

CN 350

C/S - LITERARNI LISTY'S FAREWELL

PRAGUE, AUG 21, REUTER - THE WRITERS WEEKLY LITERNY LISTY APPEALED TO WRITERS, ARTISTS AND INTELLECTUALS OF THE WORLD TODAY NOT TO ALLOW CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO REMAIN ALONE IN ITS CRISIS.

IN A SPECIAL "FAREWELL" ISSUE FOLLOWING THE SOVIET OCCUPATION, THE WEEKLY SAID:

"NO-ONE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ASKED FOR THIS INTERVENTION, OR FOR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT EXCEPT THE ONE LED BY DUBCEK, CERNIK AND SMRKOVSKY. SHOULD THERE BE ANOTHER GOVERNMENT IT COULD ONLY BE CREATED UNDER THREAT OF ARMS.

"DO NOT ALLOW US TO REMAIN ALONE. DO NOT ALLOW THE HOPES OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE TO BE DESTROYED."

THE WEEKLY TOLD READERS AT HOME: "WE SHALL CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE WITH THE WEAPON OF THE WRITTEN WORD, ALTHOUGH THESE MAY BE OUR LAST MINUTES.

"EVEN IF OBLIGED TO GIVE IN TO VIOLENCE, WE WILL CONTINUE TO DESPISE IT.

"SHOULD WE NEVER MEET AGAIN WE WISH YOU ALL TO LOVE EACH OTHER, PROTECT EACH OTHER AND HOPE FOR TRUTH.

"WE MUST NEVER LOSE OUR PRIDE AT BEING SONS OF THE CZECH AND SLOVAK NATION .... HOLD FAST UNTIL LIBERTY CAN BE GUARANTEED BY THOSE TO WHOM YOU HAVE GIVEN YOUR TRUST."

THE WEEKLY SAID THAT IF ANY CZECH OR SLOVAK COLLABORATED WITH THE OCCUPATION FORCES HE WOULD BE "FOREVER REJECTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY."

"WE APPEAL TO YOU: DO NOT COME TO TERMS WITH THIS SITUATION."

JON/U/RT 2150/68

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