

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ADDED THAT "STRAUSS, KIESINGER AND BRANDT" WANTED, THROUGH THEIR NEW OSTPOLITIK, "TO UNDERMINE THE SOCIALIST SYSTEM FROM WITHIN...AND EVENTUALLY REESTABLISH THE RULE OF IMPERIALISM." LATELY THEY HAD CONCENTRATED ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA WHERE THEY SCORED "INITIAL SUCCESSES AND COULD BARELY RESTRAIN THEMSELVES IN ORDER TO LET THEIR JUBILATION NOT RPT NOT GROW TOO LOUD."

A SOCIALIST PARTY AND GOVERNMENT "WHICH WOULD HAVE IDLY WATCHED SUCH A SITUATION DEVELOP WOULD BE DOWNRIGHT IRRESPONSIBLE," THE PAPER ADDED AND CONCLUDED THAT "IT WAS OUR INTERNATIONAL DUTY TO ACT (AS WE DID). FOR US IT WAS THE MOST NATURAL THING IN THE WORLD."

THE SEMI-OFFICIAL BERLINER ZEITUNG ALSO PLACED HEAVY EMPHASIS ON THE "PEACE-SAVING" ASPECT OF THE OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND SAID THAT PEACE AND SECURITY WOULD "REMAIN A DREAM WITHOUT SOCIALISM, WITHOUT THE EXISTENCE OF THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS ALLIES, WITHOUT THE WARSAW PACT THE NATIONS OF THIS CONTINENT WOULD NOT RPT NOT HAVE ENJOYED 23 YEARS OF PEACE."

THE "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY PLOT AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA" HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO CHANGE THE BALANCE OF POWER IN FAVOR OF THE IMPERIALISTS, THE PAPER COMMENTED AND CONTINUED:

"IF PEACE AND SECURITY IN EUROPE DEPEND DIRECTLY ON THE UNITY OF THE SOCIALIST STATES AND THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE SOCIALIST POSITIONS IN EACH AND EVERYONE OF THEM -- SO THE ENEMIES OF PEACE, THE REVANCHISTS, SAID TO THEMSELVES -- THIS UNITY MUST BE UNDERMINED AND THE SOCIALIST POSITIONS WEAKENED. IN THIS SPIRIT THEY BECAME ACTIVE IN THE CSSR."

BERLINER ZEITUNG CLAIMED THAT "REACTIONARY FORCES" IN THE COUNTRY AND "A GROUP OF IRRESPONSIBLE AND UNPRINCIPLED POLITICIANS, OF INTELLECTUALS ALIEN TO THE PEOPLE AND TO THE PARTY, WHO HAD FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED LEADING POSITIONS IN THE KPC AND POWER IN THE STATE" WERE "THE ALLIES, THE STOOGES" OF THE "ENEMIES OF PEACE."

ANYONE WHO CONSIDERED POLITICS NOT RPT NOT AS A GAME WITH POWER BUT AS AN OBLIGATION TOWARD THE WELL-BEING OF MANKIND "MUST, IF WAR OR PEACE ARE AT ISSUE, ACT IMMEDIATELY AND WITH DETERMINATION. HE MUST QUICKLY EXTINGUISH THE SMOULDERING FIRE (AND) ISOLATE THE ENEMIES OF PEACE AND SECURITY."

THIS HAD BEEN "INITIATED BY THE ALLIED SOCIALIST COUNTRIES TOGETHER WITH PATRIOTIC CZECHS AND SLOVAKS (WHO) HAVE DEALT THE WAR-MONGERS A HEAVY BLOW."

BERLINER ZEITUNG COMMENTED THAT "A VICCORIOUS BATTLE FOR SOCIALISM AND PEACE IS BEING FOUGHT AT THE MOLDAU."

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