

CN 212

C/S - 1ST ADD FRENCH DEPLORE (CN 181) XXX SAID

THE ELYSEE PALACE ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT (TEXT)  
"FOLLOWING THE TALKS HELD AT COLOMBEY-LES-DEUX- EGLISES  
BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, THE PRIME MINISTER AND  
THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE  
PUBLISHES THE FOLLOWING :

"THE ARMED INTERVENTION OF THE SOVIET UNION IN  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA SHOWS THAT THE MOSCOW GOVERNMENT HAS NOT  
FREED ITSELF FROM THE POLICY OF BLOCS WHICH WAS IMPOSED UPON EUROPE  
BY THE AFTERMATHS OF THE YALTA AGREEMENTS, WHICH IS  
INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION  
AND WHICH HAS INEVITABLY LED AND CAN BUT LEAD TO INTERNATIONAL  
TENSION.

"FRANCE, WHICH HAS NOT PARTICIPATED IN THE AGREEMENTS  
AND WHICH HAS NOT ADOPTED THIS POLICY, STATES AND DEPLORES  
THE FACT THAT THE EVENTS OF PRAGUE - THAT CONSTITUTE AN ATTACK  
ON THE RIGHTS AND ON THE DESTINY OF A FRIENDLY NATION - ARE OF  
A NATURE TO THWART EUROPEAN DETENTE SUCH AS FRANCE HAS  
HERSELF PRACTICED AND TRIES TO MAKE OTHERS PRACTICE AND WHICH,  
ALONE, CAN ENSURE PEACE."

THE STATEMENT WAS ISSUED ONLY 20 MINUTES AFTER COUVE  
DE MURVILLE'S ARRIVAL AT COLOMBEY WAS ANNOUNCED.

THE PRIME MINISTER JOINED FOREIGN MINISTER MICHEL DEBE  
AND PRESIDENT DE GAULLE SHORTLY BEFORE 1300 HOURS.

BMCG/E 1547/68 AUG 21