ideas. It

Elisabeth F. Gay

- 2 -

seems vital to have the two groups meet, perhaps first with psychologists and psychiatrists in attendance to help expunge the lifelong habit of hate on one side and mistrust on the other.

I would appreciate if you would give me an opportunity to talk to one of the committee members and find out whether I could be of service to you.

Sincerely

Elisabeth F. Gay

MRS. E. F. GAY
65 SEAVIEW AVE.
NEW ROCHELLE, NY 10801





The American Jewish
Committee

BALTIMORE CHAPTER, 829 Munsey Building, 7 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (301) 539-4777

STEVEN D. FRENKIL, Chairman ■ THOMAS A. BAKER, First Vice Chairman ■ ROSALIE S. ABRAMS, STEPHEN L. HECHT,
ALFRED R. HIMMELRICH, Jr., Vice Chairmen ■ PHILIP L. HOLSTEIN, Recording Secretary ■ DR. MARTIN MAGRAM, Secretary ■
RUTH B. HURWITZ, Treasurer ■ HERBERT S. GARTEN, Immediate Past Chairman ■ LOIS ROSENFIELD, Executive Director

September 19, 1986

Schperling Dov, Director
The Jewish Agency for Israel
Stubenring 4
1010 WEIN
AUSTRIA

Dear Mr. Dov:

Thank you for your gracious welcome when I visited your office, unannounced, on Monday, September 8. I truly appreciate the time you gave to discuss with me the general 'climate' for Jews in Austria -- news that distresses us here in America.

When I came upon this article in our local Baltimore Jewish Times today, I thought you might enjoy seeing the coverage given to this most important concern that the American Jewish Committee is working to ease.

Warm regards,


Lois Rosenfield

cc: Marc Tanenbaum
Eugene DuBow
New York, AJC

Enclosure

*Now -
This is for your
information!
Visit Austria,
Czechoslovakia,
and Hungary. What a
wonderful trip...
Lois*



Board Members: RABBI JACOB B. AGUS, HARRIET BANK, RABBI DONALD BERLIN, ROBERT L. BERNEY, SHOSHANA S. CARDIN, GERSON G. EISENBERG, CAROL FRANK, ALAN F. M. GARTEN, BRIAN A. GOLDMAN, PAUL GOODMAN, MARJORIE GORDON, JOHN H. HELLER, RABBI FLOYD HERMAN, GEORGE B. HESS JR., BARBARA B. HIRSCHHORN, LEROY HOFFBERGER, JANET L. HOFFMAN, JOY HYMAN, MARK K. JOSEPH, CLEMENTINE L. KAUFMAN, F. KIRK KOLODNER, MILTON H. MILLER, STANLEY I. PANITZ, BENNARD B. PERLMAN, SAMUEL I. ROSENBERG, RENA ROTENBERG, ROSELLEN SHAPIRO, PEARL SHILING, JANET SINGERMAN, ROBERT N. SMELKINSON, JUDITH K. SYKES, MELVIN J. SYKES, STEPHEN THALER, JEFFREY H. WARANCH, DR. LEONARD WARRES
Honorary Members: DR. MORTON K. BLAUSTEIN, ROBERT W. CATZEN, BERTRAM A. FRANK, ALAN D. HECHT, DAVID HIRSCHHORN, M. SHAKMAN, KATZ, BERNARD MANEKIN, ELIZABETH K. MOSER, LEWIS A. NOONBERG, MARIE L. ROTHSCHILD, GILBERT SANDLER, ALLEN L. SCHWARTZ, RONALD M. SHAPIRO, SHALE D. STILLER

Austria To Work With AJC To Stem Anti-Semitism

New York (JTA) — The Austrian government and the American Jewish Committee (AJC) have agreed to establish a joint working group to implement a program to stem anti-Semitism in that country, leaders of the AJC, who returned from a mission to Austria, announced in a press conference here last week. (See last week's editorial, "No To The BSO")

"This is the first time in 40 years that the Austrian government has agreed to the establishment of such joint working group with any Jewish organization," said Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, the AJC's director of international relations, who was part of the six member delegation.

Tanenbaum said the program to reduce anti-Semitism in Austria includes three elements: A major conference involving academic research institutes on anti-Semitism in Austria; a symposium on the contribution of Jews to Austria and to American culture; and an Austrian symposium on combating anti-Semitic tendencies that would incorporate experiences in Austria, West Germany and the U.S.

Leo Nevas, chairperson of the AJC's Board of Governors, who headed the delegation, noted that the group was the first from an American Jewish organization to visit Austria since the election of Kurt Waldheim as President following a bitter campaign with many anti-Semitic overtones in the wake of revelations concerning Waldheim's Nazi past.

Nevas said the delegation met with Chancellor Fran Vranitzky and Foreign Minister Peter Jankowitsch, leaders of the major political parties and leaders of the Austrian Jewish community.

"We did not ask to meet Waldheim nor were we asked to meet with him," Miles Jaffe, chairperson of the AJC's international commission said.

Nevas and Jaffe said that in their discussions with the Austrian leaders they expressed concern over the use of anti-Semitism as a "political currency" in Austria's recent Presidential campaign, "The use of political anti-Semitism was a terrible shock to Austria's Jewish commun-

ity," Jaffe asserted. Nevas noted, however, that currently there is no fear or panic of anti-Semitism among the some 9,000 Jews in Austria. "They are concerned that the use of political anti-Semitism will be used in the future, unless it is stopped now," Nevas said.

AJC Fund To Help Turkish Jews

New York (JTA) — The American Jewish Congress announced last week the establishment of a fund to assist the families of the victims of the Neve Shalom Synagogue massacre in Istanbul and help rehabilitate the damaged synagogue.

Henry Siegman, executive director of the congress, who attended the mass funeral service in Istanbul Wednesday as representative of both the AJC Congress and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, announced from Turkey that the new American Jewish Congress Istanbul Fund has been set up with an initial gift of US \$18,000 from an anonymous donor.

Israel Jets Bomb Base In Lebanon

Tel Aviv (JTA) — Israel Air Force jets bombed a terrorist base south of Sidon last week and returned safely to their bases. A military spokesman identified the target as the headquarters, storage depot and staging area of a group known as the Popular Struggle Front.

It is said to be backed by Iraq and to cooperate with the Syrian-backed Al Saïqa and with Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

In another action, an Israel Navy patrol boat opened fire on and damaged a rubber dinghy making its way south of Sidon apparently on a mission to land terrorists in Israel by sea. One of the four persons on the dinghy was wounded. The small craft managed to reach shore.

MEMORANDUM

SEP 19 1986

Ernest Dichter Motivations, Inc.
24 Furnace Brook Drive
Peekskill, New York 10566

From the desk of:

914 739-7405

To: Rabbi
Mora H. Tannenbaum,

Sept. 13 / 86

Dear Rabbi,

Here are the copies
of "Newest Ostereich".
The date is now fixed for
Nov. 20 - 24, /86, in Vienna.

I hope we can meet
before or at best on Oct. 2
at the Harvard Club.

Enjoyed talking to
you over the phone.

Best regards

Ernest Dichter

Die Aktion "Neues Österreich" und die Gesellschaft für Österreichische Kunst planen ein Symposium mit dem Arbeitstitel: DIE ÖSTERREICHISCHE IDENTITÄT

Vorschläge:

1. Vom "Staat, den keiner wollte" zur Pflichterfüllung

Österreich 1918 - 1945 (Österreichischer Faschismus / Demokratie und Österreich-Bewußtsein der Ersten Republik / Antifaschistischer Widerstand 1938 - 1945 / Die Mehrheit - der "Herr Karl")

2. Verdrängung als Grundkonsens der Zweiten Republik

Die (Nicht)Ent-Nazifizierung / Konfliktangst und "Österreichische Seele" / Die drei politischen Lager und ihre Faschismus/Antisemitismus-(Nicht)Aufarbeitung

3. Für eine neue österreichische Identität

Reformperspektiven des politischen Systems / Medien und Kulturentwicklung / Der neue demokratische Grundkonsens

4. Reaktionen/Gegenreaktionen in der Kunst

Immunisierungsstrategien

Form: 3 - 4 Blöcke mit jeweils einem Einstiegsreferat, Podiums- und Publikumsdiskussionen

Ort: Österreichisches Museum für Angewandte Kunst

Zeit: 6. - 8. November 1986

Teilnehmer: Außer der Diskutanten, Unterzeichner der "profil" Inserate, Adressenliste des Renner-Instituts, etc.; breite Medienöffentlichkeit

Wien, den 11. Juli 1986

Viele Ereignisse der jüngsten Zeit haben bewiesen, wie notwendig in Österreich eine grundlegende Befassung mit Faschismus und Antisemitismus ist.

Die Aktion „Neues Österreich“ und die Gesellschaft für Österreichische Kunst planen ein Symposium „DIE ÖSTERREICHISCHE IDENTITÄT“ (Arbeitstitel), welches am 6/8 November in Wien stattfinden soll.

Die Aktion „Neues Österreich“ hat sich in der jüngsten Zeit durch Zeitungsinserate (Profilaktion), Publikationen „Pflichterfüllung“, Pressekonferenzen und Diskussionsveranstaltungen gegen die Versuche gewehrt, faschistische und antisemitische Tendenzen in Österreich wieder aufleben zu lassen und aktuell zu gebrauchen.

Die Gesellschaft für Österreichische Kunst ist im Museum für angewandte Kunst gegründet worden, um neben der Museumstätigkeit unterschiedliche Themen aufzugreifen und den Bezug zur Gegenwart herzustellen.

Unsere Veranstaltung soll der Ausgangspunkt einer großangelegten Diskussion von Wissenschaftlern, Intellektuellen, Künstlern und Politikern über den Faschismus und Antisemitismus, sowie die Perspektiven einer demokratischen Entwicklung in Österreich werden.

Ziel dieser Arbeit ist es zum einen, die Ereignisse und ihre Ursachen zu durchleuchten und zum anderen, Maßnahmen vorzubereiten, die zur Aufklärung und Erziehung erforderlich scheinen. Weiters ist geplant, die Referate in einem Buch zusammenzufassen.

Wir wollen Sie einladen, an diesem Symposium teilzunehmen.

Beiliegend eine Liste der vorgeschlagenen Themen.

Wir bitten Sie, uns mitzuteilen, zu welchem Themenkreis Sie ein Referat zu halten bereit sind und stehen für weitere Informationen gerne zur Verfügung. Wir bitten um Ihre geschätzte Antwort bis Ende August/ Anfang September (prinzipielle Zu- oder Absage) an die folgende Adresse:

Gesellschaft für Österreichische Kunst / zH. Miryam Charim
1010 Wien, Stubenring 5
(telefonisch zu erreichen ab 25. August unter 72 56 96/2992).

Fahrt- und Hotelpesen wollen wir übernehmen.

Wir haben Dr. Bruno Kreisky gewinnen können, an diesem Symposium teilzunehmen, das Bundesministerium für Wissenschaft und Forschung und die Stadt Wien – Bürgermeister Helmut Zilk – haben eine Unterstützung unseres Projekts bereits zugesichert.

Wir würden es als große Ehre betrachten, wenn auch Sie an diesem Symposium teilnehmen würden. Wir sind überzeugt, daß Sie kraft Ihrer Persönlichkeit und Bedeutung Ihrer Arbeit beitragen würden, unser gemeinsames Anliegen zu unterstützen.

Wir bedanken uns für Ihr Wohlwollen und verbleiben mit dem Ausdruck vorzüglichster Hochachtung

Mag. Miryam Charim
(Generalsekretär
Gesellschaft für Österreichische Kunst)

Erhard Löcker
(Aktion „Neues Österreich“)

Gruppe Neues Österreich

Republikanischer Club

A-1010 Wien, Annagasse 3a/21
Postfach 101

Daniel Charim
Kuno Knöbl
Erhard Löcker
Rubina Möhring
Peter Pelinka

AKTION „NEUES ÖSTERREICH“

Die Aktion „Neues Österreich“ ist eine Vereinigung unabhängiger österreichischer Wissenschaftler, Intellektueller, Journalisten und Künstler, die sich im Laufe des österreichischen Bundespräsidentenwahlkampfes 1986 konstituierte.

Ihr Ziel ist die Aufhellung und Klärung des Anteils Österreichs am nationalsozialistischen Regime des Dritten Reiches sowie die Aufarbeitung dieser Zeit angesichts des wieder spürbar gewordenen latenten Faschismus und Rassismus in Österreich.

Anlaß war die einseitige Medienberichterstattung und öffentliche Diskussion zum Fall Waldheim in Österreich selbst. Anlaß ist weiters die geringe Bereitschaft der Bevölkerung, objektiv und einsichtig zu dieser Zeit Stellung zu nehmen.

Wie schon während des Wahlkampfes will die Aktion „Neues Österreich“ auch weiterhin – durch Publikationen, Symposien und Aktionen – zu einer neuen objektivierenden Geschichtsauffassung beitragen. Wir wollen die Diskussion um Österreichs Standpunkt damals und heute weiterführen – mit der Perspektive einer stabilen demokratischen Entwicklung.

Für die Aktion „Neues Österreich“

Daniel Charim, Kuno Knöbl, Erhard Löcker,
Rubina Möhring, Peter Pelinka.

UNIVERSITÄT INNSBRUCK
INSTITUT FÜR POLITIKWISSENSCHAFT

A-6020 INNSBRUCK, INNRAIN 52/Neubau
TELEFON 05222/724/2303x 2712

University of Innsbruck
Department for Political Science
Assistant Professor Dr. Andreas Maislinger

Marc Tannenbaum
American Jewish Committee
New York

Reference: pA 79/133 (please quote)

Innsbruck, 12.9.86

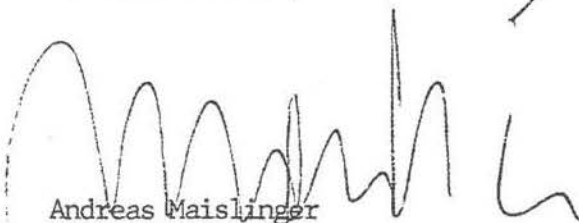
Dear Mr. Tannenbaum,

in the Austrian newspaper "Die Presse" I read an article about your visit in Vienna.

As I am working on Antisemitism (the last few days I took part at the 3rd Summer University of the European Union of Jewish Students in Wengen, Switzerland) I would like to take part in the new established working group.

Enclosed you will find some information about the "Society for Political Enlightenment" (Gesellschaft für politische Aufklärung).

With best wishes,


Andreas Maislinger

Dr. Andreas Maislinger

CURRICULUM VITAE

Born on February 26th, 1955 in St.Georgen near Salzburg

Father: Andreas Maislinger, unskilled laborer and farmer (retired)

Mother: Franziska Maislinger, housewife and inkeeper (retired)

School: Primary School in St.Georgen near Salzburg
Secondary School in Salzburg
Final exam 1974

1974-1980 studied international law and political science at
the following universities

Vienna, Salzburg, West-Berlin, Oslo, Frankfurt am Main,
Innsbruck

Summer courses in Erfurt (DDR), Prag (Czechoslovakia),
Lublin (Poland) and Dubrovnik (Jugoslavia)

Participation at the SALZBURG SEMINAR in American Studies
"International Conflicts" February/March 1979

1980 Dr.phil. with a thesis on Problems of Austrian Defence Policy
(Probleme der Österreichischen Verteidigungspolitik)

Volunteer at "Aktion Sühnezeichen" (action for reconciliation) at
Auschwitz-Birkenau (Oswiecim-Brzezinka, Poland) from September 1980
to April 1981

Alternative Service for Conscientious Objectors at the office of
the International Fellowship of Reconciliation in Vienna from February
1982 to September 1982

October 1982 - September 1983 graduate studies at the Institute
of Political Science, University of Innsbruck

October 1982 - August 1985 Secretary of the "Gesellschaft für
politische Aufklärung" (Society for political Enlightenment and
Information); now member of this society

February 1983 - August 1985 instructor (field of research: The Tyrol
in the NS-periode)

Assistant Professor at the Institute since September 1985

Main areas of research: Neutrality policy; National Socialism in
Austria; Auschwitz; Denacification in Western
Europe; Central America (especially Costa
Rica); Poland; International Relations

Publications on Peace Movement in Western Europe; National Socialism
in Tyrol; Political System in Costa Rica (see list of publications
added)

Some of the publications are published in English (e.g. The Peace
Movement in a Neutral Country. On the Subject of the New Peace
Movement in Austria)

From January until May 1987 Assistant Professor at the Department
of Political Science, University of New Orleans, Lakefront, New Orleans
Louisiana 70148, (504) 286-6383

**Gesellschaft
für
POLITISCHE
AUFKLÄRUNG**

*Dolores Bauer
Angelika Bäumer
Peter Dusek
Paul Flora
Claus Gatterer
Franz Küberl
Hermann Langbein
Andreas Maislinger
Bernd Marin
Wolfgang Neugebauer
Anton Pelinka
Lukas Resetarits
Gustav Spann
Karl Stadler
Herbert Steiner
Hans Strotzka
Charlotte Teuber
Erika Thurner
Josef Weidenholzer
Erika Weinzierl*

Dolores BAUER	Politician, Vienna Town Council
Angelika BÄUMER	Journalist; Writer
Peter DUSEK	ORF (Austrian Broadcasting Cooperation), Vienna
Paul FLORA	Artist; Innsbruck
Claus GATTERER +	ORF, Writer; died in 1984
Franz KÜBERL	Adult Education, Graz
Hermann LANGBEIN	Writer ("Menschen in Auschwitz"), former prisoner in Auschwitz, Vienna
Andreas MAISLINGER	Assistant Professor, Political Science, Innsbruck
Bernd MARIN	Univ. Professor; Political Science, Sociology; Vienna, Florence
Wolfgang NEUGEBAUER	DÖW (Dokumentationsarchiv des Österreichischen Widerstandes), Vienna
Anton PELINKA	Univ. Professor, Political Science; Innsbruck
Lukas RESETARITS	Cabaret Artiste; Vienna
Gustav SPANN	Assistant Professor, Contemporary History; Vienna
Karl STADLER	Univ. Professor, Contemporary History; Linz
Herbert STEINER	DÖW, Vienna
Hans STROTZKA	Univ. Professor, Psychotherapy; Vienna
Charlotte TEUBER	Univ. Professor, Political Science; Vienna
Erika THURNER	Historian; Institute for Labour History; Salzburg
Josef WEIDENHOLZER	Univ. Professor, Sociology; Linz
Erika WEINZIERL	Univ. Professor; Contemporary History; Vienna
Secretaries:	
Burgl CZEITSCHNER	Vienna
Godele von der DECKEN	Innsbruck
Reinhold GÄRTNER	Innsbruck

1090 Wien, Rotenhausgasse 6/8
Tel. 0222/426280

6020 Innsbruck, Innrain 52
Tel. 05222/724 Kl. 2711 o. 2712

Kontonummern:
Wien: PSK 7-02.546
IBK: Hypo-Bank Innsbruck 210074604

The "Society for Political Information" was constituted in 1982, with the main goal of fighting against all forms of Neo-Nazism and right-wing radicalism. Not with methods and aims of police and administration of justice, though, but by means of information and educational work. The Society was established on our then chancellor's initiative; he wanted to stress the fact that the government's caution in the question of a possible ban on radical right wing organisations like NDP or ANR did on no account mean insouciance or indifference against the threat coming from these tendencies.

