

CN 373'..

X/R C/S - SVOBODA ADDRESSES NATION

MUNICH, AUGUST 21 (CMD)- CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA SAID TONIGHT THAT HIS COUNTRY MUST CONTINUE ON THE ROAD EMBARKED UPON IN JANUARY.

SPEAKING AT 2226 MT OVER RADIOS PRAGUE AND CESKE BUDEJOVICE, THE PRESIDENT IN A FOUR-MINUTE SPEECH REPEATED EARLIER OFFICIAL STATEMENTS THAT FOREIGN WARSAW PACT TROOPS HAD OCCUPIED THE COUNTRY WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF ITS GOVERNMENT.

HE HAD MADE CONTINUOUS EFFORTS THROUGHOUT THE DAY, CONSIDERING THE CIRCUMSTANCES, TO CONVENE THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND TO MEET WITH GOVERNMENT MEMBERS TONIGHT TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH THE AIM OF RESTORING NORMALCY IN THE COUNTRY.

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS HIS HOPE THAT HIS MEETINGS WITH THE GOVERNMENT TOMORROW WOULD ALSO INVOLVE PREMIER OLDRICH CERNIK.

THE PRESIDENT WARNED AGAINST ILL-CONSIDERED POLITICAL ACTIONS WITH IRREPARABLE CONSEQUENCES.

(MORE) TB/E 2245/68  
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