

BERN, AUGUST 21 (RFE SPECIAL) -- THE SWISS GOVERNMENT SEES THE SOVIET INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS A THREAT TO THE RIGHT OF EXISTENCE OF SMALL COUNTRIES. IN A STATEMENT RELEASED TODAY, THE FEDERLA COUNCIL DECLARED: ""IN THE PAST FEW MOINHS, THE PEOPLE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAS UNDOUBTEDLY EXPRESSED THE DESIRE FOR MORE FREEDOM AND PERSONAL RIGHTS. THE SWISS PEOPLE HAS TAKEN NOTE OF THIS DESIRE WITH GREAT SYMPATHY AND HAS FOLLOWED THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE PAST WEEKS WITH GREAT INTEREST. ONE HAS TO ASK ONESELF TODAY WITH DEEP CONCERN IF INDEPENDENCE AND THE RIGHT OF EXISTENCE OF SMALL COUNTRIES ARE THREATENED ANEW TODAY IN THIS WORLD. THE FEDERAL COUNCIL WILL FOLLOW THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AND ITS POSSIBLE EFFECTS CLOSELY.""

MEANWHILE, A SOCIALIST DEPUTY STARTED A MOVE TO CALL SWISS PARLIAMENT INTO AN EXTRA-ORDINARY SESSION TO DISCUS S THE THREAT TO PEACE BY THE RUSSIAN MOVE. ONE FOURTH OF THE PARLIAMENTARIANS WOULD HAVE TO SIGN THE PETITION TO CALL THE PARLIAMENT TOGETHER.

IN THE SWISS CAPITAL OF BERNE, ALL AEMBASSIES OF THE WARSAW PACT POWERS RECEIVED SPECIAL PROTECTION. TODAY SEVERAL HUNDRED DEMONSTRATORS SHOWED UP AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY THIS MORNING, THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS THAT THE SOVIET DIPLOMATS HAD TO FACE A SIZEABLE DEMONSTRATION HERE.

JON/U

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