

X/13 E/W -- BRITISH POLICE PROTECT SOVIET AND CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSIES

LONDON AUGUST 21--(RFE SPECIAL/WELLS)--
LONDON POLICE TODAY SEALED OFF THE STREET IN CENTRAL LONDON ON WHICH BOTH THE SOVIET AND CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSIES STAND TO PREVENT POSSIBLE VIOLENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN REACTION TO THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

UP TO MID-MORNING THERE HAD BEEN NO RPT NO DEMONSTRATIONS OR ATTEMPTED PROTESTS, BUT THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF YOUNG LIBERALS, THE YOUTH BRANCH OF THE BRITISH LIBERAL PARTY, ANNOUNCED THAT IT WAS PLANNING A DEMONSTRATION FOR 1800 HOURS TONIGHT AND CALLED ON OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO JOIN IN A "PEACEFUL" PROTEST.

PHILIP KELLY, CHAIRMAN OF THE LIBERAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION SAID "ALL OUR BRANCHES ARE PREPARED TO SEND PEOPLE THIS EVENING AND WE APPEAL TO ALL LIKE-MINDED ORGANIZATIONS TO JOIN US IN A PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION."

EXTRA POLICE GUARDS WERE ALSO MOUNTED AT THE GIANT SOVIET TRADE EXHIBITION IN LONDON SCHEDULED TO END THIS WEEK.

AT AYR, IN SCOTLAND, WHERE SOME 50 CZECHOSLOVAK GIRLS ARE WORKING AT A HOLIDAY CAMP DURING THEIR SUMMER VACATION, THEY WEPT OPENLY ON HEARING THE NEWS.

ONE GIRL SAID "SOME OF US WERE DUE TO RETURN ON SATURDAY. WE DONT KNOW IF WE WILL BE ABLE TO GO BACK."

THE GIRLS ARE MEMBERS OF A PARTY OF NEARLY 1,000 WHO ARRIVED IN BRITAIN AUG. 1 TO TAKE UP THE HOLIDAY WORK.

BRITISH EUROPEAN AIRWAYS SAID ALL ITS FLIGHTS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAD BEEN CANCELLED AND THE COUNTRYS AIRPORTS WERE APPARENTLY SEALED OFF.

THE BRITISH POST OFFICE SAID PRAGUE WAS NOT RPT NOT ACCEPTING TELEPHONE CALLS AND CALLS TO MOSCOW WERE DELAYED INDEFINITELY.

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