

CN 159

X/13 C/S - BORDER CROSSING CLOSED

MUNICH, AUG 22 (CNR/GND)- CZECHOSLOVAKIA CLOSED ONE OF ITS THREE BORDER CROSSINGS WITH WEST GERMANY FROM 0840 MT TODAY, THE BAVARIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY REPORTED.

AN INTERIOR MINISTRY SPOKESMAN SAID CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE SCHIRNDING CROSSING WERE BARRING ALL NON-CZECHOSLOVAK CITIZENS FROM ENTERING THE COUNTRY.

BUT TRAVEL OUT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS STILL FLOWING AND THE TRAFFIC AT THE OTHER BORDER POINTS -- FUERTH IM WALD AND WAIDHAUS -- WAS NORMAL IN BOTH DIRECTIONS.

THE SPOKESMAN DENIED REPORTS BY LOCAL WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS THAT SOVIET OFFICIALS HAD TAKEN OVER ALL BORDER POINTS AT MIDNIGHT.

HE SAID CZECHOSLOVAK OFFICIALS REMAINED AT ALL THREE BORDER POINTS. SOVIET OFFICIALS ACCOMPANIED THE CZECHOSLOVAKS AT SCHIRNDING, HE SAID, BUT REMAINED IN THE BACKGROUND AT THE OTHER TWO POINTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID "PRACTICALLY NO, RPT NO" REFUGEES HAD ARRIVED IN BAVARIA YET. NONE HAD BEEN REPORTED DURING THE NIGHT AND ONLY SIX HAD BEEN REPORTED YESTERDAY.

THE SIX WERE A LIEUTENANT COLONEL IN A HELICOPTER, A MARRIED COUPLE, A GEOLOGIST AND HIS SON AND A MAN. ANOTHER TWO CZECHOSLOVAKS ARRIVED IN BAVARIA THROUGH AUSTRIA BUT HAD PROPER PAPERS AND WERE NOT RPT NOT REAL REFUGEES, HE ADDED.

DJG/E/ppt 1158/68 NA