

CN 62

CS - MORNING INTRO - DEMONSTRATIONS SUPPORT PRAGUE REGIME

MUNICH, AUG 22 (CNR/AGENCIES) - A MASSIVE DEMONSTRATION IN STOCKHOLM WAS AMONG THE HIGHLIGHTS OF A SERIES OF PROTESTS IN THE WEST LAST NIGHT AGAINST THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE GATHERED IN STOCKHOLM'S CITY CENTRE IN THE BIGGEST SPONTANEOUS PROTEST SEEN IN SWEDEN SINCE THE 1956 HUNGARIAN UPRISING.

CROWDS PACKED THE NEWLY-BUILT "SPEAKERS CORNER" AFTER MARCHING THROUGH THE STREETS CARRYING PLACARDS AND CZECHOSLOVAK FLAGS.

FOREIGN MINISTER TORSTEN NILSSON TOLD THEM "A WHOLE WORLD STANDS AMAZED AND SHOCKED AT THE INVASION OF A SOVEREIGN STATE."

POLICE SEALED OFF THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY AND POSTED HEAVY REINFORCEMENTS AROUND THE EMBASSIES OF OTHER WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES.

MORE THAN 5,000 WEST BERLINERS HEADED BY GOVERNING MAYOR KLAUS SCHUETZ MARCHED SILENTLY TO THE CITY HALL TO PROTEST THE INVASION. TORCH BEARERS MARCHED ON EITHER SIDE. EARLIER, 3,000 LEFTWING STUDENTS SHOUTING "VIVAT DUBCEK" SANG THE INTERNATIONALE OUTSIDE THE CZECHOSLOVAK MILITARY MISSION.

IN ROME, 500 POLICE BLOCKED THE STREETS SURROUNDING THE SOVIET EMBASSY AS MORE THAN 200 STUDENTS SHOUTED ABUSE AT THE RUSSIANS. EGGS WERE THROWN AT THE EMBASSY WALLS EARLIER BY LEFTWING YOUTHS AND GIRLS.

STONES WERE HURLED THROUGH WINDOWS IN THE RUSSIAN CONSULATE IN MONTREAL.

SOME 10,000 NORWEGIANS, MAINLY STUDENTS, HURLED BOTTLES OF RED PAINT AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY.

(MORE)

JON/A
WD

0438/68

15