

XC/S - INTRO - CZECHOSLOVAK SITUATION (1600 INTRO)

MUNICH, AUG. 23 (CNR/AGENCIES) -- CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA ARRIVED TODAY IN MOSCOW FOR TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERS AS FOREIGN MINISTER JIRI HAJEK FLEW OFF TO NEW YORK FOR TALKS AT THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK SITUATION.

SVOBODA SAID IN A RADIO BROADCAST BEFORE LEAVING FOR MOSCOW HE WAS GOING THERE FOR "DIRECT NEGOTIATION WITH THE HIGHEST REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOVIET UNION OVER THE OCCUPATION OF HIS COUNTRY. HE SAID HE PLANNED TO RETURN TO PRAGUE TONIGHT.

SVOBODA AND SIX OTHERS FORMING A GOVERNMENT AND PARTY DELEGATION, WAS MET AT VNUKOV AIRPORT BY SOVIET PARTY CHIEF LEONID BREZHNEV, PRESIDENT NIKOLAI PODGORNYY, PREMIER ALEXEI KOSYGIN AND OTHER LEADERS, TASS SAID.

HAJEK TOLD NEWSMEN DURING A STOPOVER AT VIENNA THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA MUST COME TO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER FOUR WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES OCCUPYING THE COUNTRY. HE SAID THE U.N. COULD ACHIEVE A GOOD ATMOSPHERE FOR THE SOUGHT-FOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE OCCUPYING COUNTRIES.

THE TWO DIPLOMATIC VISITS FOLLOW A SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION LAST NIGHT AND EARLY TODAY IN WHICH THE SOVIET UNION VETOED A WESTERN RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

DURING THE SESSION, RUSSIAN DELEGATE JACOP MALIK STAGED A FILIBUSTER TO STAVE OFF A VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION.

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

IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ITSELF, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CZECH NATIONAL COUNCIL, CESTMIR CISAR, WHO WAS ARRESTED TWO DAYS AGO BY OCCUPYING FORCES, WAS REPORTED TODAY BY RADIO FREE PRAGUE TO HAVE ESCAPED. THE RADIO SAID HE IS NOW AMONG "CZECH PATRIOTS."

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MD/HI HR

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