

X/13 CS - FRENCH UNIONS STAGE PRO-PRAGUE DEMONSTRATION  
PARIS AUG. 23 (RFE SPECIAL/AFP-OVADIA) --- TWO OF FRANCES  
THREE BIGGEST LABOUR UNIONS TONIGHT CALLED FOR A "SILENT AND  
DIGNIFIED" DEMONSTRATION, MONDAY, IN SUPPORT OF THE WORKERS  
AND THE PEOPLE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE DEMOCRATIC LABOUR FEDERATION, CFTD, CALLED UPON ITS  
ONE MILLION MEMBERS TO STOP WORK FOR FIVE MINUTES BEFORE NOON.  
THE UNION SAID IT WAS "ANGUISHED  
BY THE PURSUIT OF THE MILITARY AGGRESSION OF THE USSR AND  
ITS ALLIES AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA."

THE SOCIALIST FORCE OUVRIERE, (FO) ALSO CLAIMING A MEMBERSHIP  
OF ABOUT ONE MILLION FRENCH WORKERS, HAS ASKED FOR A SIMILAR  
WORK STOPPAGE MONDAY.

THE CGT ISSUED A STATEMENT TONIGHT DISSOCIATING ITSELF  
FROM THE INITIATIVE TAKEN BY THE TWO OTHER UNIONS AND SAYING  
IIT WAS "INOPPORTUNE AND OF A NATURE TO CREATE CONFUSION"  
WHICH COULD BE EXPLOITED BY "FASCISTS, REACTIONARIES AND  
PRO-IMPERIALISTS".

HE CGT HAS PREVIOUSLY "DEPLORED" THE SOVIET INTERVENTION  
IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE CFTD, WHICH ADOPTED AN ATTITUDE TO THE  
LEFT OF THE CGT DURING LAST SPRINGS STRIKES IN FRANCE, TODAY  
ALSO APPEALED TO ALL INTERNATIONAL WORKERS UNIONS TO INTERVENE  
ON BEHALF OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE UNION DECLARED ITSELF READY TO JOIN WITH ANY OTHER  
LEFTIST GROUP FOR THE CREATION OF A "POWERFUL SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT  
IN SUPPORT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE".

THE FO DECLARED IN A COMMUNIQUE THE WORKERS WILL THUS  
"CONDEMN THE ACTION BY THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF RUSSIA,  
POLAND, BULGARIA AND EAST GERMANY AND AFFIRM THEIR SOLIDARITY  
WITH THE WORKERS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA STRUGGLING TO RECOVER THEIR FREEDOM

LIKE THE CFTD, FO ASKS THE WORKERS TO REMAIN IN PLACE  
DURING THE FIVE MINUTES AND TO LEND THE DEMONSTRATION A SILENT  
AND DIGNIFIED CHARACTER. MA/E 2026/68