

CN 308

X/13 C/S -- BRITISH CP "DEPLORES" SOVIET INVASION

LONDON, AUGUST 21--(RFE SPECIAL/HOOD)--

THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS "DEPLORED"
BY THE BRITISH COMMUNIST PARTY IN A STATEMENT ISSUED HERE
TONIGHT.

HERE IS THE STATEMENT:

"WE DEPLORE THE ENTRY OF TROOPS OF SOME OF THE WARSAW
PACT COUNTRIES INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

"WE EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED
ON THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF THE TROOPS OF THE FIVE COUNTRIES
FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND RELATIONS BETWEEN THEIR GOVERNMENTS
AND PARTIES AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK AND PARTY RE-ESTABLISHED
ON A NORMAL BASIS."

RFES LONDON CORRESPONDENT SAID THE BRITISH PARTYS
EXECUTIVE HAD WRESTLED WITH THE WORDING OF THE STATEMENT ALL
DURING THE AFTERNOON. EARLIER IN THE DAY A STATEMENT
HAD BEEN PROMISED AFTER LUNCH, BUT SUCCESSIVE INQUIRIES
SAID IT WAS NOT RPT NOT YET READY. 2

JON/U 1931/68