

X/13 CURT - SOVIET TROOPS IN PRAGUE SHOWN ON TELEVISION (W/CN - 86)

VIENNA, AUG 21 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- SOVIET ARMoured UNITS AND SOVIET PARATROOPERS BARRICADING THE STREETS IN PRAGUE ON WEDNESDAY MORNING WERE SHOWN ON CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION AT 0853 MT.

THE FILM MADE BY CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION CAMERAMEN THIS MORNING SHOWED SOVIET TANKS PREVENTING ACCESS TO THE PRAGUE CASTLE.

SOVIET TROOPS AND ARMoured VEHICLES ARE ALSO ON THE HRADCANSKE NAMESTI SQUARE.

SOVIET ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERIES WERE SHOWN ON THE OLD TIME SQUARE, THE TWIN CANNONS PLACED SOME TEN METERS APART IN A WIDE , FULL CIRCLE AROUND THE HUS MONUMENT.

THE ENTRANCE TO THE CELETNA STREET IS ALSO BARRICADED BY SOVIET ARMoured CARS.

THE FILM HAS ALSO SHOWN THE BUILDING OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE SURROUNDED BY SOVIET PARATROOPERS AND ARMoured CARS.

THE REPORTER DREW ATTENTION TO A SOVIET OFFICER IN THE OPEN WINDOW ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE BUILDING WHERE THE OFFICES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ARE LOCATED.

THE BRIDGES ACROSS THE VLTAVA RIVER ARE BARRICADED BY SOVIET ARMOUR AND CLOSED FOR CIVILIAN TRAFFIC.

THE REPORTER SAID IT REMINDED HIM OF "THE HISTORICAL PICTURE OF PRAGUE ON MARCH 15, 1939."

AT 0830 THE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION BROADCAST AN APPEAL BY THE ARMY COUNCIL OF PARLIAMENT APPEALING TO CZECHOSLOVAK ARMED FORCES "NOT TO PUT ITSELF AT THE DISPOSAL OF ACTIONS WHICH COULD AFFECT NATIONAL HONOUR."

BMCG/HE *mt*

1140/68 *K*