

CN 238

C/S -2ND ADD 1700 INTRO PRAGUE CLASHES (CN 247) XXX SQUARE

BOTH REUTERS AND UNITED PRESS CORRESPONDENTS SAID THAT SIRENS AND KLAXONS SOUNDED BEFORE NOON PROCLAIMING A STRIKE AND REUTERS SAID DRIVERS THREW PAMPHLETS FROM PASSING CARS CALLING FOR OBSERVANCE OF THE STRIKE.

UNITED PRESS SAID THAT AS THE ONE-HOUR STRIKE BEGAN, HOTEL STAFF AT THE ALCRON HOTEL EVEN DISCONNECTED TELEPHONE LINES.

THE REUTERS MAN ALSO REPORTED THAT PEOPLE QUEUED OUTSIDE PUBLIC BUILDINGS TO SIGN PETITIONS CALLING FOR THE RELEASE OF FIRST PARTY SECRETARY DUBCEK AND OTHER LEADERS, ABDUCTED BY THE SOVIETS ON WEDNESDAY.

*Be* T/HI

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