

X/13 CS - 1ST ADD - WESTERN REACTION (CN - 65) X X X NEUTRALITY

THE AUSTRIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY IS MEANWHILE MAKING PREPARATIONS TO HANDLE ANY POSSIBLE INFLUX OF REFUGEES FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS BITTERLY DENOUNCED IN STOCKHOLM BY SWEDISH PREMIER TAG ERLANDER.

HE SAID THAT, IF THE NEWS REPORTS HE HAD RECEIVED WERE CORRECT, "IT APPEARS TO BE AN ABSOLUTE VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION."

ERLANDER POINTED OUT THAT ONLY A MONTH AGO, HE AND SOVIET PREMIER ALEXEI KOSYGIN HAD STRESSED IN A JOINT COMMUNIQUE THAT NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES WAS A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE FOR THE PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF EUROPEAN PROBLEMS.

AT THE SUMMER RESIDENCE OF POPE PAUL AT CASTELGANDOLFO, A VATICAN SPOKESMAN SAID THIS MORNING THAT THE POPE WAS PRAYING FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH THERE.

NEWS OF THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS GIVEN THE POPE WHEN AWAKENED AT 0630 (ROME TIME) AT HIS SUMMER VACATION RESIDENCE HERE THIS MORNING, THIS OFFICIAL REVEALED.

"WHEN POPE PAUL SAID MASS IN HIS PRIVATE CHAPEL HERE AFTER ARISING, HE PRAYED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND FOR THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH IN THE NATION," HE SAID.

(BISHOP FRANTISEK TOMASEK, APOSTOLIC ADMINISTRATOR OF PRAGUE, IS ACTING AS THE VATICAN'S TOP LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE IN TALKS WITH ALEXANDER DUBCEK'S REGIME, WHICH HAS PERMITTED A NUMBER OF RECENTLY IMPEDED BISHOPS TO RETURN TO THEIR SEES.)

IN LONDON A SPOKESMAN AT 10 DOWNING STREET, THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE, ANNOUNCING MR. WILSON'S DECISION TO RETURN, ADDED:

"THE PRIME MINISTER GOT THE NEWS OF THE DEVELOPMENT IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN THE EARLY HOURS. HE HAS SPOKEN TO THE FOREIGN SECRETARY.

"WE ARE EXPECTING THE PRIME MINISTER TO ARRIVE AT 10 DOWNING STREET THIS MORNING."