

CN 86''''

C/S - 0900 INTRO: SOVIET VETO

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, AUG 23, REUTER-  
THE SOVIET UNION EARLY TODAY VETOED A WESTERN RESOLUTION CONDEMNING  
THE WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

U.S. AMBASSADOR GEORGE W. BALL IMMEDIATELY DENOUNCED THE ACTION  
AS THE RESPONSE OF A FRIGHTENED STATE WHICH HAD TRIED BY NAKED  
FORCE TO CRUSH FREEDOM IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

CANADIAN AMBASSADOR GEORGE IGNATIEFF TABLED A NEW  
RESOLUTION ASKING SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT TO SEND A PERSONAL  
REPRESENTATIVE TO PRAGUE TO TRY TO ENSURE THE PERSONAL SAFETY  
OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERS WHO HAVE BEEN DETAINED BY THE  
OCCUPYING TROOPS.

THE U.S., BRITAIN AND FRANCE JOINED WITH A  
NUMBER OF OTHER MEMBERS IN SPONSORING THE NEW DRAFT. BUT  
IGNATIEFF DID NOT ASK FOR AN IMMEDIATE VOTE ON IT.  
THE COUNCIL WAS EXPECTED TO MEET ON IT LATER TODAY AND ALSO  
HEAR A STATEMENT BY CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN  
MINISTER JIRI HAJEK, WHO WAS REPORTED TO BE FLYING TO NEW  
YORK FROM AUSTRIA.

(MORE) DJG /LA 0900/68 AUG 23

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