

CS - POPE CALLS FOR RESPECT FOR RIGHTS IN CS

BOGOTA, COLOMBIA, AUG 23, REUTER - POPE PAUL TODAY CALLED FOR HUMAN RIGHTS TO BE RESPECTED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE PONTIFF, SPEAKING TO JOURNALISTS AFTER ADDRESSING PEASANTS IN THE FIELDS OUTSIDE BOGOTA, SAID HIS THOUGHTS HAD GONE ABOVE ALL IN RECENT DAYS -TO THE PEOPLE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND ALSO TO ALL THE PEOPLES IN AFRICA AND ASIA WHO ARE AFFECTED BY WAR."

THE POPE SAID THESE EVENTS CAUSED HIM INTENSE SUFFERING. HE BEGGED THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FATE OF THESE PEOPLES TO "SAFEGUARD THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF PERSONS AND NATIONS."

POPE PAUL ALSO ASKED THE REPORTERS TO REPEAT HIS PREVIOUS CALL FOR GOVERNMENTS TO DIVERT PART OF THE MONEY THEY SPENT ON ARMAMENTS TO AN INTERNATIONAL FUND TO HELP NEEDY NATIONS. THE POPE MADE THE APPEAL DURING A VISIT TO INDIA IN 1964 TO ATTEND AN INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS.

BG/E 2014/68

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