

CN 257

CS-1ST ADD 1700 INTRO WESTERN COMMUNISTS AGAINST INVASION (CN 256)

XXX SAID

IN SCANDINAVIA, THE FINNISH COMMUNIST PARTY PAPER COMMENTED "IT IS VERY HARD, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, FOR THE SOVIETS TO JUSTIFY INTERVENTION."

REFERRING TO THE ALLEGED REQUEST FOR AID FROM CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNISTS, THE PAPER SAID THAT "IF A MINORITY IS BEHIND THIS REQUEST... THEN THE EVENTS OPEN UP GLOOMY PROSPECTS."

THE FINNS STATED THAT THE INVASION HAD "CREATED A MOST DIFFICULT AND DANGEROUS SITUATION IN THE WHOLE WORLD."

ANOTHER SCANDINAVIAN PARTY, THE DANISH, SAID IN A STATEMENT THAT THE "MILITARY MARCH" INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF SELF-DETERMINATION.

IT TOO REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE INVASION AS JUSTIFIED AND SAID "WE HOPE THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND WORKING CLASS WILL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO CARRY OUT THE NECESSARY ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL REFORMS WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF FOREIGN TROOPS."

THE INVASION HAS FOUND ONLY ONE SMALL VOICE OF SUPPORT AMONG THE WESTERN COMMUNISTS - IN THE WEST BERLIN PARTY. TODAY ITS NEWSPAPER CARRIED THE TASS ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTERVENTION AND APPEALED TO THE BERLINERS "DO NOT LET YOURSELVES BE MISUSED BY ANTI-COMMUNIST AGITATORS."

BG/HI *mt*

1655/68 *LR*