It is self-evident that the "Society for Political Information" is a political initiative, but it is also self-evident that the Society must not and should never be labelled as dependent on any political party or movement. Its members are both party-members and non-party-members. The Society's functions shall be concentrated on the following points:

- * collection and coordination of already existing activities on the field of political education and contemporary history (thus its cooperation with Bundesministerium für Unterricht, Kunst und Sport; Dokumentationsarchiv des Österreichischen Widerstandes etc.)
- * suggestions and realization of new initiatives which help to find answers to concrete threats on democratic institutions and democratic responsibility by right wing radicalism; thus help to strengthen democratic attitudes.

The Society's activities are mainly done in study groups. One group organizes various lectures and meetings and thus fights against the tendency of showing right wing extremist attitudes, right wing radical slogans ("Ausländer raus"). Another group informs media and journalists who might give rise to more sensitiveness in Austria's media for the dangers of present-day right wing radicalism - again independent of concrete political orientations. A third group tries to gain access to multipliers (teachers, teachers advanced training; judges, judges education; army etc.) and to make information available in order to invigorate critical and democratic awareness against right wing extremist tendencies. Finally, one group organizes and conducts academic research on the field of prejudices in society.

Consciously, the Society for Political Information includes persons who work in various areas - media, universities, youth organisations, art. Thus a broad group of recipients can be addressed.

Four years have passed since the Society's constitution and it is possible to review the work that has been done so far. Many lectures have been held, inquiries into the connection between law and Neo-Nazism; series of lectures on prejudices; we regularly publish "Informations of the Society for Political Information" (every two month); and brochures for schools.

And one of the very important parts of the Society's work is our annual educational journey to the memorial site of Auschwitz-Birkenau. It will be organized for the fourth time next year and again we try to find people of all political parties, with different points-of-view, different confessions, jobs and of every age. We try to take some 50 people with us - from all parts of Austria as well as from other countries - and we thus try to make them aware of both the crimes of Nazism and the dangers of Neo-Nazism and every-day fascism like hatred of minorities.

The Society for Political Information has to be political. Not, though, party-political. The subject, the tasks are of utmost importance.

BEGRÜNDUNG

Die Wiederbetätigung im nationalsozialistischen Sinne ist seit der Wiedererrichtung der Republik im Mai 1945 gemäß dem Verbotsgesetz StGBI. 1945/13 verboten und unter Strafe gestellt. Darüber hinaus hat sich Österreich im Staatsvertrag von Wien unter anderem verpflichtet, seine Bemühungen fortzusetzen, um "alle Spuren des Nazismus zu entfernen".

In der Praxis hat sich jedoch das Verbotsgesetz als schwer handhabbar erwiesen. Es sieht beispielsweise Freiheitsstrafen von mindestens 10 Jahren vor, was die Bestrafung von "Kleinkriminalität" wesentlich erschwert. Die Zuständigkeit von Geschworenengerichten zur Vollziehung des Verbotsgesetzes hat zudem noch zwangsläufig zu einer relativ großen zeitlichen Distanz zwischen Tat und Strafvollzug geführt. Diese Umstände haben neben anderen Ursachen zu einer eher restriktiven Anwendung des Verbotsgesetzes geführt. In diesem Zusammenhang sei auf die Anfragebeantwortung 1688/AB des Bundesministers für Justiz vom 30. Dezember 1985 verwiesen.

Durch den gegenständlichen Antrag soll daher eine wesentlich leichter handhabbare verwaltungsstrafrechtliche Bestimmung für die Verbreitung von nationalsozialistischem Gedankengut im Sinne des Verbotsgesetzes in das Einführungsgesetz zu den Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetzen (EGVG) eingefügt werden. Während bei den übrigen Tatbeständen des Art. IX des EGVG der Strafrahmen mit 3.000,- Schilling begrenzt ist, sollen für Wiederbetätigungsdelikte Geldstrafen bis zur Höhe von 30.000,- Schilling verhängt werden können. Von besonderer Bedeutung erscheint, daß zusätzlich noch eine Verfallsstrafe hinsichtlich jener Gegenstände, mit denen das verwaltungsstrafrechtliche Delikt der Wiederbetätigung begangen wurde, ausgesprochen werden kann. Aufgrund dieser Bestimmung wird es künftig möglich sein, die in letzter Zeit wiederholt beobachtete Verteilung von neonazistischen Schriften vor Schulen und ähnlichen Einrichtungen unterbinden zu können. Schließlich soll sichergestellt werden, daß in jenen gerichtlichen Verfahren die gemäß dem Verbotsgesetz ohne Schuldspruch enden, nochmals überprüft wird, ob nicht subsidiär zur gerichtlichen Ahndung des Wiederbetätigungsdeliktes eine Verwaltungsstrafe gemäß der durch den vorliegenden Antrag in das EGVG einzufügenden Bestimmung auszusprechen ist. Die Antragsteller sind sich bewußt, daß zur erstinstanzlichen Vollziehung der neu zu schaffenden verwaltungsstrafgesetzlichen Bestimmung durch Bundespolizeibehörden eine Zustimmung der Länder gemäß Art. 102 B-VG einzuholen ist.

BUNDESGESETZBLATT

FÜR DIE REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

Jahrgang 1986

Ausgegeben am 7. Mai 1986

98. Stück

248. Bundesgesetz: Änderung des Einführungsgesetzes zu den Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetzen
(NR: GP XVI IA 180/A AB 879 S. 127. BR: AB 3089 S. 472.)

248. Bundesgesetz vom 19. Feber 1986, mit dem das Einführungsgesetz zu den Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetzen geändert wird

Maß nicht strenger sein, als sie das Gesetz für die im Rauschzustand begangene Tat androht. Im Falle der Z 7 ist der Versuch strafbar.“

Der Nationalrat hat beschlossen:

2. Dem Artikel IX werden folgende Absätze 5 und 6 angefügt:

Artikel I

Das Einführungsgesetz zu den Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetzen — EGVG 1950, BGBl. Nr. 172, zuletzt geändert durch das Bundesgesetz BGBl. Nr. 248/1978, wird wie folgt geändert:

1. Im Artikel IX Absatz 1 wird eine Ziffer 7 eingefügt, die mit dem Rest des Absatzes 1 lautet:

„7. nationalsozialistisches Gedankengut im Sinne des Verbotsgesetzes, StGBI. Nr. 13/1945, in der Fassung des Bundesverfassungsgesetzes BGBl. Nr. 25/1947, verbreitet, begeht, hinsichtlich der Tat nach Z 7 dann, wenn sie nicht gerichtlich strafbar ist, eine Verwaltungsübertretung und ist von der Bezirksverwaltungsbehörde, im Wirkungsbereich einer Bundespolizeibehörde in den Fällen der Z 1, 2, 3, 5 und 7 von dieser, mit Geldstrafe bis zu 3 000 S, im Falle der Z 7 mit einer Geldstrafe bis zu 30 000 S und mit Verfall der Gegenstände, mit denen die strafbare Handlung begangen wurde, zu bestrafen. In den Fällen der Z 1, 2 und 3 kann bei Vorliegen erschwerender Umstände anstelle einer Geldstrafe eine Arreststrafe bis zu zwei Wochen verhängt werden. Im Falle der Z 3 darf jedoch die Strafe nach Art und

„(5) Wird die Anzeige wegen einer Tat nach Abs. 1 Z 7 vom öffentlichen Ankläger zurückgelegt oder ein gerichtliches Verfahren wegen einer solchen Tat rechtskräftig ohne Schuldspruch des Angezeigten beendet, so ist dies der Bezirksverwaltungsbehörde, im örtlichen Wirkungsbereich einer Bundespolizeibehörde dieser, mitzuteilen. Die Mitteilung obliegt bei Zurücklegung der Anzeige dem öffentlichen Ankläger, in allen anderen Fällen dem Gericht.

(6) Die Zeit von der Erstattung der Anzeige wegen einer Tat nach Abs. 1 Z 7 bis zum Einlangen der im Abs. 5 genannten Mitteilung bei der zuständigen Verwaltungsbehörde ist in die Verjährungsfrist (§ 31 Abs. 2 VStG 1950) nicht einzurechnen.“

Artikel II

Mit der Vollziehung dieses Bundesgesetzes ist die Bundesregierung betraut.

Kirchschläger

Sinowatz

and Mrs. Winkler will be in touch with you in order to agree on a date which will be suitable for you. Let me assure you, that Foreign Minister Jankowitsch highly appreciated the occasion for an exchange of views with you and the other members of the American Jewish Committee during your stay in Vienna.

With my best regards, I remain,

Your sincerely

Ernst Sucharipa



KABINETT DES BUNDESMINISTERS
FÜR AUSWÄRTIGE ANGELEGENHEITEN

Des Kabinettschef.

Vienna, September 2, 1986

Dear Mr. Nevas,

During your conversation with Foreign Minister Jankowitsch the question of Austrian legislation concerning the dissemination of Nazi-ideas was raised. As promised I include a copy of the relevant regulation which was promulgated in February this year. I also attach a copy of the report which was submitted to the parliamentary committee dealing with that new law. Unfortunately I can only provide you with a German version of both documents. But I am sure, that the Austrian Consul General, Mrs. WINKLER, or Consul BRANDSTETTER will be happy to furnish an adequate English translation.

The main goal of the new law which contains administrative penalties up to AS 30.000,-- (approx. \$ 2.200,--) is to ensure that all activities in this field will be prosecuted and the persons involved punished. Before the promulgation of the new law the only legal disposition against even relatively speaking minor (if one can say so) activities in connection with the dissemination of Nazi leaflets etc. was to be found in the criminal code providing for at least 10 years for prison. For obvious reasons these provisions were more often than not too difficult to apply.

I have informed Mrs. WINKLER about the intent of Foreign Minister Jankowitsch to continue his conversation with you and the American Jewish Committee during his stay in New York

./.

Mr. Leo Nevas
Attorney at Law
246 Post Road East
WESTPORT, Conn. 06880

Mr. Sucharipa
KABINETT
DES BUNDESMINISTERS
FÜR
AUSWÄRTIGE ANGELEGENHEITEN
Ballhausplatz 1
A-1014 Vienna C
Austria

DEFENDING AUSTRIA AGAINST COMMUNISM AND NAZISM

Adress on the occasion of the visit of the American Jewish Committee in the Politische Akademie der ÖVP, August 28th, 1986.

Welcome to the Politische Akademie der ÖVP, the political academy of the Austrian Peoples Party, which is not only a center of education for the functionaries and officials of the party, but also a place of research. The academy is not only open for members of the Peoples Party. In the academy ~~are~~ all people from Austria and from abroad ~~are~~ welcome, who are interested in the democratic political life in Austria and ~~especially~~ ^{particularly} in the way of the peoples party to form the Austrian policy. As You may know, the peoples party was the main government party in Austria after 1945 till to 1970. Since 1970 is the party ^{is} the opposition.

The foundation of the party was already prepared during the resistance against the Nazi occupation and the party was founded immediately after the liberation by survivors of the Nazi - KZs and ^{by} members of the Austrian Resistance Movement. The Peoples Party had to bear many of the burdens of recovery, of the elimination of the results of Nazism and of defending Austria against Communism. I am grateful to You for Your visit in our academy and for Your interest in an important period of recent Austrian history.

Since march 86 - during the campaign for the Austrian presidency there is a world wide discussion about Austrian past and present and about Austrian attitude to democracy and to the problems of our past. But I am convinced, that there have been contradictions in the world-wide image of Austria which did ~~not come into being by~~ ^{exist long before} the election campaign. These contradictions only became apparent. ^{during}

We know from an analysis of the interests of tourists coming to Austria that they want first informations about Austrias imperial past. To say it ~~piecemeal~~ ^{ironically}, Many tourists want to see Emperor Franz Joseph, to see the white horses of the Spanische Hofreitschule and to listen to the Wiener Sängerknaben. But if there are discussions about the Anschluß, about the role of Austrian citizens in the Nazi-regime and about Vergangenheitsbewältigung, about dealing with the past there ^{at} very difficult contradictions between such discussions and the common image of Austria. In addition, the popular conception of a Europe divided by the

Iron Curtain makes no allowance for the position of neutral Austria.

But, if You compare present Austria, the post-war Austria from 45 till today with the past Austria between the collapse of the Habsburg Empire till to the Nazi-occupation there is an immense progress, there is an immense change for the better.

When the Habsburg Empire desintegrated in the autumn of 1918, all that were left to form the new Austrian Republic were about seven million German speaking Austrians and a group of provinces extending from Hungary to Switzerland without national or administrative cohesion. Not only for some months it was doubtful if ~~as~~ Austria would survive at all. The rest is Austria, a french statesman pointed out. In a famous play of an Austrian writer, F.T.Czokor, called The 3rd of November, dealing with the break down of the Habsburg Empire in a convalescent home for army officers, the citizens of the various succession states are using for the funeral of the commander pictorially earth from their countries, only the Jewish doctor says: Earth from Austria! Most of the German speaking Austrians did not want to form an independent state in 1918. And in addition to its fundamental weaknesses, especially economic weakness, the young Austrian republic lacked the required conditions for successful democratic government. On the whole, in the First Austrian Republic party sentiment was stronger than patriotism. Of the two main political parties, there is an overdrawing saying, the Social Democrats did not want Austria, the Christians Sociats did not want the republic. These were on the other side unfortunatly very good conditions for an enemy of Austria and of democracy. Adolf Hitler and his followers took their chance. The World War II started with the Nazi - occupation of Austria. One who made out very early the dangerous development was the Christian social chaffellor Dr. Engelbert Dollfuß, who recognized Hitler and Nazi - Germany as the main enemies of Austria. Dollfuß started to establish an independent Austrian patriotism. This was not self-evident. Austrian Socialists had been in favor of union with Germany since 1918 and there also was a third political camp, the Groß-deutsche, which beared in its name the Greater Germany including Austria. Hitler knew who was the most important stronghold against

him in Austria and so Dollfuß was assassinated by Nazis on July 25th in 1934. But the ~~putch~~ broke down within a few hours because of the resistance of the Austrian regime and the lacking support ~~by~~ by the Austrian population. Dollfuß-successor Schuschnigg continued the policy for an independent Austria, but German pressure ^{became stronger. although Schuschnigg tried till to the last moment to procure independence.} It was significant that shortly before the German ultimatum in march 38, Dr. Schuschnigg tried to cooperate with illegal Viennese socialists, although it was too late to have any effect.

But Hitler himself provided the best proof that the majority of Austrians were opposed to his regime. The German troops crossed the Austrian frontier two days after the chancellor announced his intention of holding a plebiscite on Austrian independence. Hitler decided he must act before the people could express their opinion. In the absence of diplomatic support, Austria was powerless to withstand Germany. A minority of Austrians did not wish to do so either. They were tired of the economic struggle, disillusioned about politics and impressed with German strength. It was not a small minority, but it was a minority. One could see in the newspapers and in the newsreels pictures from Hitlers visit in Vienna and on the Heldenplatz with about 200 000 Viennese from 1,800 000 inhabitants in all, but one could not see the pictures of the first imprisoned Austrian patriots going by train to the KZ Dachau already on march 13th. Ten Thousands of Austrians have been imprisoned because of political reasons during the Nazi-period and about 2 700 had been executed. Resistance groups had begun to form in Austria as early as 1938, although it was particularly dangerous to organize opposition in Austria, owing to the language question. Austrians alone of Hitlers subject people spoke the same language as their rulers. And You must not forget the Nazi-minded minority. There was every chance that a resistance meeting or even opposing remarks would be followed by internal betrayal, arrests and executions. As I pointed out before, the foundation of the Peoples Party was prepared already during the resistance period. In the last days of the war in Vienna, at the beginning of April 45, a group of former Christian Social leaders were suddenly released from prison after spending weeks under the daily

threat of death. They included the later chancellor and Peoples Party chairman Leopold Figl and the later secretary general of the party Felix Hurdes. The present president of the Politische Akademie, Alfred Maleta, was also a survivor of the Nazi-KZs, who joined the founders of the Peoples Party. Austrian Peoples Party was formed soon and ~~the~~ joined the provisional government. But conditions made it difficult to work as a real government. The country was divided and it was easier to travel from Russian occupied Eastern Austria to Czechoslovakia than to the Austrian western provinces. The Western Allies at first decided not to recognize the Provisional Government formed by the Socialist Party, the Peoples Party and the Communists. It was at first the Peoples Party to counteract separatist tendencies in that situation.

In all provinces - conference of the Peoples Party proposed an All-Party Provincial Conference
 At the end of November the first free elections were held.

The Soviets were ~~convinced~~ ^{confident} of a fairly favourable result from the Communist ~~Party~~ ^{point} of view. They were convinced Communist party would obtain a third or even 40 per cent of the vote.

The elections resulted in the Peoples Party obtaining 85 seats of 165, the Socialists 76 and the Communists 4 seats. The main reason for the victory of the Peoples Party was that the party appealed to the country's growing patriotic sentiment. It was the important decision for a free and democratic Austria.

In cooperation of the both main parties, Peoples Party and Socialist Party, Austria was recovered and Austrias young democracy was strengthened. So when the situation in 1950 was really dangerous because of a Communist putsch, democracy could be defended successfully.

At last Austria received 1955 with the State Treaty full independence and sovereignty. Austria declared ~~it~~ ^{her} self as permanent neutral, but there is no doubt that Austrian neutrality is only ~~a~~ military neutrality, not an ideological one. May I add at the end of my adress a short anecdote, concerning both of the dangers for Austrian democracy and independence. At one of the negotiations for the State Treaty between the foreign ministers Figl of Austria and Molotow of the USSR, Molotow demanded a

* It was also Felix Hurdes who established as minister of education a system of ^{bringing up} ~~bringing up~~ our young people to be Austrian patriots and democrats.

paragraph concerning the Austrian share of the blame for the World War. Austria rejected the Soviet demand, because Austria did not exist at the beginning of the war. And Leopold Figl added: "Mr. Molotow. I ^{recall some very much} remember ^{well}. In the winter of 39 I had to stand to attention for hours in bitter cold as a prisoner of KZ Dachau, when we heard over the loudspeaker about the signing of the Hitler-Stalin-Pakt by the foreign ministers Ribbentrop and Molotow."

Although the members of both delegations had been shocked by this remark and had been afraid of finishing the negotiations by that eclat, the Soviets did understand.

We all, not only followers of the Peoples Party, but most of the Austrians, are proud of great Austrians like Leopold Figl and we are obliged to their tradition. We have learned from the past. We won't tolerate undemocratic or inhuman political sentiments in our country. Austria must remain as an independent, democratic country, obliged to human rights.

We have provided the proof for this fundamental attitude for several serious occasions. I call to mind the Hungarian revolution in 56, when hundred thousands of refugees have been received very warmly in Austria as the outpost of free West, also the Czechoslovakian tragedy in 68 and the role of Austria as the first free station in the transit of Soviet jews.

Let me add a few words concerning a subject in which You are particularly interested. It is a fact that there has been a kind of religious and economic antisemitism in the christian-social party, which is not to be understood today. This is

not to be denied and not to be excused. But You can rest assured that the Peoples Party is absolutely determined not to tolerate any kind of antisemitism and to fight against the remains of such a tremendous attitude.

