

CN 217 \*\*\*

X/4 C/S - C/ S PARTY CONGRESS REPORTEDLY OPENS (RELEADS CN 206)

MUNICH, AUG 22 (CMD)-- THE "FREE RADIO STATION OF PRAGUE" SAYS THE EXTRAORDINARY CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS OPENED IN PRAGUE TODAY WITH OVER 1,000 DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE.

THE BROADCAST SAID ONLY FIVE DELEGATES ARE ATTENDING FROM SLOVAK REGIONS, AND THAT TWO OTHERS -- HUSAK AND COLOTKA-- WERE ARRESTED BY OCCUPATION TROOPS WHILE THEY WERE ON THEIR WAY TO PRAGUE.

ACCORDING TO THE RADIO, AS THE CONGRESS OPENED, OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES ISSUED AN ORDER FORBIDDING ASSEMBLIES, BUT THE CONGRESS BEGAN ANYWAY.

(MORE) REN/ DJG/ O 1503/68 *by*