

CN 32

CS - 1ST ADD - FIRST WESTERN REACTION (CN 29) XXX ADDED

AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER JOHN GORTON TOLD THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN CANBERRA TODAY THAT AUSTRALIA "COMPLETELY AND UTTERLY DEPLORES THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA."

"I CAN STATE MOST FIRMLY THAT IN THE VIEW OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, SUCH AN INTERVENTION IN THE AFFAIRS OF AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY IS A MOST SERIOUS BREACH OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER," HE SAID.

"IT IS ESPECIALLY SO WHEN IT IS APPARENTLY MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE TO OVERCOME FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION."

MR. GORTON SAID AUSTRALIA WOULD BE SADDENED AND DISTRESSED TO FIND THAT THE HOPES THAT THERE MIGHT BE IN THE COMMUNIST WORLD SOME RELAXATION OF THE CENTRAL TYRANNY WAS "NOT IN FACT TAKING PLACE."

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