

CN 206

X/S - 1445 INTRO CZECHOSLOVAK POLITICS

MUNICH, AUGUST 22 (CNR)- THE CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MET TODAY TO EXPRESS SUPPORT IN PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA, AND SOMEWHERE IN THE COUNTRY THE EXTRAORDINARY PARTY CONGRESS IS APPARENTLY IN SESSION.

BOTH MEETINGS WERE REPORTED BY CZECHOSLOVAK RADIO STATIONS WITH FEW DETAILS.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIX ASSEMBLY MEMBERS - A MAJORITY OF THE PARLIAMENT - MET AND PASSED A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PRESIDENT. SVOBODA HAS ALSO ANNOUNCED HIS PERSONAL SUPPORT FOR THE ASSEMBLY,

A RADIO REPORT SAID.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CONGRESS SESSION WAS CONTAINED IN A BRIEF RADIO CESKE BUDEJOVICE REPORT WHICH SAID MERELY THAT THE CONGRESS- ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO CONVENE SEPTEMBER 9- "HAS BEEN OPENED."

THE REPORT DID NOT SAY WHERE THE CONGRESS WAS MEETING.

SINCE YESTERDAY DELEGATES TO THE CONGRESS HAVE BEEN URGED TO GO TO PRAGUE FOR THE SESSION AND ONE RADIO REPORT WARNED THEM NOT TO GO TO THE HOTEL PRAHA, WHICH IT SAID MIGHT BE A TRAP.

IT WAS IN THIS HOTEL YESTERDAY THAT 50 OF THE 110 MEMBERS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE MET IN THE PRESENCE OF SOVIET OFFICERS.

THESE MEMBERS, A RADIO REPORT SAID, PASSED A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PARTY'S ACTION PROGRAM BUT MAKING NO MENTION OF THE DETENTION BY THE SOVIETS OF PARTY LEADER ALEXANDER DUBCEK, PREMIER OLDRICH CERNIK, ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN JOSEF SMRKOVSKY, AND OTHERS.

BG/DJG/ O 1432/68

6