

CN 192

X/13 - C/S- AUSTRIAN CP PROTESTS SOVIET INVASION

VIENNA, AUG 22 (RFE SPECIAL/KOCH)-- THE AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY DENOUNCED THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON THE FRONTPAGE OF THE THURSDAY ISSUE OF THE OFFICIAL ORGAN "VOLKSSTIMME" UNDER A BANNER HEADLINE OF "THE AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AGAINST THE MARCH IN".

IN A SPECIAL FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL THE POLITBUREAU OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY MADE THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT:

"THE MARCH IN OF THE TROOPS OF FIVE COUNTRIES OF THE WARSAW PACT INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAS COMPLETELY SURPRISED AND DEEPLY TOUCHED THE AUSTRIAN COMMUNISTS.

"THIS ALL THE MORE AFTER THE PARTY TALKS IN BRATISLAVA ANNOUNCED THAT THE WAY TO A POLITICAL SOLUTION OF OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES AND PROBLEMS HAD BEEN REACHED ON THE BASIS OF RESPECT FOR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND THE NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

"NO FACTS ARE KNOWN TO US WHICH INDICATE THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY IS NOT IN THE POSITION TO GUARD AND CONSOLIDATE THE BASIC TENENTS OF SOCIALISM AND TO SUCCESSFULLY COMBAT ANTI-SOCIALIST FORCES. FOR THIS REASON WE SEE NO JUSTIFICATION FOR THE MILITARY INTERVENTION BY THE TROOPS OF THE FIVE COUNTRIES OF THE WARSAW PACT.

" WITH ALL AFFECTION FOR THE SOVIET UNION AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND THEIR COMMUNIST PARTIES, THE POLITBUREAU OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY DISAPPROVES THE MILITARY INTERVENTION.

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