

(ATtribution REQUIRED)

C/S - WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS REPORT

MUNICH, AUG 21 (CNR) - WESTERN NEWSAGENCY REPORTERS SAW THE ARRIVAL OF SOVIET FORCES IN PRAGUE THIS MORNING AND THEIR REPORTS ARE ALREADY APPEARING IN THE WESTERN PRESS.

PRAGUE-BASED CORRESPONDENTS OF REUTERS, UNITED PRESS AND DPA ALL CARRIED EYEWITNESS REPORTS.

THE UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL AND REUTERS CORRESPONDENTS REPORTED THIS MORNING THAT SOVIET TROOP CARRIERS AND TANKS RUMBLING ALONG THE TEN KILOMETRE ROAD FROM PRAGUE AIRPORT INTO THE CENTRE OF THE CITY SOON AFTER 0600 M.T.

REUTERS' CORRESPONDENT SAID THE TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES SURROUNDED THE FOUR-STOREY HEADQUARTERS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK CENTRAL COMMITTEE. ONE TANK POINTED ITS GUN AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE.

AGREEING WITH THIS REPORT, UNITED PRESS SAID THERE WERE 25 TANKS OUTSIDE THE BUILDING.

BOTH AGENCIES ALSO REPORTED THE PRESENCE OF SOVIET TANKS OUTSIDE RADIO PRAGUE.

THE REUTERS CORRESPONDENT SAID THAT RUSSIAN TROOPS IN RED BERETS AND CARRYING MACHINE GUNS TOOK UP POSITION OUTSIDE THE RADIO PRAGUE BUILDING BETWEEN 0430 M.T. AND 0500 M.T.

UNITED PRESS SAID THAT THERE WERE SIX TANKS OUTSIDE THE RADIO PRAGUE BUILDING SOON AFTER 0700.

DPA'S CORRESPONDENT IN PRAGUE SAID THAT THE NEWS OF INTERVENTION REACHED THE CAPITAL ABOUT MIDNIGHT. HE SAID RESIDENTS OF BORDER AREAS TELEPHONED PRAGUE NEWSPAPERS TO REPORT ON THE TROOP MOVEMENTS.

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL'S CORRESPONDENT SAID THAT THERE WAS A CONTINUAL NOISE OF AIRCRAFT OVER THE CITY.

BMCG/A/70/0923/68 AUG 21