

C/S - 1500 INTRO WESTERN REACTION

MUNICH, AUG 21 (CNR)- THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA PROVOKED SHOCKED REACTION ~~CZECHOSLOVAKIA~~ FROM GOVERNMENTS AND FROM COMMUNIST PARTIES IN THE WESTERN WORLD.

SPECIAL MEETINGS OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS WERE BEING HELD IN WESTERN CAPITALS AS OTHER LEADERS INTERRUPTED HOLIDAYS TO HURRY BACK.

POPE PAUL SPOKE OF THE GREAT TREPIDATION THAT THE NEWS OF THE INVASION HAD AROUSED IN HIM.

THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY EXPRESSED ITS "REPROBATION" AND THE OTHER BIG COMMUNIST PARTY OF WESTERN EUROPE, THE ITALIAN, SAID IT FAILED TO UNDERSTAND THE INVASION.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT SAID THAT THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT WAS BEING RECALLED EARLY FROM RECESS. IN BRUSSELS, THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION DISCUSSED THE INVASION THIS MORNING.

HERE, IN GREATER DETAIL, IS A ROUND-UP FROM WESTERN CAPITALS:

PARIS: THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY ANNOUNCED AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF ITS CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND ISSUED A STATEMENT EXPRESSING IT "REPROBATION" OF THE MILITARY INTERVENTION.

THE STATEMENT SAID THAT THE FRENCH CP, IN THE RECENT PAST, HAD ALREADY LET IT BE KNOWN THAT IT CONSIDERED THAT PROBLEMS ARISING BETWEEN COMMUNIST PARTIES SHOULD BE STUDIED AND SOLVED THROUGH FRATERNAL DISCUSSIONS AND BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL MEETINGS.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT DEPLORED THE INTERVENTION, SAYING IT WAS A BLOW TO THE RIGHTS OF A FRIENDLY NATION AND CONTRARY TO A DETENTE IN EUROPE.

THIS STATEMENT WAS ISSUED AFTER A MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT CHARLES DE GAULLE, PRIME MINISTER MAURICE COUVE DE MURVILLE AND FOREIGN MINISTER MICHEL DEBRE AT THE PRESIDENT'S COUNTRY HOME.

(MORE) MA/H

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