

X/13 C/S - 1ST ADD FRENCH CP (CN 124) XXX SAID

THE CONFEDERAL BUREAU OF THE (COMMUNIST-DOMINATED) FRENCH TRADE UNION CGT, CONFEDERATION GENERALE DU TRAVAIL, HAS ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

"THE EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ROUSE OUR FEELINGS OF FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY FOR OUR CZECHOSLOVAK BROTHERS.

"THE CGT HAS ALWAYS HAD BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK UNIONS. THE FRENCH WORKERS WATCHED WITH INTEREST THE RECENT MEASURE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REFORM ABOUT TO BE APPLIED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. THEY WERE CONVINCED THAT, IN THE SPIRIT OF THE BRATISLAVA CONFERENCE CONVERSATIONS, THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE WOULD BE ABLE TO OVERCOME THE DIFFICULTIES IT HAS ENCOUNTERED DURING A RECENT PERIOD AND SUCCEED IN ITS TASK IN THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND DEMOCRATIC AREAS WHILE CONSOLIDATING ITS SOVEREIGNTY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMUNITY OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.

"THEREFORE, THE FRENCH WORKERS CAN BUT DEPLORE THE PRESENT MILITARY INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. IN THIS GRAVE MOMENT, THE CGT BUREAU HOPES THAT, WITHIN THE BRIEFEST DELAY, THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO DETERMINE ITS OWN FATE IN COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE."

MA/E 1517/68 AUG 21 6