

X/13 CURT -- ANTI-OCCUPATION DEMONSTRATIONS IN BENELUX

BRUSSELS, AUG. 22 (RFE SPECIAL/DYBVIK) -- THOUSANDS OF DEMONSTRATORS ARE SCHEDULED TO PARADE THROUGH DUTCH AND BELGIAN CITIES TONIGHT, VOICING SUPPORT OF THE DUBCEK REGIME IN PRAGUE AND DEMANDING THE WITHDRAWAL OF WARSAW PACT OCCUPATION TROOPS.

SEVERAL THOUSAND YOUNG LEFTISTS PARADED THROUGH THE STREETS OF AMSTERDAM LAST NIGHT IN A PROTEST DEMONSTRATION, BUT AUTHORITIES REPORTED NO SERIOUS INCIDENTS.

MINOR DEMONSTRATIONS WERE HELD BOTH IN BRUSSELS AND THE HAGUE IN FRONT OF THE SOVIET EMBASSIES, BUT OFFICIALS SAID THERE WERE FEWER THAN 50 YOUNG PEOPLE AT EACH DEMONSTRATION AND NO VIOLENCE.

HEAVY GUARDS WERE THROWN AROUND THE EMBASSIES OF THE USSR, BULGARIA, POLAND AND HUNGARY IN THE HAGUE YESTERDAY MORNING. ADDITIONAL POLICE ARE PATROLLING THE EMBASSIES OF THOSE COUNTRIES IN BRUSSELS.

POLICE ARE EXPECTING 10,000 TO 15,000 DEMONSTRATORS TONIGHT FOR A PROTEST DEMONSTRATION IN THE HEART OF BRUSSELS, FAR FROM ANY OF THE INVADERS EMBASSIES. A NUMBER OF POLITICAL PARTY OFFICIALS ARE TO ADDRESS THE DEMONSTRATORS. NO RPT NO SINGLE ORGANIZATION TODAY WAS WILLING TO TAKE CREDIT FOR ORGANIZING TONIGHT'S RALLY.

NEW DEMONSTRATIONS ARE ALSO EXPECTED TONIGHT IN AMSTERDAM AND THE HAGUE.

ALTHOUGH POLICE ARE ON ALERT, AUTHORITIES SAY THEY DO NOT RPT NOT EXPECT ANY VIOLENCE.

FOS/L, 2000/68

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