Thank You for Your attention.



Vicuna

On the eve of its parliamentary elections - to be held November 23 - Austria has made some progress in coming to terms with its Nazi past and its horrendous ^{history of} anti-Semitism. But it clearly has a long ^{still} way to go.

The bitter international polemics over Kurt Waldheim's presidential election campaign has left a widespread impression that Waldheim is Austria and Austria is Waldheim. But that imagery distorts some realities beneath the surface appearance. (which are important for Americans - especially American Jews - to understand.)

Nearly two-thirds of Austria's population today was born during or after World War II. That means that some sixty percent of its population is 40 years old or younger, and therefore was not involved in Austria's role in the Nazi horror. While it is true that a good proportion of this younger generation participated in giving Waldheim the 59.7% vote that elected him as president, my experiences in Austria during recent weeks convince me that a ^{significant} part of that "youth vote" was an expression of nationalist chauvinism rather than or beset with corruption and mismanagement of the Socialist party rule during the past 16 years than ~~its~~ support of Waldheim.

That the more open and honest mentality of younger Austrians was expressed to my American Jewish Committee delegation ^{in late Sept} by Dr. Kurt Scholtz, a Secretary to the Mayor of Vienna. At two separate meetings of Austrian authorities, ^{forty} ~~presented~~ Dr. Scholtz and with evident emotion,

As James Nazi-hunter Dr. Simon Wiesenthal put it to me, "Many Austrian youth also voted against the student interference of the World Jewish Congress. Not in their favor for Waldheim."

"I am ashamed of Austria's history of anti-Semitism. For forty years there has been silence about anti-Semitism and about Austria's role in the Nazi Holocaust. A new generation is needed to break that silence, and we are that generation."

As importantly, Dr. Scholtz formerly served in Austria's Ministry of Education and played a key role in organizing a major effort to educate Austrian teachers and students about "contemporary history."

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



מנורת אור
"עקב יעקב וישראלית"

NOV 19 1986

*Yours sincerely
Austen*



[start]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible



auch über die Schleimhaut der Vagina in den Körper eindringen kann. Und zahlreiche männliche Bluter, die über Blutkonserven angesteckt worden sind, haben bereits Frauen mit AIDS infiziert.

Glaubten bislang nicht wenige AIDS-Forscher, es sei in erster Linie der Analverkehr zwischen homosexuellen Partnern, der die Krankheit weiter ausbreite, so konnten die Mediziner jetzt zunehmend zur Auffassung, daß jede Art von Geschlechtsverkehr im Prinzip als riskant gelten müsse.

Wenn das zutrifft, dann haben die derzeit in aller Welt anlaufenden Aufklärungskampagnen vermutlich wenig Chancen auf Erfolg: Nicht nur die relativ eng umgrenzte Risikogruppe der Homosexuellen, sondern auch Heterosexuelle müßten dann entweder gänzlich aufhören, mit neuen Partnern ins Bett zu gehen, oder aber konsequent auf „safe sex“ umstellen, also vor allem Präservative verwenden. Aber „alle bisherigen Programme zur Änderung des Sexualverhaltens“, hatte Jonathan Mann von der Weltgesundheitsbehörde WHO in Genf kürzlich bei einer weltweiten Videokonferenz des US-Systems WorldNet berichtet (Wissenschaftler waren in Studios in mehreren europäischen und US-amerikanischen Städten live miteinander verbunden). „haben fast nichts gebracht“.

Andererseits sei AIDS eine völlig neue Krankheit und schaffe auch noch nie dagewesene Probleme; deshalb könne man nur hoffen, daß die Warnungen vor riskantem Sex diesmal fruchteten.)

Auf der Suche nach einem Impfstoff gegen AIDS dagegen zeichnet sich eine erfreulichere Wende ab: In der Vergangenheit hatten viele AIDS-Forscher befürchtet, daß es kaum jemals möglich sein werde, eine auf Dauer wirksame Vorbeugung gegen die Immunschwäche zu entwickeln, weil das AIDS-Virus immer wieder seine genetische Struktur ändere und daher ein Impfstoff jedesmal versagen müsse, wenn eine neue Variante des Erregers aufträte. (Gallo berichtet außerdem über ein zweites, herpesähnliches Virus, das ebenfalls Immunzellen befallt und darüber hinaus das Gehirn angreift.) Diese Befürchtung dürfte unzutreffend sein: Jüngste Forschungen haben gezeigt, referierte Gallo vergangenen Freitag anlässlich des 15-jährigen Jubiläums der Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Allergologie in Wien, daß insgesamt fünf Stücke der aus Eiweiß gefertigten Schutzhülle des AIDS-Virus genetisch stabil sein dürften, darunter auch jener Teil, der sich an die T₄-Zellen anheftet. Mehrere Forschergruppen testen Impfstoffe derzeit an Schimpansen und Mäusen. Hinter vorgehaltener Hand wurden beim Wiener AIDS-Kongreß erste ermutigende Ansatze kolportiert.

¹ Die Homosexuellen allerdings haben ihre Sexualität, berichtet Gallo, bereits deutlich eingeschränkt. Deshalb sei anzunehmen, daß die Zunahme von AIDS bei Homosexuellen im Hinblick relativ langsamer erfolgen würde als bei Heterosexuellen.

AFFÄREN

Handwritten: 08/11 01:4311

„Nicht draufgehaut“

Ferdinand Lacina schrieb einen offenen Brief an den Generalsekretär der ÖVP, Michael Graff, profil ersuchte Graff um eine Stellungnahme

opportun - durch „Draufhauen“ zu steigern ist?

Ich ersuche Sie, zu überdenken, ob Sie mit diesen Formulierungen nicht die bekannte Schärfe Ihrer Angriffe gegen Personen, Haltungen, politische Gegner überschreiten und ein Feld betreten, das führende politische Funktionäre dieses Landes nicht beackern sollten.

FERDINAND LACINA

Die Antwort Graffs

Sehr geehrter Herr Minister! Zunächst möchte ich dafür danken, daß Sie der ÖVP antisemitische Argumentationen nicht vorwerfen. Nicht alle sind so fair wie Sie.

Sie vermissen aber eine Erklärung, daß wir den Antisemitismus als Mittel politischer Propaganda aus grundsätzlichen Erwägungen ablehnten und nicht bloß deshalb, weil wir uns davon nichts versprechen, wie der Schlußsatz der „Presse“ (der nicht von mir stammt) glauben machen könnte. Die von Ihnen vermißte Erklärung existiert schon seit geraumer Zeit.

Ich habe am 10. Oktober 1986 - also lange vor meiner „Presse“-Äußerung und lange vor Ihrem Brief - nach einem sehr eingehenden Gespräch, das ich mit Vertretern des American Jewish Committee, einer der bedeutendsten jüdischen Organisationen in den Vereinigten Staaten, geführt hatte, über die APA folgende Erklärung abgegeben:

„Angesichts der während des Bundespräsidentenwahlkampfes entstandenen Auseinandersetzungen unterstreicht die ÖVP besonders ihre uneingeschränkte Zurückweisung des Antisemitismus gegenüber unseren jüdischen Mitbürgern und den Juden in aller Welt von wem, in welcher Form und unter welchen Umständen auch immer.“

Die ÖVP ist 1945 von Männern und Frauen gegründet worden, die aus den Gefängnissen und Konzentrationslagern der Nationalsozialisten kamen. Sie ist stolz auf große Österreicher wie Leopold Figl und - unter anderen - Alfons Gorbach, die nach der Befreiung unseres Landes von der Gewalt Herrschaft der Nazis wirksam für gegenseitige Versöhnung gearbeitet haben. Wir müssen uns bemühen, aus der Vergangenheit zu lernen, und werden daher undemokratische und inhumane politische Äußerungen in unserem Land nicht dulden.“

Finden Sie noch immer, daß ich „merkwürdig zweideutig“ geblieben sei?

MICHAEL GRAFF

Sehr geehrter Herr Generalsekretär!

Niemanden wird es verwundern, daß in einem Wahlkampf rauhere Töne angeschlagen werden. Trotzdem hat eine Äußerung von Ihnen in mir Betroffenheit ausgelöst. Ich entnehme sie der „Presse“ vom 29. Oktober, wo sie als Zitat ausgewiesen ist, so daß ich annehmen muß, daß sie auch so gemacht wurde: „Ich finde es eigentlich merkwürdig, daß manche Repräsentanten der Katholischen Aktion glauben, sich für Dinge entschuldigen zu müssen, die nie stattgefunden haben. Die ÖVP hat nie antisemitisch argumentiert. Ich kann nicht für den letzten Biertrich in Kärnten garantieren. Wir haben uns aber nicht draufgehaut. Wenn wir das wollten, könnten wir ganz andere Dinge machen.“

Ich halte es tatsächlich für verfehlt, der ÖVP antisemitische Argumentation vorzuwerfen. Ebenso verstehe ich, daß der Generalsekretär einer Partei für Äußerungen am „letzten Biertrich“, auch einen in Kärnten, nicht garantieren kann.

Betroffen machten mich die beiden letzten Sätze. Antisemitismus, die in unseren Breiten wohl perfideste Art des Fremdenhasses, wurde in der Vergangenheit sehr wohl als Mittel primitivsten Stimmenfangs eingesetzt. Mit bekanntem Ergebnis. Nach Auschwitz ist selbst die Erörterung der Möglichkeit, Judentum als Mittel politischer Propaganda einzusetzen, nur als größte Entgleisung zu qualifizieren.

Der Nachsatz der „Presse“ lautet: „Die ÖVP verspreche sich im Nationalratswahlkampf nichts von diesen Themen.“ Dies ist nicht mehr als Zitat von Ihnen gekennzeichnet, aber nach Ihren zitierten Bemerkungen schlüssig.

Mag sein, daß Sensibilität in der politischen Auseinandersetzung nicht gefragt ist. Ich habe aber trotzdem eine Aussage vermißt, die da lauten könnte: „Die ÖVP lehnt Antisemitismus in jeder Form ab, sie würde sich auch dann nicht solcher Argumente bedienen, wenn sie sich im Wahlkampf davon etwas verspräche.“

Hingegen bleiben Sie merkwürdig zweideutig. Wie ist das zu verstehen, daß Sie ganz andere Dinge machen könnten? Würde bisher etwas gemacht, das - falls

profil

[end]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible





THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations • 165 East 56 Street, New York, N.Y. 10022 • PLaza 1-4000

Marc,

I just had the pleasure of speaking with Amb. Klestil. I have included two copies of items from Ambassador Klestil, under the assumption that you will want to give one set to Bill Trosten.

The top one was sent to us via Express Mail, the second one was FAXed by the Ambassador to me...

He informed me that there was a statement by Rabbi Eisenberg, (in a newspaper clipping which Klestil will send us) saying that if the Austrian Jews have any fears, it is not Austrian anti-Semitism, rather it is ARAB TERRORISM.

Ambassador Populious returned your call, he can be reached tomorrow: 202-939-5800. He was very charming and sends you his regards, and will be happy to speak to you whenever you are able to call him.

Included is a copy of a FAX which Sema Greenberg asked to have sent to you. David Gordis wishes to discuss this with you.

Also, included are two copies of the AGENDA.....

I asked CSD to make sure that Seattle makes the Dinner reservations for Mr. and Mrs. Greif....

10/29/86

Rita P.

Bonnie Chaney
Rita

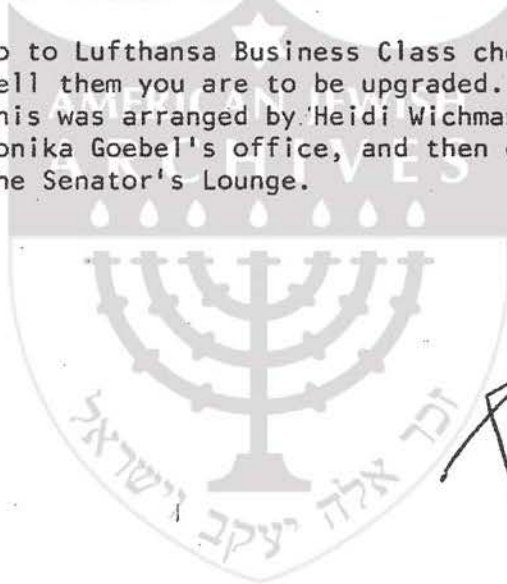
memorandum

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date August 21, 1986
to Marc Tanenbaum
from RPR
subject Lufthansa -- August 24.....

Bill Trosten said:

Go to Lufthansa Business Class check-in
tell them you are to be upgraded...
this was arranged by Heidi Wichmann, of
Monika Goebel's office, and then got to
the Senator's Lounge.



PROPOSAL FOR COOPERATIVE PROGRAM TO ADVANCE AUSTRIAN-JEWISH
RELATIONSHIPS SUBMITTED BY THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

BACKGROUND -- The current controversy that swirls over the wartime activities of Dr. Kurt Waldheim has raised dramatically a series of basic issues affecting the future of Austrian-Jewish relations:

- 1) Apart from the question of his guilt or innocence, the Waldheim affair has resulted in charges in the international press that anti-Semitism is rampant in Austria, that the "majority" of the Austrian people were involved in Nazism and still harbor anti-Jewish prejudices.
- 2) There is virtually no knowledge of the fact that an estimated 65 percent of the Austrian population was born during the war or in the post-World War II period, and therefore was not implicated in the Nazi massacres.
- 3) Equally little is known about the post-World War II political, social, cultural, religious and economic developments that have taken place in Austria during the past 40 years.

Those three coordinates of perception need to be kept in mind in order to formulate a realistic and meaningful program.

I - AUSTRIA AND CONTEMPORARY ANTI-SEMITISM

To assure the credibility of this program, particularly among the Jewish communities in the United States, Israel, Western Europe, and Latin America, it would be wise and morally compelling, we believe, to confront the issue of contemporary anti-Semitism in modern Austria. There are conflicting surveys reporting on the extent of anti-Jewish attitudes in Austria today, it would

be important to examine these surveys systematically and determine the validity of their findings. If they are found to be contradictory and confusing it would be wise to consider the commissioning of a comprehensive study of the state of anti-Semitism and prejudice in Austria today. A jointly-sponsored study by a major Austrian social science institute and the American Jewish Committee would symbolize a cooperative effort to deal seriously with this problem in an atmosphere of shared concern. (AJC has been the leading Jewish organization in pioneering social science research in intergroup prejudice, racism, and anti-Semitism. Foremost among AJC-sponsored studies had been - Studies in Prejudice - The Authoritarian Personality.)

The findings of such a study would provide the basis for a series of follow-up programs, such as the following:

- 1) A jointly-sponsored conference of general and religious educators, cultural figures, political personalities, and media people who might devote two or three days examining through academic papers and discussions a theme such as, "Anti-Semitism in Austria -- Myths and Realities." A conference program would be drafted to allow examination of (a) The sources of prejudice -- religious, cultural, ideological; (b) The nature and extent of anti-Semitism; (c) The challenges of anti-Semitism to human rights and a humanistic society.
- 2) A task force of educators, textbook authors, curricula specialists, and school superintendents to examine systematically "The Image of Jews and Judaism" in Austrian religious and secular teaching materials. The emphasis would be on the preparation of materials that would help present positive portrayals to replace negative and hostile images where they appear.

A textbook project would also examine the treatment of the Nazi holocaust, anti-Semitism, and the role of Jews in Austrian history, culture, and society.

A parallel textbook study would be undertaken in the United States for examination of the treatment of Austria in American public school teaching materials.

- 3) A conference on "The Media and Anti-Semitism" that would examine the role of the electronic and print media in dealing constructively with uprooting prejudice, anti-Semitism, and in fostering positive intergroup and Jewish-Christian relationships.

II - AUSTRIAN-JEWISH EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

As credibility and mutual concern begin to be established by the kind of programs suggested previously, a series of exchange programs should be envisioned between representatives of significant segments of Austrian society and the American Jewish community. Based on some 15 years of such programming with the Federal Republic of Germany, we would suggest the following models:

- 1) Exchange visits of groups of Austria's future leaders in politics, education, and culture to meet with American Jewish personalities and institutions; reciprocal visits by American Jews to Austria for extended meetings with key elements of Austrian society. (Model programs of such visits are available for adaptation to this program.)
- 2) Exchange visits of religious leaders from Austria to the U.S. Jewish community and reciprocal visits by Rabbis, Jewish educators, and Jewish communal leaders to Austria. Conferences and seminars on Jewish-Christian

relations could be planned. (Cardinal Koenig has been a long-time friend of AJC since Vatican Council II.)

- 3) Exchange visits of Austrian educators and American Jewish educators.

III - PUBLICATIONS

A carefully-planned program of pamphlets, articles, and books should be considered in both German and English on Austrian-Jewish relations for wide dissemination in both communities.

IV - SYMBOLIC MISSIONS

Once agreement is realized on the contents of this joint program, a mission of top American Jewish Committee leaders would be invited by the Austrian Government to meet with key leaders. At such a meeting, a public announcement would be made of shared concerns over Austrian-Jewish relations and of specific long-range programs that would be undertaken to help improve understanding and relations between Austria and her Jewish population and the American Jewish community. In turn, the American Jewish Committee would invite Austrian government, cultural, religious and other relevant personalities to AJC receptions in New York and Washington, D.C., among other cities as a means of communicating shared concerns and positive relations for the future.

Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum
Director
Department of International Relations
American Jewish Committee

May 18, 1986

AJC VISIT TO AUSTRIA

Together with Jewish communities throughout the world, the American Jewish Committee has been deeply disturbed by the moral and political issues that emerged during the course of the recent Presidential elections in Austria.

Despite a variety of official efforts by the Austrian Government, it is evident that many Austrian people are yet to confront their own past and adequately come to grips with the wartime horrors of collaboration with Nazi Germany. Such an examination becomes all the more vital in light of the distressing and reprehensible anti-Semitic incidents in recent months directed against Austria's tiny Jewish Community, and a 1984 University of Vienna national survey that found 25% of the population had a strong anti-Jewish bias and another 60% moderate anti-Semitic feelings.

In recent months, the American Jewish Committee has held extended private talks with Austrian Government officials as well as with several Austrian Jewish leaders about these concerns. We have also spoken with U.S. State Department officials who are involved in advancing American-Austrian relations. In light of these various discussions, the American Jewish Committee determined that it would be useful to visit Vienna and to continue these private talks with Austrian authorities in the key areas of government, politics, research, education, culture, religion and the media.

Our purpose is to examine with these representative leaders and academic personalities appropriate joint projects for confronting the nature and extent of anti-Semitism, the religious and ideological sources of prejudice, and the challenges of anti-Semitism to human rights and the future of Austrian-Jewish relations. Our approach is informed by more than forty years of research, education, and intergroup relations that the American Jewish Committee has carried out with other governments and cultural institutions in Europe, the United States, Latin America, and Israel.

The American Jewish Committee undertakes this task with the conviction that memory and understanding of such tragic events -- and the willingness to change -- provide the best possible protection against their recurrence.

