

"AS A RESULT OF THEIR TREACHEROUS, PERFIDIOUS ACTIVITIES, A REAL THREAT AROSE TO THE SOCIALIST ACHIEVEMENTS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA. DOUBLED-DYED REACTION ENTERED THE ARENA OF POLITICAL ACTIVITIES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA," THE STATEMENT SAID.

"AN ATMOSPHERE WAS CREATED WHICH WAS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE FOR SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IT WAS NECESSARY TO ACT, AND TO ACT PURPOSEFULLY AND DECISIVELY, LOSING NO TIME.

"THAT IS WHY THE SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER SOCIALIST STATES DECIDED TO MEET THE REQUEST OF THE PARTY AND STATE LEADERS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOR URGENT AID, INCLUDING THE AID OF ARMED FORCES, FOR THE FRATERNAL PEOPLE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA," IT ADDED.

THE STATEMENT CONCLUDED:

"THE FATE OF SOCIALIST CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS DEAR AND CLOSE TO THE PEOPLES OF ALL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.

"THEY CANNOT RECONCILE THEMSELVES TO OUR COMMON ENEMIES PUSHING CZECHOSLOVAKIA OFF THE SOCIALIST ROAD, CREATING THE THREAT OF ITS BEING TORN AWAY FROM THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY.

"THE PEOPLES OF OUR COUNTRIES SUFFERED TOO HEAVY LOSSES, SPILT TOO MUCH BLOOD IN THE CRUEL STRUGGLE OF THE LAST WAR, IN THE STRUGGLE FOR SOCIAL AND NATIONAL LIBERATION TO ALLOW COUNTER-REVOLUTION TO TEAR CZECHOSLOVAKIA OUT OF THE FAMILY OF SOCIALIST STATES.

DJG/AMR 1010/68

AUG 22 *by*