CN 97 '''

C/S - 2ND ADD - SVOBODA (CN 96) XXX LEADERSHIP

"THE FOLLOWING COMRADES WILL JOIN ME ON THIS TRIP: DR. HUSAK, GEN. DZUR, COMRADE PILLER, BILAK, INDRA, AND DR. KUCERA.

"I HAVE INFORMED THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF OUR REPUBLIC ABOUT MY TRIP. ON THIS OCCASION I WISH TO ADDRESS YOU ALL, DEAR FRIENDS, TO THANK YOU SINCERELY FOR ALL THE SUPPORT YOU HAVE GIVEN ME AND FOR YOUR CONFIDENCE. AND I BEG YOU TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT MY ACTIONS WITH YOUR CONFIDENCE.

"I URGENTLY ASK YOU TO MAINTAIN PRUDENCE. TO AVOID ANY ACTION OR CONTACT WHICH WOULD EXACERBATE THE ATMOSPHERE IN OUR COUNTRY AND RELATIONS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOREIGN ARMIES. I ASK YOU TO DISPLAY A CONSCIOUS ATTITUDE WHICH WILL HELP ME CREATE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR THE FORTHCOMING DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS. WE MUST ALL BE AWARE THAT THE ISSUE IS TO FIND AN HONORABLE AND DIGNIFIED WAY OUT OF THE PRESENT SITUATION WHICH IS THREATENING TO HAVE TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES FOUR OUR PEOPLE AND THEIR FATHERLAND. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO CONTINUE BUILDING OUR CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, TO PROCEED FURTHER ON THE WAY OF DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT OF OUR SOCIALIST FATHERLAND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE JANUARY PLENUM OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK CP CC.

"I ASSUME THAT WE WILL RETURN BY TONIGHT. UPON MY RETURN I WILL INFORM THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORGANS AND YOU ALL, DEAR FELLOW CITIZENS, ON THE RESULTS OF MY NEGOTIATIONS."

BMCG/DJG/HR 1019/68 AUG 23 4Z