

MUNICH, AUG 21 (CMD) - TASS TODAY CARRIED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN ENGLISH:

"TASS IS AUTHORIZED TO STATE THAT PARTY AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC HAVE ASKED THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER ALLIED STATES TO RENDER THE FRATERNAL CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE URGENT ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING ASSISTANCE WITH ARMED FORCES. THIS REQUEST WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE THREAT WHICH HAS ARISEN TO THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM EXISTING IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND TO THE STATEHOOD ESTABLISHED BY THE CONSTITUTION, THE THREAT EMANATING FROM THE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY FORCES WHICH HAVE ENTERED INTO A COLLUSION WITH FOREIGN FORCES HOSTILE TO SOCIALISM.

THE EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND AROUND HER WERE REPEATEDLY THE SUBJECT OF EXCHANGES OF VIEWS BETWEEN LEADERS OF FRATERNAL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE LEADERS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA. THESE COUNTRIES ARE UNANIMOUS IN THAT THE SUPPORT, CONSOLIDATION AND DEFENCE OF THE PEOPLES SOCIALIST GAINS IS A COMMON INTERNATIONALIST DUTY OF ALL THE SOCIALIST STATES. THIS COMMON STAND OF THEIRS WAS SOLEMNLY PROCLAIMED IN THE BRATISLAVA STATEMENT.

THE FURTHER AGGRAVATION OF THE SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AFFECTS THE VITAL INTERESTS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST STATES, THE INTERESTS OF THE SECURITY OF THE STATES OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY. THE THREAT TO THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA CONSTITUTES AT THE SAME TIME A THREAT TO THE MAINSTAYS OF EUROPEAN PEACE.

THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF THEM ALLIED COUNTRIES -- THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLES REPUBLIC, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, THE POLISH PEOPLES REPUBLIC -- PROCEEDING FROM THE PRINCIPLES OF INSEVERABLE FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXISTING CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS, HAVE DECIDED TO MEET THE ABOVE-MENTIONED REQUEST FOR RENDERING NECESSARY HELP TO THE FRATERNAL CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE.

THIS DECISION IS FULLY IN ACCORD WITH THE RIGHT OF STATES TO INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE SELF-DEFENCE ENVISAGED IN TREATIES OF ALLIANCE CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE FRATERNAL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. THIS DECISION IS ALSO IN LINE WITH VITAL INTERESTS OF OUR COUNTRIES IN SAFEGUARDING EUROPEAN PEACE AGAINST FORCES OF MILITARISM, AGGRESSION AND REVANCHE WHICH HAVE MORE THAN ONCE PLUNGED THE PEOPLES OF EUROPE INTO WARS.

SOVIET ARMED UNITS TOGETHER WITH ARMED UNITS OF THE ABOVE-

MENTIONED ALLIED COUNTRIES ENTERED THE TERRITORY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON AUGUST 21. THEY WILL BE IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAWN FROM THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC AS SOON AS THE OBTAINING THREAT TO THE GAINS OF SOCIALISM IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY COUNTRIES IS ELIMINATED AND THE LAWFUL AUTHORITIES FIND THAT FURTHER PRESENCE OF THESE ARMED UNITS THERE IS NO RPT NO LONGER NECESSARY.

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