

C/S - 0730 INTRO - CZECHOSLOVAKIA

MUNICH, AUG 21 (CNR) - FIVE WARSAW PACT NATIONS ENTERED CZECHOSLOVAKIA LATE LAST NIGHT. IN ITS LATEST BROADCAST THIS MORNING RADIO PRAGUE SAID THAT PRAGUE AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA WERE "OCCUPIED BY THE ARMIES OF THE WARSAW PACT."

THE BROADCAST, AT 0525 M.T. SAID THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK CENTRAL COMMITTEE PRESIDUM WAS IN SESSION.

NEWS OF THE WARSAW PACT MOVE CAME FROM A RADIO PRAGUE BROADCAST SOON AFTER MIDNIGHT. IT SAID THAT TROOPS OF THE SOVIET UNION, POLAND, HUNGARY, BULGARIA AND EAST GERMANY HAD CROSSED THE CZECHOSLOVAK FRONTIERS.

THE RADIO DESCRIBED THE MOVE AS CONTRARY TO THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF RELATIONS BETWEEN SOCIALIST STATES AND AS A DENIAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

IN MOSCOW, AN OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT "PARTY AND GOVERNMENT" LEADERS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAD ASKED THE SOVIET UNION AND THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES FOR ASSISTANCE "INCLUDING ASSISTANCE WITH ARMED FORCES."

THE COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT THIS ASSISTANCE WAS TO MEET "THE THREAT WHICH HAD ARISEN TO THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM ... FROM COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES WHICH HAVE ENTERED INTO COLLUSION WITH FOREIGN FORCES HOSTILE TO SOCIALISM."

IN WASHINGTON, SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN DELIVERED A MESSAGE TO THE WHITE HOUSE AND FOLLOWING THIS THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MET TO DISCUSS CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR 55 MINUTES. LATER SECRETARY OF STATE RUSK HAD A CONVERSATION WITH DOBRYNIN.

IN BRITAIN, PREMIER WILSON IS RETURNING TO LONDON FOR AN EMERGENCY CABINET MEETING.

(MORE) BMCG/A 0734/68 AUG 21

4