

CN 29

C/S - FIRST WESTERN REACTION

MUNICH, AUG 21 (CNR) - EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES HEARD OF THE WARSAW PACT MOVE INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN EARLY NEWSCASTS TODAY.

IN LONDON, PRIME MINISTER HAROLD WILSON RUSHED BACK TO 10 DOWNING STREET FROM VACATION AND SUMMONED AN EMERGENCY CABINET SESSION.

IN AUSTRIA, ARMY OFFICERS WERE SUMMONED TO THE DEFENSE MINISTRY. AN ARMY SPOKESMAN SAID "OUR GENERAL STAFF IS PRESENTLY DISCUSSING THE SITUATION AND WILL ANNOUNCE POSSIBLE MEASURES IN DUE TIME." THE AUSTRIANS WERE BELIEVED DISCUSSING POSSIBLE EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS TO COPE WITH A FLOOD OF REFUGEES FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

AUSTRIAN BORDER OFFICIALS SAID THE AUSTRIAN-HUNGARIAN BORDER HAD BEEN CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM AUSTRIA SHORTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT AND WAS STILL CLOSED.

IN OTTAWA CANADIAN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER MITCHELL SHARP SAID THE MOVEMENT OF SOVIET TROOPS ACROSS THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN BORDER COULD SET BACK PROGRESS TOWARD AN EAST-WEST DETENTE, BUT THAT THERE DID NOT APPEAR TO BE AN IMMEDIATE THREAT TO PEACE.

"THERES LITTLE THAT WE CAN DO OR LITTLE THAT WE NEED FEAR CONCERNING ANY OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES," HE SAID.

MR. SHARP SAID HE SAW NO EVIDENCE ON THE BASIS OF EARLY REPORTS TO INDICATE A THREAT TO THE PEACE, SINCE CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS NOT RESISTING THE ADVANCE.

"WE EXPECT THE QUESTION WOULD BE TAKEN TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND SO ON IF THE NEWS IS VERIFIED," HE ADDED.

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