

CN 361

X/13 C/S - HAJEK EN ROUTE TO NEW YORK

P17 WASHINGTON, AUG. 22 (RFE SPECIAL/HILL) CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER JIRI HAJEK IS EN ROUTE TO NEW YORK FROM YUGOSLAVIA, STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ROBERT MCCLOSKEY SAID THURSDAY.

THERE HAS BEEN SPECULATION THAT MR. HAJEK WOULD APPEAR BEFORE THE U N SECURITY COUNCIL TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF HIS COUNTRY. ALL THE OTHER TOP CZECH LEADERS ARE BELIEVED HELD BY THE SOVIET FORCES WHICH INVADED THEIR COUNTRY LATE TUESDAY.

MR. MCCLOSKEY SAID THERE WERE NO PLANS FOR MR. HAJEK TO COME TO WASHINGTON. IT WAS EXPECTED THAT HE WOULD TALK WITH U S AMBASSADOR GEORGE BALL IN NEW YORK.

THE U S CONTINUES TO RECOGNIZE THE "LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT" OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, MCCLOSKEY SAID. HE WAS "NOT AWARE" THAT ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN FORMED.

HE SAID IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF "NORMAL BUSINESS" WAS BEING CARRIED ON BETWEEN THE U S EMBASSY AND PRAGUE OFFICIALS, "PROBABLY AT THE LOWER LEVELS." HERE IN WASHINGTON, THE U.S. IS IN CONTACT WITH AMBASSADOR KAREL DUDA, WHO VISITED THE DEPARTMENT WEDNESDAY. MCCLOSKEY SAID THAT AS OF THURSDAY NOON NO NEW APPOINTMENTS HAD BEEN ARRANGED EITHER FOR DUDA OR FOR SOVIET AMBASSADOR ANATOLY DOBRYNIN.

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