

CN 290

C/S - POLICE SURROUND EAST BERLIN EMBASSY

EAST BERLIN, AUG 21, REUTER - EAST GERMAN POLICE TODAY SURROUNDED THE CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN AND TURNED AWAY VISITORS.

A REUTER CORRESPONDENT, WHO HAD EARLIER VISITED THE EMBASSY, WAS TOLD BY POLICE: "NO ONE IS TO ENTER THE EMBASSY, AT THE REQUEST OF THE AMBASSADOR."

THE AMBASSADOR, MR. VACLAV KOLAR, WAS UNDERSTOOD TO BE ONE OF THE SIGNATORIES OF A PETITION OF SUPPORT TO CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY LEADER ALEXANDER DUBCEK, SIGNED BY EMBASSY STAFF AND MANY TOURISTS WHO GATHERED OUTSIDE THE EMBASSY.

MR. KOLAR WAS SEEN EARLIER WALKING THROUGH THE EMBASSY IN HIS SHIRTSLEEVES TALKING TO STAFF.

FOS/E/RT 1842/68