

C/S -- 2D ADD THANT DEPLORES (CN 274) XXX REQUEST

(AGENCIES)-- THE STATEMENT SAID:

"THIS MORNING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD MEETINGS WITH THE HEADS OF MISSIONS DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE SECRETARY GENERAL IS NOT YET FULLY AND OFFICIALLY INFORMED, IN REGARD TO THE MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH LED TO THEM.

"IT IS WELL KNOWN, HOWEVER, THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DEPLORES ANY RESORT TO FORCE TO SETTLE INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS WHEREVER IT MAY OCCUR, IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

"IN THE PRESENT CASE THE SECRETARY GENERAL REGARDS THE DEVELOPMENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS YET ANOTHER SERIOUS BLOW TO THE CONCEPTS OF INTERNATIONAL ORDER AND MORALITY, WHICH FORM THE BASIS OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AND FOR WHICH THE UNITED NATIONS HAS BEEN STRIVING ALL THESE YEARS.

"IT IS ALSO A GRAVE SETBACK TO THE EAST-WEST DETENTE WHICH SEEMED TO BE RE-EMERGING IN RECENT MONTHS AND TO WHICH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ATTACHES THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE.

"HE HAS APPEALED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR TO EXERCISE THE UTMOST RESTRAINT IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND STRONGLY HOPE THAT THIS APPEAL WILL BE HEEDDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE USSR AND ITS WARSAW PACT ALLIES.

"IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS CANCELLED HIS ENTIRE EUROPEAN PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE VISITS TO VIENNA AND GENEVA, IN CONNECTION WITH THE OUTER SPACE CONFERENCE AND THE CONFERENCE OF NON-NUCLEAR POWERS."

JON/U/RT 1827/68 19