

CN 383

X/13 CS -- PROTESTS CONTINUE IN WEST BERLIN

BERLIN, AUG 22 (RFE SPECIAL/SCHLEICH) -- VARIOUS WEST BERLIN ORGANIZATIONS CONTINUED TODAY TO PROTEST AGAINST THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY SOVIET AND OTHER WARSAW PACT TROOPS AND TO MANIFEST THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE.

TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF A LOCAL BRANCH OF THE JUNGE UNION, THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF THE CDU, PRESENTED A SOLIDARITY STATEMENT CARRYING SOME 2,400 SIGNATURES TO DR. OLDRICH KREPELAK, THE HEAD OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK MILITARY MISSION IN WEST BERLIN.

THE STATEMENT VOICED "ABHORRENCE OF THIS AGGRESSION" AND PROTESTED AGAINST THE "SUPPRESSION OF THE WILL TO FREEDOM IN THE CSSR" AND THE OCCUPATION OF THE COUNTRY BY FOREIGN TROOPS.

ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JUNGE UNION, THE CZECHOSLOVAK MISSION CHIEF THANKED THE ORGANIZATION'S REPRESENTATIVES AND ASSERTED THAT HE WAS "ESPECIALLY HAPPY" ABOUT THE SPONTANEOUS SYMPATHY SHOWN BY THE BERLINERS.

DR. KREPELAK SAID HE HOPED THAT THE SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WOULD CLEAR UP "IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS," ACCORDING TO THE JUNGE UNION SPOKESMAN.

THE SIGNATURES WERE COLLECTED ON WITTENBERGPLATZ, A SQUARE IN ONE OF WEST BERLINS MAJOR SHOPPING DISTRICTS, YESTERDAY AFTERNOON.

MEANWHILE, THE WEST BERLIN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY TODAY ISSUED A RESOLUTION IN WHICH IT EXPRESSED ITS DEEP RESPECT FOR THE POLITICAL ATTITUDE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT.

THE RESOLUTION, WHICH WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE TOP BODIES OF WEST BERLIN PARTY ORGANIZATION AND THE PARLIAMENTARY SPD IN THE CITY PARLIAMENT, CONDEMNED THE "ILLEGAL AND BRUTAL" ACTION OF THE FIVE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

"OUR SYMPATHY IS WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND ITS LEGITIMATE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP," THE RESOLUTION SAID.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENTS (ASTA) OF THE TWO WEST BERLIN UNIVERSITIES AS WELL AS THE PEDAGOGICAL AND THE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE HAVE SET UP A "SOLIDARITY ACCOUNT" AT A LOCAL BANK FOR DONATIONS TO BUILD UP FUNDS TO ASSIST "THE FRIENDS AND COMRADES" FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA WHO ARE UNABLE OR UNWILLING AT THE PRESENT TIME TO RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY.

IN A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENTS OF THE SCHOOLS, THE CZECHOSLOVAK CITIZENS IN QUESTION ARE ASKED TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE ASSISTANCE OFFERED.

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