

CN 242

X/13 C/S - CZECHOSLOVAK APPEAL AT SPACE CONFERENCE

VIENNA, AUG 22 (RFE SPECIAL/KOCH)-- THE CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION AT THE VIENNA SPACE CONFERENCE HAS ADDRESSED AN OPEN LETTER TO THE DELEGATION MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRIES OCCUPYING CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO URGE THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO WITHDRAW THEIR ARMIES.

THE LETTER, DATED 21 AUGUST AND SIGNED BY DELEGATION HEAD, PROF. VLADIMIR GUTH, SAID THE INVASION WAS BASED ON "A FALSE PRETEXT OF ANTI-SOCIALIST DEVELOPMENTS IN OUR COUNTRY" .

THE INTERVENTION WAS DESCRIBED AS HAVING "GROSSLY VIOLATED THE SOVEREIGNTY OF (CZECHOSLOVAKIA) AND THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW CONCERNING PEACEFUL EXISTENCE".

A DELEGATE SAID THAT THEY HAD HAD NO REACTION FROM ANY OF THE EAST EUROPEAN DELEGATES TO WHOM THE LETTER WAS ADDRESSED.

THE TEXT OF THE LETTER IS AS FOLLOWS:

ON 20 AUGUST 1968 CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS OCCUPIED BY THE ARMED FORCES OF YOUR COUNTRY UNDER THE FALSE PRETEXT OF AN ANTI-SOCIALIST DEVELOPMENT IN OUR COUNTRY.

WITHOUT ANY CONSENT ON THE PART OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORGANS, YOUR ARMIES INVADED CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE LEGALLY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR STATE ARE BEING PROHIBITED TO ACCOMPLISH THEIR POWERS AND FUNCTION.

(MORE)

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