MHT:RPR

8/19/86

86-550

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP MISSION TO AUSTRIA

August 26 - 28, 1986

Leo Nevas, Chairman
AJC's Board of Governors
Attorney, businessman from Westport, Connecticut
Specialist in United Nations Affairs and Human Rights

Edward E. Elson, Chairman
AJC's Board of Trustees
President, Atlanta, Georgia, News Agency

Miles Jaffe, Chairman
AJC's International Relations Commission
Leading Detroit, Michigan, attorney

David M. Gordis, Executive Vice-President
American Jewish Committee
Noted educator

Marc H. Tanenbaum, Director
AJC's International Relations Department
Specialist in Human Rights, World Refugee and Hunger Issues

William Trosten, Associate Director
American Jewish Committee
Specialist in West European Affairs

mht:rpr

8/5/86

86-550

→ AJC MISSION
AUSTRIA ONE
HACKER-LEDERER



The American Jewish Committee

Institute of Human Relations
165 East 56 Street
New York, New York 10022-2746
212 751-4000

Theodore Ellenoff
President

David M. Gordis
Executive Vice-President

Leo Nevas
Chair, Board of Governors

Robert S. Jacobs
Chair, National Executive Council

Edward E. Elson
Chair, Board of Trustees

Sholom D. Comay
Treasurer

Robert S. Rifkind
Secretary

David H. Peirez
Associate Treasurer

Mimi Alperin
Chair, Executive Committee

Vice-Presidents

David B. Fleeman
Miami

Arnold B. Gardner
Buffalo

Rita E. Hauser
New York

Charlotte G. Holstein
Syracuse

Ann P. Kaufman
Houston

Alfred H. Moses
Washington, D.C.

Idelle Rabin
Dallas

Bruce M. Ramer
Los Angeles

Jerome J. Shestack
Philadelphia

Richard L. Weiss
Los Angeles

Gordon Zacks
Columbus

Honorary Presidents

Morris B. Abram

Howard I. Friedman

Arthur J. Goldberg

Philip E. Hoffman

Richard Maass

Elmer L. Winter

Maynard I. Wishner

Honorary Vice-Presidents

Nathan Appleman

Martin Gang

Ruth R. Goddard

Andrew Goodman

Raymond F. Kravis

James Marshall

William Rosenwald

Shirley M. Szabad

Max M. Fisher

Honorary Chair,
National Executive Council

Executive Vice-Presidents Emeriti

John Slawson

Bertram H. Gold

August 5, 1986

Dr. Ivan Hacker-Lederer, President
Jewish Community of Vienna
Community Centre
Bauernfeldgasse 4
Vienna XIX, Austria

Dear Dr. Hacker,

It gives me much pleasure to extend to you the warm fraternal greetings of the American Jewish Committee, and through you, to our co-religionists of the Austrian Jewish community.

A leadership mission of the American Jewish Committee will be visiting Vienna from Tuesday, August 26, through Friday, August 29.

It would be an honor and privilege for us if we could meet with yourself and other leaders of the Austrian Jewish community. The recent turmoil over the Austrian Presidential elections has been a source of great concern to us, as it has to Jewish leadership in many parts of the world. We would welcome an opportunity to have the benefit of your views and thinking on this and related issues in a private, unpublicized meeting.

I should mention that Dr. Ariel Muzicant visited with me last April to exchange views about matters of common concern.

I would appreciate your letting me know by return mail or by cable if such a conversation will be possible, and what time and place you might suggest.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
Director
International Relations Department

MHT:RPR

*With the Compliments
of
the Austrian Embassy
and Herzog and
Frumkin*



1986.10.10 / nr. at000071 / buero graff
oevp-bundespartei leitung

nationalratswahl/antisemitismus/graff

statement repudiating appeals to religious prejudice and
anti-semitism during coming national elections, made by dr. michael
graff, secretary general of the austrian people's party

wien, oevp-pressedienst, 10.10.1986. - the coming national assembly
elections provide an occasion for the austrian people's party to
make public its unshakeable commitment to the democratic
principles on which the second republic is founded. those
principles form the basis of our nation's basic consensus which
obligates all our citizens to respect the civil, political, and
religious convictions of every austrian.

to that end, the austrian people's party calls for a fair
democratic debate, and makes clear to the nation that it
repudiates any possible appeals from anyone to personal defamation
based on religious or ethnic prejudice or hatred.

in the light of the controversies created during the last
presidential elections, the austrian people's party wishes to
underscore especially its unambiguous rejection of anti-semitism
against our fellow jewish citizens by anyone, in any form, and
under any circumstances.

we wish to assure our nation, and particularly our respected Jewish citizens, that the people's party is absolutely determined not to tolerate any kind of anti-semitism and to fight against any remnants of this vile prejudice which must become anathema to Austria and to the civilized world.

Austria must and will remain an independent, democratic republic, unwaveringly dedicated to human rights.

111771 vppr a

nnnn

NE2151

1988-10-10/18:53

0127/0296/2370

Christen – Juden: Die Stunde der Versöhnung

VON FRANZ FELLER AUS WIEN

Die christlich-jüdische Stunde der Besinnung, an der gestern im Prunksaal der Nationalbibliothek Erzbischof Hans-Hermann Groer und der Wiener

Oberrabbiner Paul Chaim Eisenberg teilnahmen, war ein historisches Ereignis. Noch nie gab es in Österreich eine solche gemeinsame Feier zwischen Christen und Juden.

Am Vorabend des heutigen Jom-Kippur-Festes, dem traditionellen jüdischen Versöhnungstag, hob Oberrabbiner Eisenberg in seiner Rede hervor, daß für ein freundschaftliches, tolerantes Verhältnis zwischen Juden und Christen die Rückbesinnung beider Partner auf die Grundsätze ihres eigenen Glaubens die beste Basis sei. Eisenberg erinnerte auch an die Beschlüsse der Wiener Diözesansynode von 1971, in denen die Christen ausdrücklich aufgefordert werden, antisemitischen Tendenzen entgegenzutreten.

Der Wiener Erzbischof Hans-Hermann Groer bezeichnete die gestrige historische Stunde als einen ersten Schritt auf dem Weg zur Versöhnung, dem noch viele weitere folgen sollten. Groer erin-

nerte daran, daß das Volk Israels ungeachtet aller Heimsuchungen, „die ihm auch von fehlgeleiteten Gläubigen zugefügt wurden“, den wahren Glauben an Gott bewahrt habe. In der Rückbesinnung auf die unseligen Zeiten der Judenverfolgungen gehe es nicht darum, an die Brust der Vorfahren zu klopfen, sondern an die eigene, betonte Groer, der an alle appellierte, weiterhin Taten der Versöhnung zu setzen.

Vom Präsidenten der Israelitischen Kultusgemeinde Wien, Ivan Hacker, wurde die gestrige Begegnung als der Beginn eines Weges bezeichnet, „auf dem wir eine entgegengestreckte Hand ohne Scheu ergreifen“. Ähnlich äußerte sich auch der Judaistik-

Wissenschaftler Jacob Allerhand.

Die katholische Zeitgeschichtlerin Erika Weinzierl zeichnete in ihrem Vortrag ein schonungsloses Bild des österreichischen Antisemitismus, der sich, zunächst religiös begründet, unter dem NS-Regime zum politischen und antichristlichen Antisemitismus wandelte, dessen Saat in furchtbarer Weise aufging.

Die antisemitischen Tendenzen während und nach der Bundespräsidentenwahl wurden vom Präsidenten der Katholischen Aktion, Paul Schulmeister, als der eigentliche Anlaß für dieses von der Katholischen Aktion und dem Österreichischen Laienrat initiierte Treffen bezeichnet.

THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

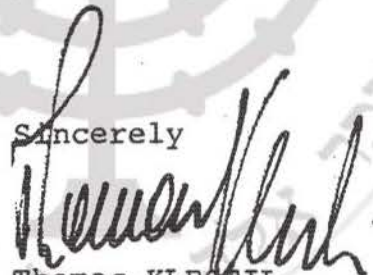
October 10, 1986

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum,

With reference to our recent conversation in New York please find enclosed the text of a press release issued by the Austrian People's Party (Oesterreichische Volkspartei) on October 10, 1986.

I do hope that this statement will be helpful in allaying concerns about possible anti-Semitic tendencies in the ongoing Austrian national elections campaign.

Sincerely



Thomas KLESTIL
Ambassador

The Honorable
Rabbi Marc TANENBAUM

American Jewish Committee
165 East, 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 21, 1986
to Marc Tannenbaum
from David Geller
subject Austria

While in Israel, Elan Steinberg of the WJC saw a copy of our statement regarding the policy statement issued by Michael Graff, Sec General of the Austrian People's Party. He called his office in NY and asked them to contact us and inform us of the following:

- 1) Graf is currently being sued by the Jewish community
- 2) Graf is directly responsible for some of the anti-Semitic statements made during the recent election
- 3) The situation regarding the People's Party and Graf is much more complicated than we might imagine and we ought to be very careful about cooperating with him.

cc David Gordis
William Trosten
David Harris

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR PRESS CONFERENCE ON AUSTRIA, SEPT. 10, 1986

1. THEODORE ELLENOFF, AJC President, Welcoming Statement.
2. LEO NEVAS, Chairman of AJC Fact-Finding Group to Austria

Statement of purposes of Mission

3. MARC H. TANENBAUM }
WILLIAM TROSTEN } Report on Findings of Fact-Finding Group
4. DAVID GORDIS, Implications for AJC

AMERICAN JEWISH
Question-and-answer period.
ARCHIVES

MHT:RPR



Dr. Heinz Kienzl
General Director
Austrian National Bank

Vienna, Austria

Dear Dr. Kienzl,

In behalf of the American Jewish Committee group that visited Vienna last week on a fact-finding mission, I ~~ix~~ wish to ~~æ~~xpress our deep ~~æ~~ppreciation for your cooperation and courtesies.

As you rightly indicate, we are concerned over the feelings of vulnerability to anti-Semitism expressed to us by leaders of the Austrian Jewish community, especially since the recent pPresidential elections. We do think it is important that the Austrian government and leading public personalities such as yourself find appropriate ways to ~~æ~~ssure the remnant Jewish community of their security and well-being.

We are heartened by your proposals of cooperation between representative Austrian institutions and the American Jewish Committee. In response to your suggestions, may I share with you these feelings of my colleagues and myself:

- 1) A symposium on combatting anti-Semitism in Austria should be a priority and should probably be planned for Spring 1987. We are ready to give you our full cooperation in ~~in~~ helping define the themes, suggest speakers from our side, help cover our side of the expenses, and, if agreed, seek to gain maximum publicity for the messages of the symposium.
- 2) A conference on the ~~the~~ contribution of Jews to the culture of Austria and the United States would also be important. We are prepared to collaborate fully with you.
- 3) A new study ~~st~~ on the state of anti-Semitism in Austria is also a compelling undertaking and we are very much interested in cooperating with you. We want first to read each of the studies that have been completed in recent years in order to be able to make ~~an~~ some constructive suggestions on the part of our social scientists who ~~spe~~cialize in such studies.

When you visit with us in New York shortly, we look forward to ~~being~~ able to discuss these ideas further with you.

We are preparing a report for our leadership on our visit, and plan to use that as ~~the~~ basis for any public statements ~~what~~ we might issue.

Regarding your request for a listing of Jewish puulications, Rabbi Tanenbaum is sending that you under separate cover.

We regard our visit to Austrää as an important and rewarding experience and we hope that a constructive result will develop from it. Again, we wish to express to your our heartfelt thanks for allyour thoughtfulness and cooperation.

NOV 20 1986

THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

Washington, November 17, 1986

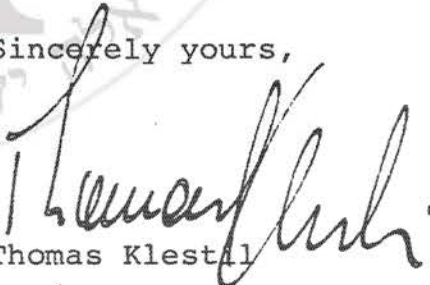
Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum!

Before leaving Washington for an extended stay in Austria I would like to take the opportunity to pass on to you the text of the address given by Austrian Foreign Minister Peter Jankowitsch before the Vienna CSCE Follow-Up Meeting on November 7. In his speech Mr. Jankowitsch stressed the importance of the human right of emigration and in this context pointed out the continued plight of Jews willing to leave the Soviet Union (see pages 5 + 6 of the transcript).

As recent figures compiled by the Austrian Ministry of the Interior show, only 636 Soviet Jews were allowed to emigrate through Austria in the first nine months of 1986. During the first 10 months of this year, however, Austria has served as a waystation for over 1700 Jews emigrating from Iran.

With my best wishes I remain,

Sincerely yours,



Thomas Klestil

The Honorable
Marc TANENBAUM
American Jewish Committee

NEW YORK

Enclosures

Sperrfrist: 7. November 1986
11.00 Uhr

Rad

Erklärung
des Bundesministers für Auswärtige Angelegenheiten
Dr. Peter Jankowitsch

aus Anlaß des Wiener Folgetreffens der KSZE
7. November 1986



Repifax

Z. 1000. 40. 02/224-173186
13 Seiten
OB Washington
Vertretung New York ID

Kopier - Protokoll
WASH
Vert.

Nummer: 60065
Dat/h: 7.11.86, 16.44
Seitenanzahl: 13

-2-

Herr Vorsitzender, Exzellenzen, verehrte Delegierte!

Mit der Eröffnung des WFT hat die KSZE wieder eine neue, bedeutende Etappe begonnen. 11 Jahre seit Annahme der Schlußakte von Helsinki befinden wir uns nun auf der dritten großen Station nach Belgrad und Madrid. Vor uns steht die Aufgabe, diesen Prozeß, seine Erfolge und Enttäuschungen, sein reichhaltiges Folgeprogramm seit Madrid hier in Wien wieder einmal genau und kritisch zu überprüfen, ihn zu vertiefen und womöglich durch neue Regelungen für die Zukunft auszubauen.

Soweit der eher nüchtern klingende Rahmen, in dem sich unsere Konferenz die nächsten Wochen und Monate bewegen wird.

Worum geht es wirklich? Was können wir der interessierten Öffentlichkeit tatsächlich bieten, die sich unter dem Kürzel KSZE zwar oft nicht viel vorstellen kann, aber doch eine Fülle von Erwartungen daran knüpft?

Wir alle, die wir hier zum Wiener Folgetreffen zusammengekommen sind, sind uns einig, welchen bedeutenden Meilenstein in der europäischen Nachkriegsgeschichte, welches weitreichende Vermächtnis die Schlußakte von Helsinki darstellt. Kein anderes politisches Vertragswerk in Europa regelt derart umfassend und detailliert die Beziehungen zwischen Staaten und ihren Bürgern. Wir agieren daher in unseren Beratungen nicht im luftleeren Raum, wir pflegen keine abstrakten, von der Wirklichkeit losgelösten politischen Geheimgespräche sondern es geht um die ganz praktische, geradezu handfeste Verwirklichung und Fortentwicklung dieses fundamentalen, sehr konkreten internationalen Dokumentes. Die Dokumente des Helsinki-Prozesses beziehen sich dabei direkt auf die Lebensbedingungen der Menschen in Ost und West. Auch wenn sich

-3-

die in ihnen enthaltenen Bestimmungen häufig hinter einer ritualisierten und formelhaften Sprache verstecken - es geht darum, daß die Bürger unserer Staaten Verwandte in anderen Staaten frei besuchen können, daß getrennte Familien zusammengeführt werden, daß Menschen ihren religiösen Glauben frei ausüben können, daß sie sich frei informieren und frei kulturell betätigen können.

Es geht darum, daß die in unseren Staaten erzeugten Güter freier zu ihren potentiellen Käufern gebracht werden können, es geht um wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit bei der Nutzung vorhandenen Ressourcen. Es geht um den Schutz der natürlichen Lebensgrundlagen der Menschen.

Es geht schließlich darum, den Verzicht auf Gewalt in den zwischenstaatlichen Beziehungen zu untermauern, zu konkretisieren - die Völker Europas von der Drohung des Krieges zu befreien. Mit Recht wird daher die Helsinki-Schlußakte als die "Magna Charta" Europas bezeichnet.

Herr Vorsitzender, verehrte Delegierte!

1975 in Helsinki haben wir uns ein ehrgeiziges Programm vorgenommen. Unsere Aufgabe war und ist es, in den in 2 gegensätzliche ideologische Lager gespaltenen Europa aus dem Nebeneinander ein Miteinander zu entwickeln; ein Miteinander, daß den Bürgern dieses geprüften Kontinents eine produktive Existenz in Unabhängigkeit, Freiheit und Sicherheit ermöglicht. Eine Bilanz des bisher Erreichten - und eine unserer Aufgaben ist ja auch die Bilanzziehung! - ist allerdings ernüchternd:

In vielen Bereichen ist es bisher nicht gelungen, Gräben zu überbrücken, bestehende Hindernisse abzubauen. Die Kriegsgefahr in Europa ist nicht gebannt, der Gewaltverzicht weit davon entfernt, wirklich effektiv zu sein. Menschenrechte werden noch häufig - allzu häufig - verletzt. Grenzen sind weiter oft unüberwindliche Hindernisse für Menschen, für Ideen, aber auch

-4-

für Güter. Es wäre unredlich, die ernstesten Erfüllungsdefizite der Helsinki-Schlußakte zu leugnen und Zweckoptimismus an die Stelle von skeptischem Realismus zu setzen.

Daß Helsinki, daß die KSZE allerdings alles andere als ein Fehlschlag wird, daß der Helsinki-Prozeß ungebrochene Lebenskraft hat, davon, sehr geehrte Damen und Herren, haben Sie alle sich in den letzten Tagen selbst - häufig in unmittelbarer Umgebung des KSZE-Gebäudes - überzeugen können.

Unzählige Menschen aus allen an der KSZE teilnehmenden Staaten sind nach Wien gekommen, um hier für ihre Anliegen zu werben, ihre Sorgen und ihre Beschwerden - manchmal auch Anklagen - zu äußern. Sie alle haben sich unter dem Namen "Helsinki" hier eingefunden, haben Gruppen gebildet unter Berufung auf die Bestimmungen der Schlußakte. Sie alle beziehen die Hoffnung, daß ihre Anliegen gehört werden - ebenso wie die Berechtigung, diese Anliegen hier zu äußern - aus dem Dokument von Helsinki.

Verehrte Delegierte!

Jeder der 35 hier anwesenden Staaten war Kritik ausgesetzt durch eine oder mehrere Gruppen von Bürgern, die unter dem Zeichen von Helsinki ihre Rechte fanden. Keiner von uns sollte diese Kritik leicht nehmen oder ignorieren. Wir werden ausreichend Gelegenheit haben, alle Kritikpunkte hier, zwischen den Staatsvertretern, in gründlicher und sachlicher Art und Weise zu beraten.

Die Aktivität all dieser Gruppen von Bürgern, all der "NGO's", wie es im Fachjargon heißt, sollte uns aber vor allem auch an eines erinnern: Die wahre Bedeutung von Helsinki liegt darin, daß es ein Zeichen der Hoffnung für die Menschen in Ost und West geworden ist, ein Symbol für einforderbare Rechte, ein Symbol für Frieden, für Freiheit, für Offenheit.

