

CN 294

C/S - 1ST ADD 2100 INTRO: SVOBODA'S MOSCOW VISIT (CN 292) XXX

PEOPLE

IN ANOTHER COMMENT ON THE VISIT TO MOSCOW, CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER JIRI HAJEK SAID TODAY THE GENERAL HAD GONE TO MOSCOW TO TRY TO "CLARIFY THE TRAGIC SITUATION."

SPEAKING IN BRUSSELS AS HE FLEW TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK, MR HAJEK SAID OF GENERAL VOBODA'S TRIP TO MOSCOW:

"I BELIEVE THAT THIS MISSION COULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF CLARIFYING THE TRAGIC SITUATION WHICH HAS DEVELOPED IN OUR COUNTRY AND FIND A SOLUTION BECAUSE A POLITICAL SOLUTION IS NECESSARY."

MR HAJEK CALLED THE PRESIDENT A "VERY COURAGEOUS AND A VERY HONEST MAN" AND SAID HE THOUGHT GENERAL SVOBODA HAD "ESTABLISHED THE NECESSITY OF MEETING (SOVIET) POLITICAL AUTHORITIES AFTER HE MET THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES OF THE FIVE POWERS" OCCUPYING PRAGUE.

RADIO BRNO QUOTED TONIGHT WRITER JAN TREFULKA AS SAYING THAT TWO MEMBERS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION ACCOMPANYING GENERAL SVOBODA WERE NO RPT NO LONGER CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

MR. TREFULKA, A DELEGATE TO THE SPECIAL 14TH CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS, WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE CONGRESS HAD NOT RPT NOT ELECTED TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE SLOVAK PARTY LEADER VASIL BILAK AND FORMER CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY ALIS INDRA.

IN CONTRAST TO CONTINUED DIATRIBES AGAINST THE NEW PRAGUE LEADERS IN THE SOVIET PRESS, GENERAL SVOBODA RECEIVED A FRIENDLY WELCOME IN MOSCOW, UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL TODAY.

(MORE)

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