

X/13 C/S - SHORTER ITEMS

BOFFA: INVASION "GRAVE AND TRAGIC ERROR"

ROME, AUG. 23--(RFE SPECIAL)--- ROVING CORRESPONDENT FOR THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PRESS, GIUSEPPE BOFFA, HAS CALLED THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA A "MOST GRAVE AND TRAGIC ERROR."

WRITING TODAY FROM VIENNA FOR THE OFFICIAL ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY DAILY, UNITA, BOFFA COMMENTED:

"EVEN THE CONFUSED CHRONICLE OF THIS SECOND DAY (YESTERDAY) OF DRAMA CONFIRMS HOWEVER THE CLEARLY NEGATIVE JUDGEMENT THAT THE POLITICAL OFFICE OF OUR PARTY FORMULATED YESTERDAY MORNING (AUG. 21) ON THE ARMED INTERVENTION.

"IT IS A MOST GRAVE AND TRAGIC ERROR THAT CAN HAVE AND HAS HAD POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES THAT ONE HOPES ARE STILL NOT IRREPARABLE."

ITALY ARTISTS, FILMMAKERS GROUPS HAIL CSSR

ROME, AUG. 23--(RFE SPECIAL/TEMPEST) -- FILMMAKERS' AND ARTISTS' ASSOCIATIONS HAVE EXPRESSED SOLIDARITY WITH CZECHOSLOVAK INTELLECTUALS.

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CINEMA AUTHORS (ANAC) SENT TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK CINEASTS' ASSOCIATION THROUGH THE CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY IN ROME EXPRESSED "FULL AND UNCONDITIONAL SOLIDARITY TO THE INTELLECTUALS AND IN PARTICULAR CZECHOSLOVAK CINEASTS."

THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ARTISTS ISSUED A STATEMENT EXPRESSING ITS "MOST LIVELY CONCERN, SORROW AND DNYJR JO FOR THE ARMED INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA OF TROOPS FROM SOME COUNTRIES BELONGING TO THE WARSAW PACT."

"WE HOPE THAT REASON PREVAILS AND THAT THE GRAVE CRISIS... IS RESOLVED ACCORDING TO JUSTICE, ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM, OF INDEPENDENCE OF PEOPLES FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD," THE STATEMENT ADDED.

CZECHOSLOVAK FILM CHOSEN FOR VENICE FESTIVAL

ROME, AUG. 23--(RFE SPECIAL/TEMPEST)--A FILM FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS THE ONLY EAST EUROPEAN FILM TO BE SHOWN AT THE VENICE FILM FESTIVAL THIS YEAR.

THE PROGRAM ANNOUNCED BY FESTIVAL DIRECTOR, LUIGI CHIARINI, YESTERDAY INCLUDED THE FILM "THE DESERTERS," BY DCZECHOSLOVAK DIRECTOR JURAT JAKUBISKO.

THE HUNGARIANS WHO WERE TO HAVE BEEN PRESENT WITH TWO FILM WITHDREW AT THE LAST MOMENT IN SYMPATHY WITH THE ITALIAN FILM PRODUCERS' UNION, THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CINEMA AUTHORS (ANAC) WHICH HAS BOYCOTTED THE FESTIVAL BECAUSE OF ITS DISAGREEMENT WITH THE WAY IT IS ORGANIZED.

DESPITE ANAC'S PROTEST, HOWEVER, SEVEN ITALIAN FILMS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE SHOWN AT THE FESTIVAL WHICH STARTS SUNDAY.