

PARIS AUG. 22 (RFE SPECIAL/OVADIA) --- SEVERAL HUNDRED FRENCH STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE GATHERED IN FRONT OF THE PRAGUE EMBASSY IN PARIS TONIGHT, SHOUTING "DUBCEK, DUBCEK" IN A DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE WARSAW PACT INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE MEETING WAS ORGANIZED BY THE NATIONAL UNION OF FRENCH STUDENT, UNEF, AND TOOK PLACE WITH THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

BETWEEN 600 AND 700 YOUNGSTERS CROWDED BEFORE THE EMBASSY BUILDING IN THE AVENUE FLOCQUET, CLOSE TO THE EIFFEL TOWER ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE SEINE. SHOUTS FOR DUBCEK WERE MINGLED WITH CRIES FOR "SOCIALISM - FREEDOM".

BANNER INSCRIPTIONS READ "DUBCEK EQUALS FREEDOM", "LONG LIVE FREE CZECHOSLOVAKIA", "LIBERATE PRAGUE", "SOCIALISM - YES, STALINISM - NO" AND "DOWN WITH REPRESSION".

AMONG THE FRENCH STUDENTS WERE ALSO SOME CZECHOSLOVAKS VISITING PARIS AND THEIR BANNER SAID "WE ARE A FREE NATION".

AMBASSADOR DR VILHELM PITHART WATCHED THE DEMONSTRATION FROM A WINDOW. HE DID NOT MAKE ANY GESTURE OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OR ENCOURAGEMENT.

DR PITHART WAS JUST BACK FROM A CALL ON THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE QUAI DORSAY WHEN THE CORTEGE FORMED IN FRONT OF THE EMBASSY.

THE UNEF WAS IN THE FOREFRONT OF STUDENTS DEMONSTRATING IN THE LATIN QUARTER LAST SPRING.

THE LEADER OF THE UNION, JACQUES SAUVAGEOT, ADDRESSED THE MEETING IN FRONT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY WITH A SEVERE CONDEMNATION OF THE "SOVIET MILITARY AGGRESSION THAT AIMS AT BRUTALLY DEPRIVING THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE FROM CONSTRUCTING ITS OWN PATH TO SOCIALISM".

ALSO PARTICIPATING IN THE DEMONSTRATION WERE MEMBERS OF THE NEWLY CREATED "COMMITTEE FOR THE STRUGGLE AGAINST REPRESSION".

SAUVAGEOT SAID THE SOVIET AGGRESSION "WAS INADMISSIBLE FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST MOVEMENT, INDEPENDENTLY OF THEIR OPINION OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK MOVEMENT AND OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC".

"WE HAVE CALLED THIS MEETING", SAUVAGEOT SAID, "IN ORDER TO SUPPORT THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLES PASSIVE RESISTANCE AGAINST THE AGGRESSOR".

THE "INTERNATIONAL" WAS SUNG SEVERAL TIMES, AS WELL AS THE CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONAL ANTHEM.

THE COMMITTEE FOR THE STRUGGLE AGAINST REPRESSION HANDED OUT A TYPED STATEMENT WHICH SAID: "IT WAS NOT THE DUBCEK GOVERNMENT THAT THREATENED THE STALINIST BUREAUCRACY: IT WAS THE MASS MOVEMENT THAT HAD BROUGHT IT TO POWER AND WHICH INSISTED ON THE DEFINITE ABOLITION OF BUREAUCRATIC RULE".

THE DEMONSTRATION LASTED FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS.

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