

X/4 C/S - 2100 INTRO: SVOBODA'S MOSCOW VISIT

MUNICH, AUG 23 (CMD)- CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA BEGAN TALKS TODAY IN MOSCOW WITH KREMLIN LEADERS IN "A FRANK COMRADELY ATMOSPHERE," ACCORDING TO THE SOVIET NEWS AGENCY TASS.

THE TALKS, TASS SAID IN A BRIEF REPORT TONIGHT, WILL BE CONTINUED TOMORROW, THOUGH BEFORE LEAVING PRAGUE SVOBODA HAD SAID HE EXPECTED TO RETURN TONIGHT.

BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FROM PRAGUE THE PRESIDENT SAID HE WOULD MEET WITH THE "HIGHEST REPRESENTATIVES" OF THE KREMLIN AS SOVIET TROOPS CONTINUED TO OCCUPY HIS COUNTRY.

RADIO FREE PRAGUE QUOTED THE PRESIDENT AS SAYING BEFORE LEAVING THAT THE CONDITION FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE NORMAL ACTIVITY OF THE GOVERNMENT AND NORMALIZATION OF ACTIVITY IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS THE RELEASE OF ALL INTERNED OFFICIALS.

GENERAL SVOBODA WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING AT A CABINET MEETING THAT HE WAS GOING TO MOSCOW BECAUSE HE HAD FAILED TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL IN PRAGUE.

A CZECHOSLOVAK FREE RADIO, CALLING ITSELF "LEGAL TRANSMITTER AT THE DANUBE," SAID TONIGHT THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD MADE A STOP-OVER IN BRATISLAVA EN ROUTE TO MOSCOW.

THE STATION SAID THAT GENERAL SVOBODA HAD DURING THE STOPOVER ASSURED THE THE SLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY PRESIDUM HE WOULD DO ALL POSSIBLE FOR "THE NORMALIZATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY AND GOVERNMENT BODIES, WHICH WERE ELECTED IN A CONSTITUTIONAL WAY, AND WHICH HAVE THE FULL CONFIDENCE OF OUR PEOPLE."

BG/CR/E 2105/68 (MORE)

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