-5-

Es ist an uns, in der politischen Praxis sowie im Wirken der Konferenz diese Erwartungen nicht zu enttäuschen und die Glaubwürdigkeit des Prozesses zu festigen. 1986 wie 1975 sind wir angehalten und verpflichtet, uns voll und ganz dieser Herausforderung des Programms der Schlußakte, ihrer konkreten Durchführung und Weiterentwicklung zu stellen. Je älter der Prozeß wird, um so weniger dürfen wir die klaren und ursprünglichen Ziele unserer Konferenz, der Schlußakte aus dem Blick verlieren. Um so schwerer fällt es auch zu akzeptieren, daß das Wirken von Teilnehmerstaaten vielfach weiterhin nicht im Einklang mit diesen Bestimmungen steht.

In der Praxis bleibt viel zu tun. Lassen Sie mich, Herr Vorsitzender, nur einen Teilaspekt herausgreifen, der am Schnittpunkt von Korb I und Korb III, von Menschenrechten und menschlichen Kontakten liegt: Die zeitweilige oder endgültige Ausreise aus einem Land. Besuchsreisen, individuelle Reisen aus familiären, beruflichen oder anderen persönlichen Gründen, aber auch die Auswanderung sind konkreter Ausdruck des Menschenrechts auf Freizügigkeit, wie es in der universellen Menschenrechtsdeklaration der Vereinten Nationen, im UN-Pakt über politische und bürgerliche Rechte sowie im Prinzip VII der Schlußakte verankert ist.

Es muß dem Einzelnen selbst überlassen bleiben, wie er von diesem Recht Gebrauch macht. Lassen Sie mich bei dieser Gelegenheit sagen, daß Österreich keinerlei Interesse hat, die Emigration aus irgendwelchen oder in irgendwelche Länder zu fördern. Selbstverständlich müssen diejenigen, die ein Land endgültig verlassen wollen, dieses Recht ausüben können. Dafür sind wir Österreicher immer eingetreten und dafür werden wir uns auch im Rahmen des Wiener Folgetreffens mit Nachdruck einsetzen. Die Erfahrungen der Praxis in diesem Bereich sind ernüchternd genug. Einige in letzter Zeit gelöste aufsehenerregende Einzelfälle können nicht darüber hinwegtäuschen, daß ganzen Kategorien von Auswanderungswilligen

-6-

- vor allem solchen, die aus religiösen oder ethnischen Gründen auswandern wollen, wie etwa den sowjetischen Juden - diese Möglichkeit nach wie vor verwehrt bleibt.

Und noch ein zweites zur Einleitung: Gerade nach der nicht von unmittelbarem Erfolg gekrönten Zusammenkunft von Reykjavik blicken unsere Bürger jetzt ungeduldig auf die weitere Entwicklung im Sicherheitsbereich zwischen Ost und West. Herr Vorsitzender, Sicherheits- und Abrüstungsfragen sind mehr denn je zentrale und brennende Anliegen unserer heutigen Gesellschaften, insbesondere hier in Europa. Das Auf und Ab zwischen Hoffnungsschimmern und Enttäuschungen im Gespräch zwischen den beiden Supermächten verunsichert unsere Bevölkerungen grundlegend. Daß das Gespräch dieser Tage hier in Wien fortgeführt wird, erfüllt uns mit gewisser Hoffnung und Befriedigung. Dieser Dialog darf nicht abreißen, darf nicht Geisel gegensätzlicher Vorstellungen werden. Dazu ist das Objekt dieser Bemühungen, die Kontrolle und Einschränkung der enormen Rüstungspotentiale, ein viel zu ernstes, ja existentielles. Was innerhalb der KSZE an weitreichender Dialog- und Konsensfähigkeit zwischen Ost und West in den verschiedensten Gebieten möglich war, sollte auch im zentralen Bereich der Rüstung zwischen den beiden Supermächten machbar sein - ein Bereich, der die Sicherheit aller unserer Staaten tangiert. Was die KSZE in diesem Zusammenhang als Brennpunkt neuer Bemühungen zur Verständigung, als Ost-Westforum par excellence, weiter beitragen kann, müssen wir ernsthaft und konstruktiv prüfen.

Herr Vorsitzender! Wenn ich mich nun kurz den österreichischen Vorstellungen über die konkreten Aufgaben des WFT zuwende, so möchte ich zunächst auf die sogenannte "menschliche Dimension" der Schlußakte eingehen. Mir liegt viel daran, diesen unmittelbaren Bezug des KSZE-Prozesses zur Einzelperson, zum Individuum hervorzuheben. Was sind die schönsten Vertragswerke, wenn sie sich nicht positiv im Leben unserer Mitbürger

-7-

niederschlagen? Wie steht es um die Ernsthaftigkeit unserer Zusammenarbeit, wenn es auf menschlicher Ebene, bei der Gewährung elementarer Grundrechte nur zögernd Fortschritte gibt? Hier handelt es sich um einen echten Prüfstein des Miteinanderlebens unserer Staaten. Hier zeigt sich, wie es um die Realität unserer Beziehungen wirklich bestellt ist. Was sich dazu an Bestimmungen in den Prinzipien von Korb I bzw. in Korb III der Schlußakte findet, sind nach österreichischer Auffassung unverzichtbare Voraussetzung für die freie Entfaltung der Persönlichkeit und die Selbstbestimmung des Individuums. Sie tragen zur geistigen Bereicherung der menschlichen Person ebenso bei wie zur Stärkung sozialer und familiärer Bande.

Herr Vorsitzender, hier handelt es sich auch um grundlegende österreichische Anliegen. Wir bedauern die verschiedentlich festgestellte Nichteinhaltung der relevanten Bestimmungen aufs tiefste. Wir glauben, daß diese Nichterfüllung eines Teiles der Schlußakte nachhaltig an der Glaubwürdigkeit des gesamten KSZE-Prozesses rüttelt - eine Entwicklung, die im Interesse keines Teilnehmerstaates liegen kann. Wie wollen wir in anderen Gebieten Vertrauen ausbauen, wenn nicht alle Bürger in allen Teilnehmerstaaten in einem derart fundamentalen, die Person des einzelnen unmittelbar betreffenden Bereich auf die Erfüllung der Schlußakte hoffen können? Ausgehend von einer kritischen Prüfung wird Österreich hier Vorschläge und Initiativen vorbereiten, die geeignet sind, Verbesserungen herbeizuführen. In Korb III denke ich dabei auch an den Informationsbereich, wo wir zu dem aktuellen Stichwort "Arbeitsbedingungen für Journalisten" und anderen Fragen konkrete Ideen haben.

In diesem Zusammenhang auch ein Wort zu den Expertentreffen von Ottawa und Bern. Aus österreichischer Sicht waren diese Unterfangen trotz der bedauerlichen Nichteinigung auf ein Schlußdokument sehr nützlich. Gerade auch in eher kontroversiellen Bereichen, bei denen eine substantielle

-8-

Annäherung nicht immer leicht möglich erscheint, hilft der Dialog, prinzipielle Standpunkte abzuklären. Grundsätzlich erscheint es uns daher durchaus angebracht, für die Zukunft die Organisation weiterer Veranstaltungen in diesem Bereich ins Auge zu fassen.

Sehr verehrte Damen und Herren! Was die Verwirklichung der Menschenrechte für das Schicksal des Einzelnen bedeutet, sind Fortschritte im Bereich Vertrauensbildung, Sicherheit und Abrüstung für die friedliche Existenz der Staaten. Das Risiko eines Kriegsausbruches weiter zu vermindern, bleibt die größte Herausforderung unserer Zeit. Rüstungskontrolle und Vertrauens- und Sicherheitsbildende Maßnahmen sind wesentliche Elemente jeder Strategie, die Stabilität und Sicherheit in Europa zu verbessern. Für die kleinen neutralen oder paktungebundenen Staaten steht bei den diesbezüglichen Verhandlungen genau so viel am Spiel wie für jene Länder, die einem der beiden Militärbündnisse angehören. Wir haben die Risiken der gegenwärtigen Situation nicht mitverursacht, sind ihnen aber ebenso ausgesetzt. Es erscheint daher nur logisch, daß wir ein ebenso großes Interesse an erfolgreichen Anstrengungen haben, diese Gefahr zu vermindern. In diesem Sinne kommt der Konferenz über Vertrauens- und Sicherheitsbildende Maßnahmen und Abrüstung in Europa (KVAE) als integralem Bestandteil des KSZE-Prozesses eine wegweisende und bedeutende Rolle zu.

Österreich begrüßt das Ergebnis der Stockholmer Konferenz vom 19. September dieses Jahres. Die dort erreichte Übereinkunft stellt einen wesentlichen Schritt vorwärts dar, wenn wir auch glauben, daß im Bereich der Vertrauens- und Sicherheitsbildenden Maßnahmen noch hinreichend Potential für weitere Vereinbarungen gegeben ist. Darüber hinaus sind wir der Ansicht, daß im Zuge des WFT auch umfassende Überlegungen betreffend eine Erweiterung des Mandates der KVAE in Richtung Übergang zu Phase II, zu Fragen der konventionellen Abrüstung, angestellt werden sollten. Uns ist bewußt, daß dabei

-9-

schwieriges Terrain beschritten werden muß. Wir glauben aber auch, daß gerade hier eine besondere Verantwortung der Konferenz übertragen ist, der wir uns mit viel Dialogbereitschaft und Ausdauer zu stellen haben. Die Erhaltung und Stärkung des Friedens in Europa sollte uns allen einen hohen Einsatz wert sein.

Was Korb II betrifft, so sind aus österreichischer Sicht die vorhandenen Möglichkeiten für eine Intensivierung der Zusammenarbeit sicher noch nicht voll ausgeschöpft. Unser besonderes Augenmerk gilt dabei den Bereichen Handel, wirtschaftlicher Informationsaustausch, Umwelt und Verkehr.

Herr Vorsitzender, lassen Sie mich einen Punkt herausgreifen, der uns hier speziell am Herzen liegt: Die Umwelt. Wie selten zuvor wurde uns dieses Jahr die Brisanz der gesamten Umweltthematik vor Augen geführt. Die Sicherheit der friedlichen Nutzung der Kernenergie wurde aus gegebenem Anlaß von unseren besorgten Bevölkerungen in Frage gestellt und damit der Glaube an den unbegrenzten Fortschritt der Technik ernsthaft erschüttert. Uns allen wurde die eminente Gefahr aufgezeigt, die derartige Umweltkatastrophen durch ihren grenzüberschreitenden Charakter für viele Länder zugleich bedeuten können. Diese Problematik gebietet mehr denn je rasche und effiziente internationale Zusammenarbeit. Wir dürfen uns hier auch nicht leichtfertig auf einmal eingenommene Grundsatzpositionen starr zurückziehen, sondern müssen unsere Politik imaginativ und flexibel gestalten - flexibel im Hinblick auf die größtmögliche Sicherheit unserer Bevölkerungen, die dabei oberstes Gebot bleiben muß. Nach österreichischer Auffassung liegt hier auch eine ernstzunehmende Rolle für die KSZE. Im Rahmen der IAEA konnten bereits globale Übereinkommen ausgearbeitet und angenommen werden, die die Frage der gegenseitigen Information und Hilfestellung bei nuklearen Unglücksfällen behandeln. Die Teilnehmerstaaten unseres Treffens, auf deren Staatsgebieten

-10-

sich der überwiegende Anteil der derzeit betriebenen Nuklearanlagen befindet und die als Industriestaaten zweifellos bestimmte Gemeinsamkeiten sowohl im Energiebereich als auch in ihrer Beurteilung der Umweltproblematik aufweisen, sollten jedoch bei dieser Gelegenheit beraten, wie sie über die Ergebnisse der IAEA hinausgehen könnten.

Abgesehen von der Frage der Information und Hilfestellung bei nuklearen Unglücksfällen denke ich hier an den wichtigen Bereich der Information und Konsultation über den Normalbetrieb bestehender Anlagen bzw. über künftige Anlagen. Dies gilt insbesondere aber nicht ausschließlich im Verhältnis zu Nachbarstaaten. Darüber hinaus sollten sich die Teilnehmerstaaten nicht der Tatsache verschließen, daß die bestehenden völkerrechtlichen Regeln für die Haftung für grenzüberschreitende Schäden, die durch Kernanlagen verursacht wurden, heute völlig unzureichend sind. Der Gedanke ist nicht von der Hand zu weisen, daß für die Verbesserung dieser Haftungsbestimmungen, die eindeutig im Interesse aller Staaten gelegen wäre, die KSZE qualifiziert wäre, eine Initiative zu setzen.

Eine andere Frage aus dem Bereich der Umweltproblematik, die uns in Österreich sehr betrifft, aber auch zahlreiche andere europäische Staaten berühren müßte, ist die Beeinträchtigung der Umwelt durch den Straßenverkehr und insbesondere durch den Straßengüterverkehr. Die ständige und auch für die Zukunft voraussehbare Zunahme des Straßengüterverkehrs in Europa bringt für die Menschen an den Verkehrsrouten und für die Umwelt Belastungen, die einfach nicht mehr hingenommen werden können und die bereits heute eine politische Dimension erreicht haben. Wenn unser Treffen sich im Bereich des Korbes II wieder nur darauf beschränken würde, Themenkreise zu inventarisieren und die Hoffnung auszusprechen, daß deren weitere Behandlung und Lösung von anderen Gremien oder allenfalls von selbst erfolgt, so ist das aus unserer Sicht zu wenig. Wir glauben, daß das WFT

-11-

über die intellektuellen und zeitlichen Ressourcen verfügt, um die von den Teilnehmerstaaten zur Korb II aufgeworfenen Fragen nicht nur zu behandeln - und wie ich schon sagte, zu inventarisieren - sondern sich auch konkret damit beschäftigen müßte, auf welche Weise und in welchem Rahmen greifbare Fortschritte und Lösungen in einer zeitlich vertretbaren Perspektive zu erzielen sind.

Herr Vorsitzender, aus Korb III möchte ich noch zwei Themen herausgreifen, in denen sich Österreich ebenfalls besonders einzusetzen gedenkt: Die Information sowie die Bereiche Kultur und Bildung. Eine weitere Verbesserung der Verbreitung von und des Zugangs zu Information ist unabdingbare Voraussetzung eines besseren Sich-Kennnlernens über die Grenzen, ist eine der wichtigen Brücken, die es zu schlagen gilt. Damit zusammenhängend geht es darum, für diejenigen, die unter anderem diese Brücken schlagen - nämlich die Journalisten - lange anstehende Verbesserungen zu verwirklichen, um ihnen eine möglichst reibungslose Durchführung ihrer Tätigkeit zu ermöglichen. Ich habe schon darauf hingewiesen, daß auch hier Österreich beim WFT initiativ zu werden gedenkt.

Was die Kultur betrifft, so freuen wir uns auf eine möglichst fruchtbare Weiterverfolgung der so positiven und reichhaltigen Ansätze des Budapester Kulturforums. Aus österreichischer Sicht hat gerade auch Budapest das überwältigende Potential an Kreativität und Vitalität gezeigt, das sich im Rahmen unseres Prozesses manifestieren kann und soll. So wie die Kultur Österreichs in der Geschichte immer gerade durch den Austausch und die Kontakte mit anderen bereichert und gestaltet wurde, erscheint uns auch heute und im Rahmen der KSZE eine weitere dynamische Entfaltung der gesamteuropäischen kulturellen Zusammenarbeit ein wesentliches Ziel. In der Vielfalt der kulturellen Eigenheiten unserer Länder liegt ein großer Reichtum, den wir zusammen nutzen sollten.

-12-

Herr Vorsitzender, noch kurz einige prinzipielle Bemerkungen zum Folgeprogramm der Konferenz. Zwischen den Treffen von Madrid und Wien fand die bisher ehrgeizigste Reihe von Folgeveranstaltungen statt. Es hat dabei nützliche und fruchtbare Diskussionen sowie teils auch substantielle Ergebnisse gegeben. Bedauerlicherweise haben jedoch drei dieser insgesamt sechs Veranstaltungen ohne Einigung auf ein Schlußdokument geendet. Dies muß nachdenklich stimmen. Nach österreichischer Auffassung erscheint es nötig, grundsätzlich das Konzept der zwischen den Folgetreffen stattfindenden Veranstaltungen neu zu überdenken. Zum einen könnte daran gedacht werden, einen einheitlichen prozeduralen Modus für diese Veranstaltungen ein für alle Mal festzulegen. Zum andern erscheint sich aus unserer Sicht der Gedanke zu lohnen, im Gegensatz zu den mehr formellen Expertentreffen auch vermehrt informellere, offenere Treffen mit Forumscharakter abzuhalten.

Herr Vorsitzender, gestatten Sie mir noch folgende Schlußbemerkungen. Für Österreich ist ein besonderes Engagement im KSZE-Prozeß außenpolitische Tradition. Wir empfinden es daher als eine große Ehre und Verpflichtung, Gastland dieses dritten Folgetreffens der KSZE zu sein. In Österreich sind Sicherheit und Zusammenarbeit in Europa keine leeren Schlagworte. Dieses Land, diese Stadt haben wie wenige andere durch die Jahrhunderte am eigenen Leib gespürt, von welcher existentiellen Bedeutung diese Ziele sind. Wir Österreicher fühlen stark, wie sehr Europa auch heute kontinuierlicher und energischer Bemühungen bedarf, um das friedliche Miteinanderleben zu festigen, auszubauen und produktiv zu gestalten. Europa, dieser alte und an vielem reiche Kontinent, braucht für seine dynamische Zukunft auch eine Besinnung auf die ihm eigenen Stärken. Dazu gehören die Kreativität und Arbeitskraft der Bürger aller unserer Staaten, die am Gedeihen dieses Europa in seiner Vielfalt und unaustauschbaren Identität unmittelbar mitwirken. Sorgen wir dafür, auch durch die Arbeit dieser Konferenz, daß durch den Abbau noch bestehender

-13-

Behinderungen, daß durch eine ernsthafte Besinnung auf die Erfüllung der Schlußakte, unsere Bürger in Freizügigkeit und Frieden noch mehr zur fruchtbaren Gestaltung dieses Kontinents beitragen können.

Lassen Sie mich als letztes noch den großen europäischen Philosophen Sir Karl Popper zitieren. In seinem Werk "Die offene Gesellschaft und ihre Feinde" beschreibt er den Weg, den die Menschheit einschlagen sollte. "Wir müssen ins Unbekannte, ins Ungewisse, ins Unsichere weiterschreiten und die Vernunft, die uns gegeben ist, verwenden, um, so gut wir es eben können, für beides zu planen: nicht nur für Sicherheit, sondern zugleich auch für Freiheit".





