

CN 148 (ATtribution REQUIRED)

X/13 CS - MAGAZINE DESCRIBES CERNIK ARREST

PRAGUE, AUG 23 (DPA/GND) - A SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE PRAGUE ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE MLADY SVET (YOUNG WORLD) TODAY PUBLISHED AN EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF THE ARREST OF PREMIER OLDRICH CERNIK.

ACCORDING TO THE MAGAZINE, SOVIET PARATROOPERS FORCED THEIR WAY INTO THE PREMIER'S OFFICE AT 0800 WEDNESDAY, ORDERED ALL AIDES TO STAND AGAINST THE WALL AND LED CERNIK AWAY WITH FIXED BAYONETTS.

TWENTY MINUTES LATER, COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ALEXANDER DUBCEK TELEPHONED TO SPEAK WITH CERNIK. HE WAS TOLD BY AN OFFICIAL, WHO WAS WATCHED BY SOVIET MILITARY PERSONNEL, THAT HE COULD NOT RPT NOT TALK WITH CERNIK ANY MORE AND THAT CERNIK HAD BEEN ARRESTED.

DUBCEK REPLIED THAT HIS SITUATION WAS NOT RPT NOT YET THAT BAD, THE MAGAZINE REPORTED. DUBCEK CALLED ON ALL AIDES OF THE PREMIER TO HOLD OUT.

THE MAGAZINE SAID THAT THE ENTIRE GOVERNMENT BUILDING WAS OCCUPIED BY THE MILITARY AND THAT THE EMPLOYEES WERE HELD UNTIL 1700. THE SOLDIERS DESTROYED THE TELEPHONE SWITCHBOARD.

MLADY SVET ADDED THAT THE EMPLOYEES LOST THEIR WATCHES DURING THE OCCUPATION.

THE MAGAZINE ALSO SAID IN THE SAME ISSUE THAT TWO MEN WERE TALKING AND THAT ONE SAID TO THE OTHER: "THE WHOLE THING ACTUALLY STARTED WITH THE DEBACLE IN ICE HOCKEY." CZECHOSLOVAKIA BEAT THE SOVIET UNION IN THE WINTER OLYMPICS IN ICE HOCKEY."

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