

CN 351

X/13 C/S -- BELGIAN PARTY'S OPEN LETTER ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA

BRUSSELS, AUG 22 (RFE SPECIAL/WR/RD)-- FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AN OPEN LETTER, DATED YESTERDAY, FROM THE TRADITIONAL (PRO-MOSCOW) BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTY TO THE PARTIES OF THE SOVIET UNION, BULGARIA, HUNGARY, POLAND AND EAST GERMANY.

(THIS IS A TRANSLATION FROM FLEMISH WHICH APPEARED TODAY IN DE RODE VAAN, THE PARTY'S FLEMISH WEEKLY ORGAN. AN IDENTICAL VERSION IS EXPECTED TO APPEAR IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE WEEKLY LE DRAPEAU ROUGE ON FRIDAY. THE BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTIES HAVE ONLY WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS.)

"OPEN LETTER

"FROM: THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF BELGIUM

"TO: THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF THE SOVIET UNION, BULGARIA, HUNGARY, POLAND, AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

"DEAR COMRADES,

"WE ADDRESS THIS LETTER TO YOU IN OUR CONCERN TO DEFEND THE CASE OF ALL COMMUNISTS, THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM, OF THE DEMOCRACY OF PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM, AND OF THE UNITY OF THE WORLD COMMUNIST MOVEMENT.

"WE CANNOT APPROVE THE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. THIS STANDPOINT IS THE RESULT OF AN ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION BASED ON THE FLOW OF INFORMATION WHICH REACHED US TODAY. WE KNOW FULL WELL THAT IN THE COURSE OF THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE POLITICAL DEMOCRACY WHICH SINCE A FEW MONTHS HAS TAKEN PLACE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ELEMENTS HOSTILE TO SOCIALISM, THE OPPONENTS OF THE WORKERS AND AGENTS OF NATO-CONNECTED IMPERIALISTIC FORCES HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN ORDER TO WEAKEN THE UNITY OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, TO ATTACK THE SOCIALIST ACHIEVEMENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND TO RE-INTRODUCE CAPITALISM IN THAT COUNTRY.

"BUT THE CRUCIAL QUESTION WHICH WAS, AND STILL IS, POSED IS TO KNOW HOW CAN EFFECTIVE MEASURES BE TAKEN IN ORDER TO MOBILIZE THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES AND TO ORGANIZE EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY WITH THE WORKERS AND DEMOCRATS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

"ALREADY IN THE BEGINNING OF JULY WE HAVE STATED THAT WE ARE IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST REACTIONARY FORCES AND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY.

(MORE) FOS/ O 2133/68

RF 114