Flüchtlingssituation in Österreich

I. Zahl der vom BMI betreuten Personen: 6.905 davon halten sich auf
(Stand 30. September 1986) 4.723 in 94 Gasthöfen und Heimen
2.182 in 5 Lagern

Nationalitäten:

2.171	Tschechoslowaken
1.802	Rumänen
1.528	Ungarn
463	Polen
440	Jugoslawen
127	Iraner
71	Albaner
61	Bulgaren
37	Afghanen
27	Chilenen
25	Iraker
23	Türken

II. Zahl der Asylwerber:

1983: 5.868 Asylanträge, davon

1.823	Polen
1.651	Tschechoslowaken
961	Ungarn
502	Rumänen
116	Jugoslawen

2.678 Asylerteilungen, davon

901	Polen
782	Tschechoslowaken
272	Rumänen
249	Ungarn
162	Afghanen
110	Vietnamesen

1984: 7.208 Asylanträge, davon

2.466	Polen
1.941	Tschechoslowaken
1.229	Ungarn
501	Rumänen
338	Iraner
158	Jugoslawien
126	Bulgaren
108	Vietnamesen

2.053 Asylerteilungen, davon

753	Polen
711	Tschechoslowaken
143	Rumänen
92	Iraner
88	Vietnamesen
57	Ungarn
50	Jugoslawen
26	Afghanen

1985: 6.724 Asylanträge, davon

2.333 Tschechoslowaken
1.642 Ungarn
840 Rumänen
662 Polen
410 Jugoslawen
279 Iraner
96 Bulgaren
78 Vietnamesen
57 Albaner
56 Türken
36 Afghanen
20 Kambodschaner

1.876 Asylerteilungen, davon

802 Tschechoslowaken
268 Polen
261 Rumänen
106 Jugoslawen
93 Vietnamesen
82 Iraner
59 Ungarn
39 Bulgaren
25 Iraker
23 Afghanen
18 Kambodschaner
13 Türken

1986: (Jän.-Sept.)

6.956 Asylanträge, davon

1.955 Tschechoslowaken
1.935 Rumänen
1.685 Ungarn
438 Polen
323 Jugoslawen
200 Iraner
88 Türken
81 Albaner
68 Bulgaren
34 Vietnamesen
27 Afghanen
19 Iraker

971 Asylerteilungen, davon

330 Tschechoslowaken
209 Rumänen
127 Polen
72 Jugoslawen
70 Iraner
36 Vietnamesen
22 Chilener
22 Ungarn
22 Afghanen
17 Bulgaren

III. Außereuropäische Flüchtlinge im Rahmen von Kontingenten:

Folgende Kontingentflüchtlinge sind bis 30.9.1986 nach Österreich gekommen, wobei die ursprünglich festgesetzten Kontingente mehrheitlich überschritten wurden:

Vietnamesen und Kambodschaner	2.346	(Kontingent:1.740)
Kurden aus dem Iran	102	(Kontingent: 100)
Chilenen	603	(Kontingent: 200)
Argentinier	232	(Kontingent: 250)

IV. Auswanderung von Flüchtlingen in Drittstaaten (aus Lagern):

<u>1983:</u>	6.141 Personen, davon in die USA:	2.862
	nach Kanada:	1.657
	nach Australien:	1.073
<u>1984:</u>	4.180 Personen, davon in die USA:	1.904
	nach Kanada:	1.380
	nach Australien:	593
<u>1985:</u>	3.483 Personen, davon in die USA:	1.536
	nach Kanada:	1.200
	nach Australien:	539
<u>1986:(Jän.-Sept.)</u>	3.114 Personen, davon in die USA:	1.463
	nach Kanada:	1.068
	nach Australien:	468

V. Durchwanderung sowjetischer Juden:

(gemäß den von der OB Moskau erteilten Sichtvermerken):

1968:	251	1977:	17.118
1969:	3.747	1978:	30.655
1970:	1.033	1979:	50.202
1971:	13.082	1980:	20.394
1972:	31.140	1981:	9.165
1973:	31.804	1982:	2.575
1974:	19.273	1983:	1.315
1975:	13.124	1984:	891
1976:	14.061	1985:	1.126
		Jän.-Sept. 1986:	636
		insgesamt:	261.592

Die Zahl der durch Österreich reisenden jüdischen Auswanderer aus der Sowjetunion ist in den letzten Jahren drastisch zurückgegangen. Ein deutlicher Wiederanstieg ist bisher nicht zu verzeichnen.

Von den jüdischen Auswanderern reiste in letzter Zeit etwa ein Drittel nach Israel und zwei Drittel in andere Länder, vornehmlich in die USA, weiter.

VI. Durchwanderung iranischer Juden:

1.7.1983 - 31.12.1985:	1.719
1.1.-22.10.1986:	<u>1.712</u>
	3.431

VII: Durchwanderung von Bahais aus dem Iran:

Dezember 1983 - 31.12.1985:	251
1.1.-22.10.1986	<u>70</u>
	321

VIII: Kosten der Flüchtlingsbetreuung:

1983: öS 401.417.259,--
1984: öS 330.695.720,--
1985: öS 280.454.279,--



Hofrat Dr. Ivan-Hacker-Lederer

Wien, 20. November 1986

Erdbergerlands 6

A. 1030 Wien

Tel. 73 23 54

An die
American Jewish Committee
zu Händen
Herrn Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum und
Herrn William Trosten
N e w Y o r k

Sehr geehrte Herren!

Mein Schreiben vom 17. November d. Js. haben Sie inzwischen erhalten.

Nun hat mich gestern Dr. Muzicant angerufen, bat mich um eine Aussprache, ich habe ihn empfangen und möchte Ihnen den Inhalt dieses Gesprächs vertraulich mitteilen. Vertraulich deswegen, damit Sie ein klares Bild bekommen, ich hingegen nicht bereit bin mit solchen Herren Diskussionen zu führen.

Ich habe ihm den Inhalt Ihres Schreibens vom 3. November nicht mitgeteilt, bzw. Ihren Brief nicht gezeigt. Dies habe ich mir für einen ev. späteren Termin beiseite gelegt.

Muzicant erklärt, er war seit Monaten nicht bei Ihnen, er hat mit niemand gesprochen, er hat sich niemals so verhalten, dass man annehmen hätte können, dass er Sprecher der Wiener Kultusgemeinde ist, er hat niemals gesagt, dass ich nicht autorisiert bin für die Gemeinde zu sprechen, er hat niemals über mich Fotocopien einiger Zeitungsartikeln gesendet, er kann sich eigentlich auf so etwas nicht erinnern. Er behauptet, ich lasse mich von Ihrer Organisation missbrauchen um Israel Singer zu schwächen. Singer ist Generalsekretär einer Weltorganisation und Ihre Organisation versucht die Autorität des JWC zu schwächen.

Nach dem Gespräch sagte noch Muzicant, in ganz Wien sprach man davon, dass ich für meine Reise von Kienzl und von der Regierung 80.000 öS behoben habe. Er erzählte weiters, dass er an diesen gewissen Montag als ich in New York ankam, von Singer aus Israel telefonisch angerufen wurde, wonach ich eine Pressekonferenz zusammengerufen hätte und das Büro des Weltcongresses hat in Form eines Telefaxes die Einladung zu dieser Pressekonferenz an Muzicant gesendet und er liess dies an sämtliche Kultusräte vervielfältigen und so entstand der Wunsch seitens Muzicant und seiner Consorten, dass es ihnen gelungen sei diese Pressekonferenz zu verhindern.

Ich glaube, ohne Kommentar werden Sie sehen, mit welchen Leuten wir zu tun haben. Zur Pressekonferenz möchte ich nur bemerken, dass ich niemals diese einberufen habe - Ihnen muss ich ja dies nicht erklären und als uns gesagt wurde "Wien brennt", haben Sie über mein Ersuchen diese schon von Ihnen vor meiner Ankunft anberaumte Pressekonferenz über mein Ersuchen abgesagt.

Ich wollte Ihnen nur mitteilen, dass Muzicant ein absoluter Singer-Mann alles bestreitet und mit seinen Äusserungen diese ohne konstruktive Konzeption tätige kleine Gruppe von Jugendlichen unterstützen versucht.

Ich werde weiter berichten.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Ivan-Hacker-Lederer

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 30, 1986
to Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum
from Lolly Bram
subject Waldheim

Enclosed is the Washington Post story and the Kasara document released today. Rabbi Heir, from the Wiesenthal Center FAX'd me the materials.

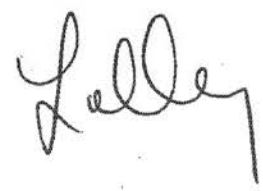
Warren Eisenberg, B'nai B'rith International, said they issued a statement today calling for Waldheim's resignation in light of this new development. He believes that Meese is waiting until after the November 23 election to make a decision about the "watch list."

Meese's deputy, Pat Cortin said that a decision will be made "by the end of November" and that one more meeting (not yet scheduled) will take place on the issue. (202 633-2015)

Neal Sher told me he could not discuss it all. Maybe you'd have better luck! (202 633-2502)

I don't believe any more information is needed in order for AJC to make another appeal to Meese.

Best regards-- for a productive NEC.



[start]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible



Weather

Today: Variably cloudy. High 66. Low 34. Winds 10-20 mph. Friday: Mostly sunny. High around 60. Winds 10-15 mph. Yesterday: A/C 50. Temperature range 47-64. Details on Page C2.

The Washington Post

109TH YEAR

No. 329

© 1986, The Washington Post Company

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1986

New Charges, Admission On Waldheim's Record



KURT WALDHEIM
... allegations called unpersuasive '47 Soviet-Bloc Bid To Recruit Waldheim As Agent Described

He Now Concedes Link to Germans' Kozara 'Pacification'

By Dusko Doder
Washington Post Staff Writer

After denying for months that he had anything to do with a 1942 Nazi operation that resulted in the massacre of Yugoslav civilians in a mountainous area called Kozara, Kurt Waldheim has acknowledged that he did take part in the operation, a brutal "pacification" effort at the height of World War II.

A spokesman for Waldheim said in the course of several telephone interviews that the Austrian president did serve in the Kozara area, in the western part of Yugoslavia's province of Bosnia, in the spring and summer of 1942, but that he was a "supply officer" not engaged in the fighting.

In a 13-page memo Waldheim's son presented to The Washington Post last April, Waldheim emphatically denied that he was in the Kozara area during the spring and summer of 1942. He said he had been transferred to the command staff of the Wehrmacht's Combat Group West Bosnia, which planned and conducted the operation. But he contended that this was only a paper assignment for record-keeping purposes and that he was sent almost immediately to be a liaison officer with an Italian infantry division located 180 miles away.

Waldheim's spokesman, Gerold Christian, said that "additional research" has now revealed that Waldheim's earlier statement was incorrect.

Accusations of war crimes brought against Waldheim after the war by the Yugoslav government, first disclosed publicly last spring, involved later episodes in 1944 and 1945. In recent interviews in Yugoslavia, retired Yugoslav intelligence officers said those formal charges were drawn up largely to try to blackmail Waldheim into becoming a Yugoslav or Soviet agent, and were not legally persuasive. The formal indictment of Waldheim, obtained by The Post, was based on charges by other Austrians who fought with the Nazis, several of whom were later executed as war criminals themselves.

By Dusko Doder
Washington Post Staff Writer

In the winter of 1947-48, the Yugoslav and Soviet intelligence services attempted to blackmail Kurt Waldheim into becoming a communist agent by threatening to charge him with war crimes, according to several former Yugoslav intelligence and government officials.

These officials said in separate interviews in Belgrade last month that the Yugoslav secret police compiled a dossier of allegations against Waldheim, who served as an intelligence officer with German forces in the Balkans from 1942 to 1945.

The senior Yugoslav intelligence agent in Vienna in 1947-48, Anton Kolencic, asserted that he had planned to use this material in a "joint" action with Soviet intelligence agents to recruit Waldheim. Kolencic said he had turned Waldheim's file over to Soviet intelligence agents and that he was "absolutely certain" that the Russians had made the approach.

Another former senior official of the Yugoslav intelligence service who asked not to be identified said that the Soviets in early 1948 had advised the Yugoslavs that Waldheim was a war criminal.

See WALDHEIM, A52, Col. 1

See KOZARA, A50, Col. 1



Lefty Driesell leaves the floor at Cole Field House flanked, from left, by daughter Carolyn, wife Joyce and daughter...

Driesell Ousted as Maryland Coach

Chancellor Points to Need for Redirection, Athletes' Development

By Mark Asher and Sally Jenkins
Washington Post Staff Writers

Citing the need for an overhaul of priorities in the University of Maryland basketball program, Chancellor John B. Slaughter yesterday accepted the forced resignation of Coach Lefty Driesell and reassigned him as an assistant athletic director.

"There needed to be some redirection of our overall athletic program, particularly in relation to basketball," Slaughter said at a news conference. "There needed to be a greater commitment to the development of the young men playing in the program. It is my belief that at this time, in order to make those changes, we would require new leadership."

Driesell, Maryland's coach for the past 17 years, said he was stepping down because "it is obvious that the administration wants to make a coaching change, and I do not wish to coach if I am not wanted."

He joins Athletic Director Dick Dull as the second top athletic department official to resign and be reassigned in the past month.

No successor to Driesell was named, although Slaughter said he expected to appoint a coach before basketball practice begins Saturday. It is considered likely that top assistant Ron Bradley will be named interim coach.

Slaughter said the major reason he sought Driesell's resignation was that he felt the need for "more successful... academic pursuit" by basketball players. "I have not been satisfied for some time with the progress that has been made in regard," he said.

Slaughter conceded Maryland renegotiated contract with Driesell in 1985, "I should have had more insight into that in the months since then, star player, Len Bias, and his dormitory suite and came intoxication, and revelations of poor performance by Bias and members created around Driesell's program. Although Slaughter's resignation and are a coupling we can the chancellor said they er factors. Slaughter said an investigation he ordered the instrumental" in the

See DRIESELL, A1

Focus at University of Maryland turns to Driesell's successor, Page B1

Politics of Color Key in D.C. Race

City's Blacks, Whites See Different Symbols in Barry

By Arthur S. Brisbane and Courland Milky
Washington Post Staff Writers

White, liberal and sympathetic to blacks' long struggle for political representation in the District, Anne Zill reluctantly will part ways at the ballot box with a mayor she calls a "great symbol of the city's move toward integration."

Mayor Marion Barry, she said, "has been

chance do you think we will have of making a white person responsive?"

When they regard the symbol called Marion Barry, whites and blacks see two different men. The matter of race hasn't exactly divided the city, but it has exposed the seams that hold the patchwork together.

Blacks and whites, even those who share a profile of upward mobility, differ sharply on Barry's integrity and performance in office—the core issues in an election that pits the black incumbent against a principal challenger who is white, Republican nominee Carol Schwartz.

The fear of losing ground, coupled with the belief by some blacks that white-dominated institutions are out to get Barry, has created a political prism in the District. Many whites, relying little on the government to provide social services and ensure economic opportunity, see corruption in bold relief, while blacks often see the corruption issue in context with advances by Barry in other areas.

Many Unswayed By Reagan Visits

Turnout May Increase, But Coattails Appear Short

By Paul Taylor
Washington Post Staff Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C.—Ronald Reagan never budged Laine Cloutz.

Cloutz, 33, is a devout Republican and a big fan of the president. "He's the best," she said. "I wish he could run again."

When Air Force One whooshed into Charlotte late Tuesday afternoon and Reagan rolled out his coattails one last time for Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), Cloutz was de-

gram director of a Lutheran Fair home for children.

"She added, mock plaintively Ronnie."

Cloutz may not be a typical vespers supporters—but in her making up her mind by her own in her own time, she's very much stream.

Reagan's 65-minute visit he newspaper and television coverage for 24 hours. Yet interviews voters at their homes a few he president left or on their way following morning yielded not who said his or her mind had 1. The president drew gobs of all sales.

His political advisers underverts are rare at any stage of a they are especially difficult to last week, when the pool of has usually shrunk to less than

Waldheim Admits Link to 'Pacification'

ROZARA, From A1

Waldheim's acknowledged participation in the Kozara operation raises new questions about his wartime role. Though his spokesman, Christian, said that during the Kozara campaign Waldheim "was assigned as a special missions staff officer to the staff of the quartermaster" and "had the duties of a supply officer," records show that Lt. Kurt Waldheim was a member of the command staff of 29 men under Gen. Friedrich von Stahl, the Nazi commander at Kozara.

German reports list Waldheim among 34 men in the German army singled out for meritorious service in the Kozara campaign. Documents show that Stahl recommended Waldheim and seven other officers for the King Zvonimir Medal of the puppet Croatian government for "heroic bravery in the battle against the insurgents in the spring and summer of 1942." Waldheim received the medal with an oak leaf decoration that was reserved for those who distinguished themselves "under enemy fire," according to an official Nazi description of the medal. Three months later Waldheim was promoted to first lieutenant.

An Austrian Foreign Ministry document issued at the time of his retirement in 1983 shows that Waldheim had listed the 1942 award of the King Zvonimir Medal in his personnel file.

In his earlier statements, Waldheim had insisted that the Kozara operation did not involve a massacre of the local population. "That's nonsense," he was quoted by the Belgrade newspaper *Vecernje Novosti* as saying. "There was no massacre, there were fierce battles."

An order issued by the German command staff at the start of the Kozara operation on June 4 said that "all males over the age of 14, except the very old men, have to be arrested. They should—under the threat of summary execution—be forced to provide information about the enemy, in order to obtain data for pursuing further military operations."

The objective of the operation,

according to Stahl's order outlining it, was to remove the entire population of the region and eventually resettle it with a "reliable" population. The total number of people in the Kozara area was about 80,000, including 3,500 armed partisans.

The ferocity of the final days of the operation, after the Axis forces—33,000 strong—had broken the resistance of Tito's partisans and encircled tens of thousands of civilians hiding in the forest of Mt. Kozara, was captured by German war correspondent Kurt Neher:

"And then came the most horrifying part of all," he wrote in a contemporary dispatch, "that made everyone's blood run cold—a woman started screaming loud and long and hundreds took up her call. Men, women and children threw themselves with beastly intensity upon our lines. It seemed to us as if we were present at the instant of the forming of the primal human horde, with men rushing us in human waves, intent on self-destruction and mindless of all fear. Their faces were bestial, belonging to a truly lower race."

When the operation ended on July 18, Stahl proclaimed it "a great success."

"The enemy has been annihilated or captured, and the entire population of the encircled area have been removed, thus effecting a thorough pacification of the territory," Stahl said in his order of the day.

Yugoslav figures show that of the 3,500 armed partisans, 1,900 survived the battle after they managed to break through the encirclement at Patria on July 4. Of more than 81,000 unarmed people in the area at the time of the encirclement, 13,000 were killed and 68,000 were evacuated to concentration camps or sent to forced labor in Germany and Norway. Many persons perished in long marches to concentration camps.

In the camps, 23,000 children under the age of 14 were separated from their parents and sent to special children's camps where 11,000 died of starvation and disease. Historian Dragoje Lukic, 53, one of the

children who survived, had to look 12 years for his younger brother, who was taken to a different camp. Another camp survivor, journalist Jovan Kesar, 49, has been one of the most aggressive Yugoslav reporters investigating Waldheim's past.

The Germans decided to pacify the Kozara and Podgorica territory—an area of western Bosnia flanked by the rivers Sava, Vrbas and Sana—after its predominantly Serb population mounted an open rebellion in early 1942, according to Yugoslav accounts. It was a spontaneous revolt in response to atrocities committed in the area against Serbs, Jews and Gypsies by the Ustashi, as the Croat fascists were known. The Yugoslav Communists used the rebellion to establish a strong foothold in the area and establish their political control.

