

## X/13 - C/S - AUSTRIAN STATEMENTS ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA

VIENNA, AUG 23 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- AN APPEAL BY THE AUSTRIAN RESISTANCE UNION WAS ADDRESSED ON THURSDAY TO THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RESISTANCE FIGHTERS AS WELL AS TO THE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS OF THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES.

THE APPEAL STRESSES THAT 30 YEARS AFTER THE MUNICH AGREEMENT, GERMAN TROOPS, TOGETHER WITH TROOPS OF POLAND, HUNGARY, BULGARIA AND THE SOVIET UNION AGAIN INVADED CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE LETTER COMPARES THE PRESENT CZECHOSLOVAK SITUATION WITH AUSTRIA'S POSITION IN 1938.

THE AUSTRIAN RESISTANCE UNION APPEALS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION "TO INTERVENE IN FAVOR OF A WITHDRAWAL OF THE INTERVENTION TROOPS, THE RELEASE OF ALL IMPRISONED AND DETAINED PERSONS AND IN FAVOUR OF CZECHOSLOVAK SOVEREIGNTY. OTHERWISE FUTURE COOPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION AND ITS CREDIBILITY WOULD BECOME QUESTIONABLE," THE APPEAL SAID.

"THE AUSTRIAN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT, A PATRIOTIC ORGANIZATION OF A NEUTRAL COUNTRY, APPEALS, ESPECIALLY IN THIS YEAR DEDICATED TO HUMAN RIGHTS, TO THE SOVIET UNION TO RESPECT THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE SELF DETERMINATION OF ALL NATIONS," THE LETTER, SIGNED BY UNIONS PRESIDENT DR. FRANZ SOBEK, CONCLUDED.

"WE ARE FOLLOWING THE INTERVENTION AND SUBJUGATION OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE BY THE SOVIETS WITH PROFOUND EMOTION AND INDIGNATION AND WE ADMIRE THE ATTITUDE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK POPULATION WHO SUB-ORDINATED ALL IDEOLOGICAL PROBLEMS TO THEIR COUNTRY'S FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE," BEGINS A STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE RULING CONSERVATIVE PEOPLES PARTY YOUTH ORGANIZATION.

THE STATEMENT APPEALS TO THE YOUTH IN THE SOVIET UNION TO TAKE THE SIDE OF THE YOUNG CZECHS AND SLOVAKS IN THESE SHOCKING EVENTS. THE APPEAL WAS ALSO ADDRESSED TO THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF YOUNG CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, DEMANDING A WORLD-WIDE CONDEMNATION OF "THE CYNICAL METHODS OF AGGRESSION USED BY THE SOVIETS."

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY'S YOUTH ORGANIZATION CONDEMNING THE SOVIET INVASION AND PROTESTING THE WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION WAS SIGNED WITHIN FEW HOURS BY SOME 25,000 PERSONS IN THE STREETS OF VIENNA ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND SENT TO UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL U THANT.

"SYMPATHY, CONCERN, INDIGNATION, EVEN DISTRESS, MARK THE REACTION OF THE AUSTRIAN POPULATION TO THE EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA," A STATEMENT OF THE AUSTRIAN RULING CONSERVATIVE PARTY SAID.

THE RESOLUTION STRESSED AUSTRIA'S ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY AND SAID: "BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE FOLLOW THE CZECHOSLOVAK EVOLUTION WITH LESS INTEREST. IN THIS MOMENT, DIFFERENT IDEOLOGY CANNOT PREVENT SOLIDARITY", THE RESOLUTION CONCLUDED.

"UNLIMITED SOLIDARITY WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK STRUGGLE AGAINST SOVIET IMPERIALISTIC AGGRESSORS," WAS STRESSED IN AN APPEAL ISSUED BY THE AUSTRIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ORGANIZATION "AKTION".

THE "AKTION" APPEALED TO THE AUSTRIAN POPULATION TO "EXTEND HELP TO NEIGHBOURS IN DISTRESS."