

CN 86

C/S - (1000 INTRO)- SVOBODA ADDRESS

MUNICH, AUGUST 21 (CNR)- CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT SVOBODA APPEALED FOR CALM TODAY NINE HOURS AFTER TROOPS FROM FIVE WARSAW PACT NATIONS ENTERED THE COUNTRY.

THE PRESIDENT SPOKE AS SOVIET ARMoured UNITS AND TROOPS OCCUPIED KEY POINTS IN PRAGUE. PICTURES OF THE SOVIET UNITS WERE SHOWN ON CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION JUST BEFORE 0900 M.T.

SVOBODA, SPEAKING OVER RADIO PRAGUE AND CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION WITHOUT A PICTURE CALLED ON CITIZENS "URGENTLY" TO PRESERVE "FULL PRUDENCE AND COMPLETE CALM," FOR DIGNITY AND DISCIPLINE.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD WAIT FOR "FURTHER STEPS" BY "THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORGANS OF THE REPUBLIC."

THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT CAME ABOUT SIX HOURS AFTER RADIO PRAGUE FIRST BROADCAST THAT TROOPS FROM THE SOVIET UNION, POLAND, HUNGARY, BULGARIA AND EAST GERMANY HAD ENTERED THE COUNTRY UNASKED.

THE FIRST BROADCASTS, WHICH WERE REPEATED, SAID THAT THE MOVE WAS CONTRARY TO THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF RELATIONS BETWEEN SOCIALIST STATES AND A DENIAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

IN MOSCOW AN OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT THE "PARTY AND GOVERNMENT" LEADERS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAD ASKED THE SOVIET UNION AND THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES FOR ASSISTANCE "INCLUDING ASSISTANCE WITH ARMED FORCES." THIS COMMUNIQUE ADDED THAT A THREAT HAD ARISEN TO THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM FROM COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES.

(MORE) BMCG/H/1007 1010/68

14