Kozara was the largest section of liberated territory under Marshal Tito's control. More important, it was located near Zagreb, the capital of the Croatian puppet state, and the main German communication lines running from Zagreb via Belgrade to Athens. Moreover, the rebels had taken over a major iron mine at Ljubija, and controlled rail and road communications.

At a meeting of the German High Command for the South-East at Arskali, near Salanica, on May 20, a decision was made to "clear and pacify" the West Bosnian region around the Kozara mountain. The Combat Group West Bosnia was formed on May 23 under Stahl.

Documents exist that might be able to clear up questions about Waldheim's role at Kozara. An explanation of the King Zvonimir Medal he was awarded is thought to be located in the Croatian fascist state archives, which are currently in Zagreb. However, Croatian communist leaders have resisted efforts to open these files to historians and researchers.

The Yugoslav government decided earlier this year not to cooperate with any research into Waldheim's past. Government officials in Belgrade say directly that they value good relations with Austria and have no interest in the controversy.



BY CLARICE BOND—THE WASHINGTON POST

Historian Vladimir Dedijer, who is chairman of the Genocide Commission of the Serbian Academy of Sciences, said he has 242 documents about the Kozara operation, some of them implicating Waldheim. Dedijer, Tito's official biographer, also has the late Yugoslav leader's personal archive.

Dedijer said he had turned over the Kozara documents to the inter-

national War Crimes Tribunal, founded by the late British philosopher Bertrand Russell. The tribunal has formed an Executive Committee on Kurt Waldheim in London, and has formally asked the Austrian government for permission to hold a public tribunal in Vienna. The tribunal declined to make the documents available to The Washington Post.

IRVING'S SPORT SHOPS

early winter sports SAVINGS SALE

SKI JACKETS, SKI PARKAS, SKI COATS

40% off

Orig. prices — Shop now for the best selection! Men's and Women's styles

Reebok

Because life is not a spectator sport.

REEBOK BB 4620 HIGH BASKETBALL SHOES

A performance basketball shoe for serious players — reinforced garment leather gives you the superb fit and stability you need, with all the comfort and support you want.

39.99

Reg. 45.99



20% off

Reg. prices

- BIBS • SNOWMOBILE SUITS
- SKI GLOVES • MITTENS
- VESTS • TURTLENECKS
- SKI SKINS • SWEATERS (including NFL) • POLY-PROPYLENE UNDERWEAR



Final Clearance

ENTIRE STOCK OF SPRING FLOWERS

Still time to plant for beautiful spring blooms. While they last...

Dutch Iris & Crocus Regularly 13' ca.	All Tulips Regularly 30' ea.	Daffodils & Hyacinths Regularly 30' ea.
---------------------------------------	------------------------------	---

1¢ 5¢ 10¢

Packaged & Exotics Regular Price Marked.

75% Off!

Amaryllis Not Included





HYATTSVILLE STORE NOW OPEN

ESSEX, MD 201 Rowe Rd. & U.S. 301 near Essex Ct. • 775-3200

FARMERSVILLE, MD 10510 Lee Hwy. & Rte. 29/211 • 393-6051

FREDERICK, MD Richmond Hwy. S. Valley Cr. exit to Crofton • 799-0238

GREENBELT, MD Annapolis Plaza, just Opposite Hwy. 5 at 122 • 456-1115

ROCKVILLE, MD 11814 Rockville Pike on Md. Pkwy. Plaza • 448-0150

WAGNER, MD 89 W. Central Ave. just W. of Rte. 24/56 • 113

WASHINGTON, MD 9231 W. Conroy St. (Ite. 201) • 340-3901

*No longer landscape plants here.

SHOP MONDAY THRU SATURDAY 9 TO 9 • SUNDAY 10 TO 6

SEARS HURRY! CALL BY 11/22/86

SAVE ON CARPET CLEANING

EXPERT UPHOLSTERY CLEANING!

\$39.99

Any sofa up to 7 ft. or 2 chairs.



DP 659 USA TUNTURI BOLLINGER DUAL ACTION

East-Block Bid to Recruit Waldheim Detailed

WALDHEIM FROM A1

heim had been recruited and asked the Yugoslavs to stop further interference in the matter. But The Washington Post could not establish independently that Waldheim was ever recruited by the Soviets or the Yugoslavs.

One of the former officials who said he was familiar with the Waldheim file compiled by the Yugoslavs alleging his participation in war crimes described it as legally unimpressive, and suggested that the file had been drawn up with the purpose of trying to blackmail Waldheim. This view is supported by an examination of the document, which was obtained by The Post.

Asked to comment on the allegation that he was recruited as a Soviet or Yugoslav agent, Waldheim, now president of Austria, asserted through his spokesman, Gerold Christian, that "no such attempt perceivable to Mr. Waldheim was made."

"Mr. Waldheim was never approached by any country in a manner implied by the question," Christian said in a telephone conversation. The spokesman, answering questions that were submitted earlier, said that Waldheim first learned that he had been recruited for war crimes by the Yugoslav war crimes commission from news reports "at the end of March of this year." That same month he learned that his name was placed in 1948 on the United Nations' list of wanted war criminals, Christian said.

Present and former intelligence officials, when informed about the allegations against Waldheim made by the former Yugoslav officials, said there had been talk in the past inside the U.S. government about the possibility that Waldheim had a special relationship with the Soviets. But they said they knew of no evidence to substantiate such speculation.

Former Yugoslav intelligence officers, now all comfortably retired, appeared to recall vividly details of an old operation that involved plans to blackmail Waldheim, who served after World War II as personal secretary to the Austrian Foreign Minister Karl Gruber. An anti-Nazi, Gruber is unlikely to have hired an accused Nazi war criminal as an assistant.

The former officials who answered questions about Waldheim appeared to feel that the passage of time and their current (obscurely permitted them to discuss the subject, which stirred up old anti-Nazi emotions. However, several other former Yugoslav intelligence officers who might have shed more light on the Waldheim case declined to talk or could not be located during a recent two-week visit to Yugoslavia.

Kolencic, who was the head of Yugoslav intelligence in Vienna after the war, said he was directly involved in the Yugoslav attempt to compromise Waldheim. At the time, Kolencic said in an interview, he was formally listed as deputy chief of the Yugoslav military mission in Austria.

"In the second half of December 1947, I received a list of 24 names of German war criminals along with the copies of files on them that were being sent to the U.N. Commission on War Crimes in London [which was assembling a central registry of accused war criminals]. Waldheim's name was fourth on the list and was underlined. He was described as an official of the Austrian Foreign Ministry."

"I looked carefully through his file because it was unusually detailed. We have had such lists and files coming all the time, but in the vast majority of cases, documentation was short and weak. We did not have such a well-documented file before; at least I don't remember seeing one."

"Along with the files, Kolencic said he and his deputy, Vasilje Kovacevic, received instructions to "recruit" Waldheim. Kolencic said he and Kovacevic decided to do this "jointly" with the Russians. He added that he had cooperated with Soviet intelligence operatives and in particular with a Col. Gonda. "I gave the Waldheim file to Gonda," he said.

When challenged about his assertion that he was "absolutely certain" that the Russians had approached Waldheim, Kolencic said: "When you are in the intelligence business, you have a way of knowing such things. I dealt with Gonda regularly and we became quite friendly."

"We worked closely with the Russians," he continued. "We would give them the names of people we wanted and they—in most cases—delivered them. Our enemies (communists and Yugoslavs) were fleeing into the American and British zones."

According to another former intelligence operative who held the rank of colonel in the Yugoslav secret police at the time, the Soviets, in early 1948 told a Yugoslav intelligence liaison officer named Col. Floro Loncic that "Waldheim was recruited and that the Yugoslavs should stop their interference." Loncic could not be located in Yugoslavia.

An official indictment accusing Waldheim of war crimes was a potent weapon for any intelligence officer in postwar, anti-Nazi Vienna.

Kolencic said. When Waldheim was confronted with it, he "must have been terrified," Kolencic said. He described the atmosphere in Vienna, which in 1947 and 1948 was inside the Soviet occupation zone, although the city itself was under four-power occupation.

"It was the time of 'The Third Man.' The Orson Welles movie was being filmed at that time. Assassinations and kidnappings were common occurrences in Vienna."

In 1947, Kolencic said, Soviet intelligence officers were legally recruiting people in large numbers. "At that point they realized the weakness of the Austrian communists. Their political positions were eroding rapidly although they were still in the government. But the Russians figured that they could not count on this situation to continue for a long time. They were already approaching people from the bourgeois parties. They could recruit people by, say, facilitating the return of your son from a Soviet POW camp, or by giving food or other favors; or by blackmail."

"They were particularly angry with Austrian Foreign Minister Gruber, whom they considered to be a British agent—not merely a British sympathizer but an agent. I am absolutely certain that Waldheim was recruited at that time."

Another former official who served as a personal aide to the late Yugoslav president Josip Broz Tito beginning in the 1960s indicated that Waldheim was turned over to Soviet intelligence. "We had to give him to the Russians," this former official said. "We were an appendage of the Soviet Union at the time [in 1947-48] although we were never a voluntary satellite."

Another former intelligence agent, who served as a personal aide to Slobodan Penecic, deputy to Yugoslav secret police chief Alexander Rankovic, said the indictment was prepared after Yugoslav intelligence discovered that Waldheim was working as Gruber's secretary. "Rankovic decided that we should try to recruit him."

"That was not difficult in those days," he continued. "You show your interest in the document [such as the formal charge of war crimes] but then you tell him everything would be fine, you'd protect him provided he would do something for you in return. And that was 1947. You have to feel the atmosphere of that year. War crime trials were still going on, people were afraid."

This source, however, contradicted Kolencic's assertion that the Yugoslav police had never attempted to recruit Waldheim. He said he had seen memoranda of conversations that Rankovic sent to Belgrade about his talks with Waldheim and with Gonda, the Soviet agent. Kolencic declined to meet a reporter a second time to discuss this source's recollection.

Waldheim was recommended to Gruber as a possible member of the new Austrian Foreign Ministry staff by a man with impeccable anti-Nazi credentials, Fritz Molden, publisher of the Viennese daily Die Presse. Molden had been the liaison between the Austrian underground and the Allies, and he was the son-in-law of the American master spy Allen Dulles.

If Waldheim disclosed his three years of wartime service in the Balkans as an intelligence officer in the Wehrmacht High Command for Southeast, he most likely would not have been taken on by Gruber, a leader of the Austrian resistance. Waldheim claimed that he had been medically discharged from the Wehrmacht in December 1941, after a grenade splintered his ankle on the Russian front, and spent the rest of the war with his law books in Vienna, a story he stuck with until this year, when he acknowledged that he had remained an active duty until 1945.

The Yugoslav indictment of December 1947 threatened to expose his past. The Yugoslavs had managed to place Waldheim's name on the list of more than 35,000 war criminals compiled by the United Nations Commission on War Crimes before the commission disbanded in early 1948. Every U.N. member state at the time received an index of the 35,000 names. Austria was still an occupied country at the time, and did not join the United Nations until 1955.

Kolencic's direct superior in Belgrade, Slavko Odic, would not respond directly when asked if the documents that passed his desk at the time showed that Waldheim had been recruited by the Yugoslav and Soviet intelligence.

But Odic indirectly confirmed that the original Yugoslav indictment against Waldheim was designed to frame him. "All that evidence, all that testimony [in the 1947 Yugoslav indictment] is by and large [legally] useless," he said. In the 1947 indictment, a document of more than 4,000 words, the evidence to support the charge of "murder and massacres" against Waldheim is tenuous. It is based on

the general testimony by seven German POWs held in Yugoslavia. Several of them were later executed as war criminals.

Waldheim's superior, Lt. Col. Herbert Wornsdorff, who is also mentioned in the indictment, was not accused of war crimes, although theoretically he should have borne more responsibility than Waldheim for the purported crimes. He currently lives in West Germany.

Another curious aspect of the document, dated Dec. 18, 1947, is that it described Waldheim's whereabouts as "on the run."

As mentioned earlier, Kolencic received the document from Belgrade in the second half of December with the notation that Waldheim was employed in Gruber's office at the Austrian Foreign Ministry.

Another document in the Waldheim file adds weight to the theory that it may have been assembled to blackmail him. It is a Dec. 12, 1947, note from a war crimes commission investigator to the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry describing charges against Waldheim and identifying him as an Austrian diplomat who

"belongs to the entourage of Dr. Gruber." It adds: "This fact is certainly of considerable value to the [Yugoslav Foreign] Ministry."

Moreover, the file, number F 25572, includes a letter written Dec. 18, 1947, by Dusan Nedeljkovic, president of the Yugoslav war crimes commission, to the Yugoslav Embassy in London. It accompanied lists of war criminals to be registered with the U.N. Commission on War Crimes, which was located in London.

Nedeljkovic wrote: "You should first of all make efforts to register Waldheim, reason being that the evidence is good and the indictment is fully sufficient, but also because from another point of view it is especially useful politically."

The urgency attached to Waldheim's case was all the more interesting given the fact that several far more significant Nazi figures were on the same list—among them Konrad Schubert, chief Nazi political officer in the German Embassy in Zagreb.

When the rift between Stalin and Tito became their total preoccupa-

tion in 1948, the Yugoslav secret police lost interest in Waldheim. "At that stage we were engaged in the struggle for war crimes," Kolencic said. He was recalled to Belgrade in the summer of 1948 to work in the directorate for anti-Soviet propaganda.

Waldheim's diplomatic career flourished. He was appointed to the No. 2 job at the Austrian mission in Paris in 1948 and was named chief of the Foreign Ministry's personnel office in 1951. When Austria regained its independence in 1955, Waldheim was sent to New York to lead the Austrian mission to the United Nations. In 1958, he was appointed foreign minister.

By the time Waldheim became a candidate for U.N. secretary general in 1971, there were only a few persons in the Yugoslav elite who remembered the postwar Waldheim episode. By then Tito had demolished the orthodox wing of his party, which was led by secret police chief Rankovic. Rankovic was ousted in 1969 and his entire security establishment was subsequently purged.

If indeed Rankovic had tried to compromise Waldheim in 1947, did Tito know about that episode? None of the former Yugoslav intelligence officials interviewed for this story

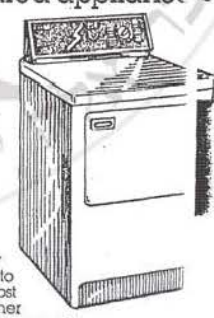
could answer that question with certainty. One of his close collaborators who retained personal ties with Waldheim in 1948 said he was interviewed that Tito must have known about it. "He loved such things. Don't forget that Tito himself was involved in conspiratorial work [as a Comintern agent]. He loved to have information from someone on the inside."

Two men in Tito's immediate entourage said in separate interviews that Tito had known about the compromising aspects of Waldheim's past and that he had regarded him as a "Soviet man" who had likely ties to the United States. But, one said, Tito viewed him as "a convenient figure for the U.N. job." Waldheim, one source quoted Tito as saying, was a "pliable" man.

Mirko Miletinovic, Tito's longtime chief of staff, said in an interview that "I know that Waldheim had been compromised." But, he continued, "Tito did not regard Waldheim as a war criminal"—though neither Tito, nor any Yugoslav at that time, knew about Waldheim's service at Nazara in Bosnia, where a massacre took place in 1942, or knew other fresh details of Waldheim's wartime service that have come to light this year.

GET SET FOR YEARS OF EASY, RELIABLE CLOTHES DRYING IN THE VALUE OF THE YEAR

Super-efficient gas clothes super values in the annual Au at area appliance



This is the time of year when you can get the best possible selections and prices on the all-time favorite—gas clothes dryers.

Today's gas clothes dryers are marvels of efficiency and economy. Next to a clothes line, they cost you less than any other method—year in and year out. And they have all the up-to-the-minute features you want.

SOLVE ALL YOUR CLOTHES-DRYING PROBLEMS NOW—DURING AUTUMN ROUND-UP VALUE TIME AT YOUR APPLIANCE DEALI

Autumn Round-Up

Phone for the name-appliance

Your Gas C District of Columbia, Maryland, Northern Virginia

[end]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible



APR 16 1987

THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR
WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 10, 1987

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
Marc H. Tanenbaum

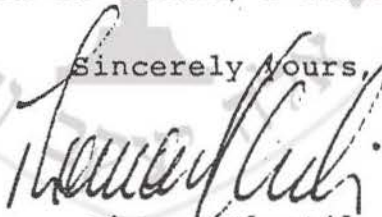
Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

Thank you very much for your cordial letter of March 26, 1987. I regret very much that the tight schedule before my departure from Washington did not allow me to accept your kind offer to host a reception in my honor. Permit me to express to you my sincere gratitude for your efforts to further mutual understanding between Austria and the Jewish community in the United States. Your contribution is especially valuable in a time when emotions and misinformation tend to prevail over reason and a desire for reconciliation.

Please let me assure you that in my new capacity as Secretary General for Foreign Affairs I will continue to devote special attention to the ongoing dialogue between the American Jewish Committee and Austria.

Hoping that I will have the opportunity to seeing you soon again in Vienna, I remain

Sincerely yours,



Thomas Klestil
Ambassador

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum
The American Jewish
Committee
165 East 56 Street
New York, NY 10022-2746

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

*With the Compliments
of
the Austrian Embassy*



Walter Freeman

NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION FOR THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS

13 JANUARY 1987

ADDRESS BY THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA

FIRST AND FOREMOST, I SHOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU, MONSIGNORE, FOR THE KIND WISHES YOU EXPRESSED ON BEHALF OF YOUR SOVEREIGNS AND HEADS OF STATE, AS WELL AS ON YOUR OWN BEHALF TO THE PEOPLE OF AUSTRIA, TO MY FAMILY AND MYSELF. I WISH TO THANK YOU IN PARTICULAR FOR THE TRIBUTE YOU PAID TO THE PEACEKEEPING ROLE PLAYED BY AUSTRIA.

I DEEM IT A PARTICULAR PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU, THE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MISSIONS ACCREDITED IN VIENNA, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY CAPACITY AS AUSTRIAN HEAD OF STATE AT THE TURN OF THE NEW YEAR.

MONSIGNORE, I FOLLOWED YOUR STATEMENT WITH KEEN INTEREST. I CANNOT DENY HAVING HARBOURED SIMILAR THOUGHTS IN THE MOST RECENT PAST. THUS, DO NOT BE SURPRISED BY THE STRIKING CONVERGENCE OF VIEWS, MONSIGNORE, IN MY REPLY TO YOUR IMPRESSIVE ADDRESS.

BEHIND US LIES A YEAR OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS - BOTH IN
INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND IN AUSTRIA ITSELF: AN EXPERIENCE
FROM WHICH EACH OF US CAN LEARN, BOTH FOR OURSELVES AND OUR
FUTURE WORK.

