

MOSCOW, AUG 21 (REUTER)-- THE CZECHOSLOVAK GROUP WHO CALLED FOR SOVIET OCCUPATION SAID TODAY THEY DID SO TO AVOID A "FRATRICIDAL STRUGGLE" WITHIN THE COUNTRY, ACCORDING TO A DOCUMENT PUBLISHED HERE BY THE SOVIET NEWS AGENCY TASS.

THE AGENCY RELEASED A 13-PAGE APPEAL TO ALL CZECHOSLOVAKS IN WHICH THE GROUP CALLED ON ALL CZECHOSLOVAKS TO GIVE THEIR FULL SUPPORT TO THE OCCUPYING ARMED FORCES.

THE GROUP WHICH WAS NOT IDENTIFIED --SAID THE TROOPS WOULD LEAVE AS SOON AS "THE DANGER OF A REACTIONARY REBELLION HAD BEEN LIQUIDATED."

THE APPEAL WAS SIGNED ONLY BY "A GROUP OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA THE GOVERNMENT AND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WHO TURNED FOR HELP TO THE GOVERNMENTS AND COMMUNIST PARTIES OF FRATERNAL COUNTRIES."

THE GROUP SAID THEY REPUDIATED THE PRE-JANUARY 1968, PERIOD, WHEN STALINIST PRESIDENT AND PARTY LEADER ANTONIN NOVOTNY WAS STILL IN POWER.

"WE WANT TO DEFEND TO THE END THE PROGRESSIVE IDEAS OF JANUARY, WHICH ARE LEADING US TO THE CREATION OF A SOCIALIST SOCIETY THAT IS GENUINELY MODERN, RESURRECTED AND HUMANE."

AT THE SAME TIME, THEY ADDED, "WE SHALL REGARD AS THE APPLE OF OUR EYE OUR FRATERNAL TIES OF ALLIANCE AND FRIENDSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION, ITS PEOPLE AND THE PEOPLES OF ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD SOCIALIST COMMONWEALTH."

(MORE)

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