

X/13 C/S - BRITISH CP DEPLORES RUSSIAN INTERVENTION

LONDON AUGUST 22--(RFE SPECIAL/HOOD)--THE 35,000-MEMBER BRITISH COMMUNIST PARTY YESTERDAY ISSUED A LENGTHY STATEMENT "DEPLORING" THE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF THE WARSAW PACT TROOPS.

SAYING THAT MILITARY INTERVENTION WAS "COMPLETELY UNJUSTIFIED," THE STATEMENT REITERATED THE PARTY'S VIEW THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COMMUNIST PARTIES SHOULD BE RESOLVED, INSTEAD, BY DISCUSSIONS "ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL TRUST AND CONFIDENCE."

THE EXECUTIVE OF THE BRITISH CP IS HOLDING AN EMERGENCY MEETING SATURDAY TO STUDY THE CRISIS FURTHER.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE STATEMENT BY THE PARTY'S POLITICAL COMMITTEE FOLLOWS:

"WE DEPLORE THE ENTRY OF TROOPS OF SOME OF THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

"WE HAVE MADE CLEAR IN OUR PREVIOUS STATEMENTS OUR VIEW THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COMMUNIST PARTIES SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY DISCUSSIONS, ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL TRUST AND CONFIDENCE, AND, WHERE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ARE CONCERNED, RESPECTING THE SOVEREIGNTY OF EACH COUNTRY. THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN THE DIFFICULT TASK OF RECTIFYING WRONG POLICIES PURSUED IN THE PAST, AND STRENGTHENING SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY.

"IT HAS WARNED OF THE ACTIVITIES OF ANTI-SOCIALIST FORCES IN THE COUNTRY AND THEIR ATTEMPTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS PROCESS, AND HAS BEEN TAKING MEASURES TO DEAL WITH THEM.

"IT WAS MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR THE FORTHCOMING CONGRESS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY ON SEPTEMBER 9 AT WHICH THE FUTURE POLICY OF THE PARTY WAS TO BE DECIDED.

"WHATEVER DIFFERENCES OF VIEW THERE MIGHT BE AMONG SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, IN OUR VIEW MILITARY INTERVENTION IS COMPLETELY UNJUSTIFIED.

"WE WELCOMED THE RESULTS OF THE CIERNA AND BRATISLAVA MEETINGS BECAUSE WE CONSIDERED THAT THEY SHOWED THAT, ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL TRUST, CONFIDENCE AND UNDERSTANDING, IT IS POSSIBLE TO FIND AN AGREED BASIS FOR DEALING WITH PROBLEMS AFFECTING SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.

"IF THERE WAS DISSATISFACTION ON THE PART OF ANY OF THE PARTICIPANTS WITH THE CARRYING OUT OF THE UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED, THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS TO TRY TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS.

(MORE)

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