ON THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL PLANE AND AFTER AN
EXTENDED SERIES OF DISRUPTED CONTACTS BETWEEN THE MAJOR
NUCLEAR POWERS, 1986 OFFERED THE FIRST SIGNS OF HOPE, YET
WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO FULFIL THOSE HOPES. OVER THE PAST
MONTHS WE HAVE LEARNT THAT SUCCESSFUL DISARMAMENT IS
CONTINGENT UPON CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE AND THE EARNEST DESIRE
FOR PEACEFUL COOPERATION. WE WILL ONLY SUCCEED IN RIDDING
THE WORLD OF THE STOCKPILES OF WEAPONRY WITH THEIR CONTEMPT
FOR MANKIND, ONCE WE HAVE OVERCOME THE PERSISTENT OPPOSITION
TO CONTINUOUS DIALOGUE. WHAT WE NEED, AND SOMETHING TO WHICH
ALL OF US - REPRESENTATIVES OF LARGE AND SMALL STATES ALIKE -
CAN CONTRIBUTE, IS A PREPAREDNESS TO TALK AND ENTER INTO
THAT FRUITFUL DIALOGUE WHICH ALONE CAN HELP US TO RECOGNIZE
THE FEARS AND CONCERNS OF OTHERS AND TO READJUST OUR OWN
PERCEPTIONS OF OUR FOES.

IN THE PAST YEAR WE HAVE ALSO COME TO APPRECIATE THE
DEGREE TO WHICH WE ALL, REGARDLESS OF THE CONTINENT ON WHICH
WE LIVE, SHARE A COMMON BOND OF DESTINY. MONSIGNORE,
YOU HAVE RIGHTLY POINTED TO THE IMPORTANT INTERRELATIONSHIPS.

.../...

- 3 -

AS THE LIMITS AND RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH TECHNICAL PROGRESS BECAME INCREASINGLY APPARENT IN THE COURSE OF THE PAST YEAR, WE ALSO BECAME INCREASINGLY AWARE OF THE RESPONSIBILITY THAT REMAINS WITH US FOR CIVILIZATION AS WE KNOW IT. NOBODY, REGARDLESS OF WHERE HE OR SHE MAY LIVE, CAN TAKE A SOFT OPTION AND ADOPT A SPECTATOR ROLE. THAT HOLDS TRUE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AS WELL AS FOR PROBLEMS OF WAR AND PEACE. THERE IS NO COUNTRY IN THE WORLD TODAY THAT DOES NOT EMIT SIGNALS OF SOME KIND - BE THEY SIGNALS OF PEACE OR SIGNALS OF WAR. IN COMMON WITH YOU ALL, I DO NOT DOUBT THAT ULTIMATELY THE PEOPLES OF THIS EARTH HOLD THE PRINCES OF PEACE IN HIGHER ESTEEM THAN THE MASTERS OF WAR.

I FOLLOWED WITH THE MOST PROFOUND ADMIRATION THE INITIATIVE TAKEN BY HIS HOLINESS THE POPE IN HIS ENDEAVOUR TO SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF PEACE THROUGH THE JOINT DAY OF PRAYER ATTENDED BY THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF THE WORLD IN ASSISI. IT WOULD BE MOST ENCOURAGING WERE SIMILAR ENCOUNTERS TO TAKE PLACE IN THE FUTURE. SUCH INITIATIVES ARE BASED ON THE IMPORTANT PREMISE THAT PEACE IS NOT A MATTER FOR POLITICIANS ONLY, BUT SOMETHING DEEPLY ROOTED IN HUMAN FAITH. THE CHURCHES TODAY ARE MORE AWARE THAN EVER BEFORE OF A YEARNING COMMON TO MANKIND - AN EVER-INCREASING DESIRE FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION.

OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS AUSTRIA HAS ENDEAVOURED TO
CONTRIBUTE ESPECIALLY TO THE LATTER OBJECTIVE. THE CONFERENCE
FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE THAT STARTED LAST NOVEMBER
IN VIENNA HAS CLEARLY INDICATED FAR BEYOND THE CONFINES OF ITS
PARTICIPANTS THAT - AND I QUOTE THE AUSTRIAN HEAD OF GOVERNMENT -
SECURITY CANNOT BE DEFINED SOLELY IN MILITARY TERMS. PERMANENT
PEACE WITHOUT HUMAN ROOTS IS INCONCEIVABLE. EACH OF US IS
RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS ALL OTHERS.

THE PAST YEAR WAS ALSO ONE OF NEW EXPERIENCES FOR US
AUSTRIANS. IT BROUGHT FORWARD NEW LEADERS - A NEW HEAD
OF STATE, A NEW GOVERNMENT AND A NEW PARLIAMENT. NOT WITHOUT
A CERTAIN SENSE OF SATISFACTION, I WOULD POINT OUT THAT FOR
ALL THOSE CHANGES THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY WERE
MAINTAINED AND RESPECTED.

IN THE MORE RECENT PAST, THE AUSTRIANS HAVE HAD TO
LEARN TO BEAR MORE INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM THAN THEY WERE
ACCUSTOMED TO. WE FELT MUCH OF IT TO BE UNJUST - BUT AT
THE SAME TIME WE OVERHEARD PERHAPS MANY A QUESTION THAT
MIGHT HAVE BEEN JUSTLY ASKED OF US. MUCH OF WHAT WE HAD
ENDEAVOURED TO SUPPRESS OVER THE PAST DECADES RETURNED WITH
A VENGEANCE. IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN FROM EVENTS
OF THIS KIND. WE HAVE COME TO RECOGNIZE THAT WHEREAS A
NATION CAN BEAR NO COLLECTIVE GUILT, IT CAN BE BURDENED
WITH A COMMON LEGACY THAT NOBODY CAN ESCAPE.

.../...

- 5 -

ONLY BY BEING PREPARED TO LEARN FROM THE PAST, CAN WE
ASPIRE TO MASTERING THE PROBLEMS OF THE PRESENT AND THE
FUTURE.

PERMIT ME TO STATE AT THIS JUNCTURE THAT AUSTRIA IS AWARE OF THIS TASK AND ENDEAVOURS TO FULFIL IT TO THE BEST OF ITS ABILITY AND IN ALL CONSCIENCE: AS A FREE, DEMOCRATIC, JUST AND OPEN SOCIETY IN THE HEART OF EUROPE, AS A BRIDGE BUILDER AND FORUM, AS A COUNTRY OF REFUGE AND UPRIGHT DEFENDER OF HUMAN RIGHTS URGING BOTH EAST AND WEST , AS WELL AS NORTH AND SOUTH TO ENTER INTO DIALOGUE. I WOULD CAUTION AGAINST UNDERESTIMATING THE PERNICIOUS POWER OF POVERTY, THE INEQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF GOODS IN THE WORLD - THEY ARE THE ROOTS OF THE CONFLICTS THAT WILL VISIT OUR CHILDREN AND CHILDREN'S CHILDREN. WHOEVER ASPIRES TO SECURITY AND PEACE FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME MUST RECOGNIZE THAT THE DRAMA IS NO LESS EXPLOSIVE THAN THAT OF THE NUCLEAR ARSENAL THE WORLD HAS ACCUMULATED. FURTHERMORE, FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL HAVE TO BEAR THE BURDEN OF DRAMATICALLY DWINDLING ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES IN AN INCREASINGLY TOXIC ENVIRONMENT.

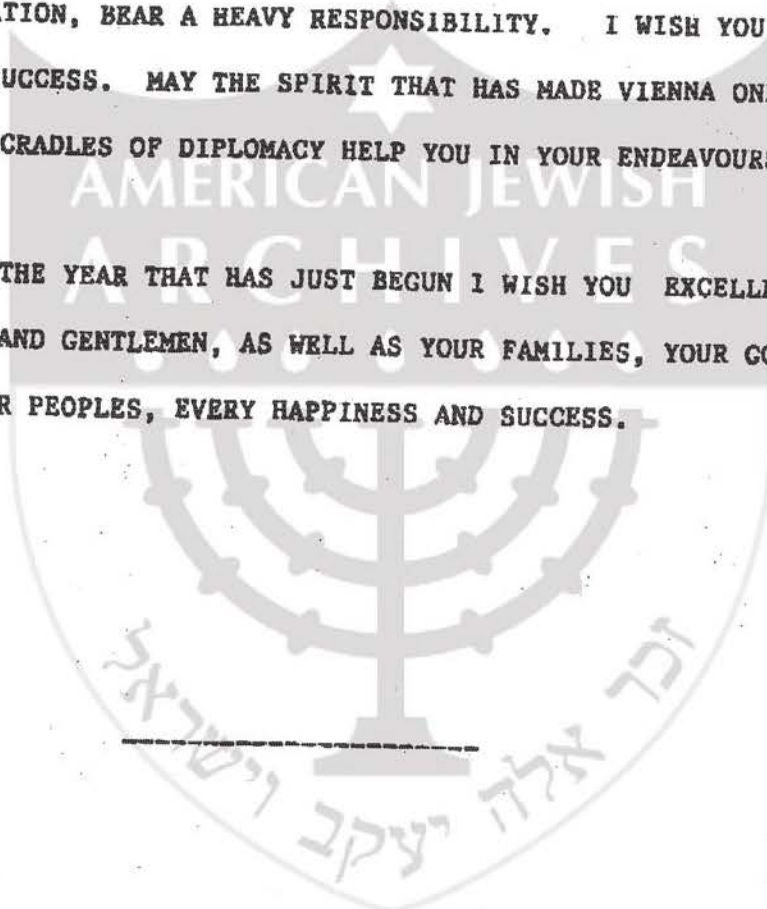
YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!

HISTORY WILL JUDGE ALL GOVERNMENTS, OF LARGE AND SMALL STATES ALIKE, IN TERMS OF HOW FAR THEY RECOGNIZED THESE CHALLENGES AND TOOK TIMELY MEASURES. YOU TOO, AS REPRESENTATIVES

- 6 -

OF YOUR COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES WISHING TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION, BEAR A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY. I WISH YOU
EVERY SUCCESS. MAY THE SPIRIT THAT HAS MADE VIENNA ONE
OF THE CRADLES OF DIPLOMACY HELP YOU IN YOUR ENDEAVOURS.

FOR THE YEAR THAT HAS JUST BEGUN I WISH YOU EXCELLENCIES,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AS WELL AS YOUR FAMILIES, YOUR GOVERNMENTS
AND YOUR PEOPLES, EVERY HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS.



Giovedì 19 marzo 1987 - ore 21

Sala Luca Giordano - Palazzo Medici Riccardi

Via Cavour, 1



Shlomo Carlebach

canti della tradizione ebraica

La S.V. è invitata

MAR 06 1987

KARL VAK

President of the
Austrian Society for Foreign Policy
and International Relations

Mr. Marc H. Tanenbaum
Director of the American
Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Avenue
New York, New York 10022
U.S.A.

March 3, 1987



AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Dear Mr. Tanenbaum:

In the name of the Austrian Society for Foreign Policy and International Relations, I want like to cordially extend to you in writing an invitation to attend a meeting with a group of selected participants on March 16, 1987 at 2:30 p.m. in the Z-International, located at Stephansplatz 2, 1010 Vienna.

The focus of the meeting will be a discussion of common concerns and future cooperation in selected areas.

I am looking forward to to being able to welcome you as our guest to Vienna.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Ler

MEMO, March 17-

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Austrian Society for Foreign Affairs and International Relations and the American Jewish Committee today announced plans for convening under their joint sponsorship a conference on "Austrian-Jewish Relations - Past, Present, and Future."

~~The conference is scheduled to be held.~~ The two bodies have established a joint working committee for the purpose of setting the conference agenda, selecting the appropriate site in Austria, and fixing the date. Participants will be selected from among leaders in academic, cultural, and political life.

The Austrian Society for Foreign Affairs and International Relations is a private organization to promote knowledge of foreign relations in Austria and abroad. The American Jewish Committee is a governing human relations organization devoted to the protection of civil, political, and religious liberties of Jews and other peoples in the United States and abroad.

~~The~~

The announcement was made by Dr. Karl Voh of Vienna, president of the Austrian Society for Foreign Affairs and International Relations, and Theodore Edelhoff of New York, president of the American Jewish Committee, in behalf of their respective organizations.

+++++B:TT0205

870316 1514

#

111771 vppr a

116741o apaw a

stored message

apa eud109 16-mar-1987 15:14

apa - selektion

eud109 4 vm 121 cccch euro 099

osterreich

umfrage: antisemitismus in osterreich nimmt ab =

wien (dpa) - der antisemitismus in osterreich nimmt ab. wie eine gemeinsame umfrage der sechs groesten meinungsforschungs-institute des landes ergab, sind sieben prozent der rund 7,5 millionen oesterreicher erklarte antisemiten und etwa 20 prozent zeigen sich reserviert gegenuber juden. das ergebnis der befragung von 9 500 erwachsenen ist am montag in wien veroffentlicht worden.

der leiter des 'instituts fur empirische sozialforschung (ifes)' in wien, ernst gehmacher, sagte, die ermittelten sieben prozent der bevölkerung seien juden gegenuber ausdruecklich feindlich eingestellt und verstunden sich als 'echte antisemiten'. etwa 20 prozent haben juden gegenuber vorurteile, aber keine feindlichen gefuhle. jungere oesterreicher und menschen mit hoheren bildung sind fur den antisemitismus weniger anfallig. gehmacher betonte, der antisemitismus in osterreich sei im abnehmen.

dpa mp

161443 mrz 87 nnnn

#

111771 vppr a

116741o apaw a



MAR 4 1987

DR. ERHARD BUSEK

VIZEBÜRGERMEISTER UND
LANDESHAUPTMANN-STELLVERTRETER
VON WIEN

Mr.
Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022
USA

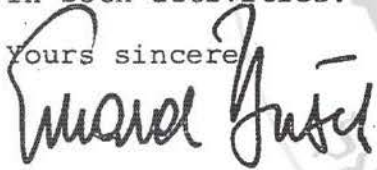
Wien, 25. Februar 1987
EK

Dear Dr. Tanenbaum !

Enclosed I bring to your knowledge our activities to memory of the victims of the nazian regime in the world war II in Vienna.

The first motion can only be done in connection with the Jewish Community in Vienna, the second one is following the idea of the Vietnam-memorial in Washington. We hope, that we will have success in both activities.

Yours sincere



Erhard Busek

Enclosures

A n t r a g

der ÖVP-Gemeinderäte Ing. Otto Kreiner und Mag. Eva Petrik, eingebracht in der Sitzung des Gemeinderates der Stadt Wien am 20. Februar 1987, betreffend Gedenkstätte für die Wiener Juden, die Opfer des nationalsozialistischen Regimes wurden.

Es gibt derzeit in Wien noch keine entsprechende Gedenkstätte, die in gebührender Form an die rund 60.000 bis 70.000 jüdischen Wiener erinnert, die Opfer des Holocaust wurden.

Die Stadt Wien sollte daher ein solches Denkmal errichten, wobei sich als Standort z.B. der Ort einer ehemaligen Synagoge oder das jüdische Gemeindezentrum anbieten würde. Die Auswahl sowohl des Standortes als auch der Art und Form der Gedenkstätte soll jedoch auf Vorschlag und in engem Zusammenwirken mit der Israelitischen Kultusgemeinde erfolgen.

Die gefertigten ÖVP-Gemeinderäte stellen daher gemäß § 39 der Geschäftsordnung für den Gemeinderat der Stadt Wien folgenden

A n t r a g :

Die Stadt Wien möge eine entsprechende Gedenkstätte für die Wiener Juden, die Opfer des nationalsozialistischen Regimes wurden, errichten, wobei dies auf Vorschlag und in engem Zusammenwirken mit der Israelitischen Kultusgemeinde erfolgen soll.

In formeller Hinsicht beantragen wir die Zuweisung dieses Antrages an den Gemeinderatsausschuß für "Kultur und Sport".

[start]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible



The "Society for Political Information" was constituted in 1982, with the main goal of fighting all forms of Neo-Nazism and right-wing radicalism through information and educational work. The Society was established on Bruno Kreisky's - our then chancellor's- initiative; he wanted to stress that the government's caution regarding a possible ban on radical right-wing organisations did not mean indifference towards the threat coming from these sources.

The "Society for Political Information" is a political initiative, but the Society is not dependent on any political party or movement. Its members include party-members and non-party-members.

The Society's efforts are concentrated on the following:

- * Coordination of already existing activities in the fields of political education and contemporary history (thus its cooperation with the Ministry of Education; Record Office of Austrian Resistance etc.)
- * suggestions and realization of new initiatives which help to find answers to concrete threats to democratic institutions by right wing radicalism, thus helping to strengthen democratic attitudes.

The Society's activities are mainly done in study groups. One group organizes various lectures and meetings; another group informs journalists who can sensitize Austria's media to the dangers of present-day right wing radicalism again independent of concrete political orientations. A third group tries to gain access to multipliers (teachers, judges, army officers etc.) and to make information available in order to invigorate critical and democratic awareness against right-wing extremism. Finally, one group conducts academic research on prejudices in society.

Consciously, the "Society for Political Information" includes persons who work in various areas - media, universities, youth organisations, art. Thus a broad group of recipients can be addressed.

Five years have passed since the Society began and it is possible to review the work that has been done so far. Many lectures have been held on the connection between law and Neo-Nazism and on prejudices; we regularly publish "Informations of the Society for Political Information" (every two months) and brochures for schools.

One of the important parts of the Society's work is our annual educational journey to the memorial site of Auschwitz-Birkenau. It will be organized for the fifth time next year and again we try to find people of all political parties, with different points-of-view, different confessions, jobs and of every age. We try to take some 50 people with us - from all parts of Austria as well as from other countries - and we thus try to make them aware of both the crimes of Nazism and the dangers of Neo-Nazism and every-day fascism as seen in the hatred of minorities.

The "Society for Political Information" has to be political. Not, though, party-political. The subject, the tasks are of utmost importance.

more information from
Dr. Andreas Maislinger, Visiting Assistant Professor
University of New Orleans
Lakefront
New Orleans, Louisiana 70144
Telephone (504) 286-6383

or

Gesellschaft für politische Aufklärung
Institut für Politikwissenschaft der Universität Innsbruck
6020 Innsbruck, Innrain 52, Austria/Europe

[end]

Original documents
faded and/or illegible



DRAFT PROPOSAL

SUGGESTED PROGRAM FOR A SYMPOSIUM

ON "AUSTRIAN-JEWISH RELATIONS - PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE"

Co-Sponsored by the Austrian Society for Foreign Affairs
and International Relations and the American Jewish Committee

Spring 1988, Vienna, Austria

- - - - -

OPENING SESSION: Welcoming Remarks.....Chancellor Vranitzky

or

Foreign Minister Mock

AJC President T. Ellenoff

I - AUSTRIAN-JEWISH RELATIONS - AN EXAMINATION OF THE PAST

* The First Republic - 1918-1945

- Jews and Austrians - Cultural Symbiosis
- Ideological Sources of Religious, Racial, Cultural and Political Anti-Semitism
- Austrian Resistance to the Nazis
- Austrians and the Nazi Holocaust

II - THE PRESENT

* The Second Republic - 1945-1988

- Modernization and Democratization
- Neutral Austria - Haven for Refugees, Bridge between East and West
- Jews in Modern Austria - Religious, cultural integration
- Anti-Semitism in Austria Today
- Efforts to Combat Anti-Semitism, Authoritarianism, and Chauvinism
- Austria and Israel; Austria and American Jewry

III - THE FUTURE

- The Role of Austria in the European Community, the International Community
- The Future of Austrian-Israeli Relations and Middle East Peace
- *Models for Increasing Understanding and Relations between Austria and American Jewry and World Jewry - Obstacles and Opportunities