

X/4 C/S -- 14TH CONGRESS VIOLATION OF CS PARTY RULES, TASS SAYS

MOSCOW, AUGUST 23 (CMD)-- TASS TODAY CHARGED THAT THE HOLDING OF THE EXTRAORDINARY 14TH CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS YESTERDAY HAD BEEN IN "VIOLATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA."

THE TASS "ANNOUNCEMENT" OPENED WITH A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW OF CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT LUDVÍK SVOBODA.

THE NEWS AGENCY PRAISED GENERAL SVOBODA, "DISTINGUISHED GUEST FROM A FRATERNAL SOCIALIST COUNTRY," AS

"AN OUTSTANDING STATESMAN AND MILITARY LEADER WHO MADE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE JOINT STRUGGLE AGAINST A COMMON ENEMY-- GERMAN FASCISM."

IT THEN SAID REGARDING THE CONGRESS THAT IT HAD BEEN "CONVENED WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE."

IT ALSO SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN "NO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF SLOVAKIA" AT THE CONGRESS, AND THAT "COMMUNIST WORKERS", AS WELL AS "ARMY COMMUNISTS WERE ABSENT."

THE NEWS AGENCY ALSO CHARGED THAT DELEGATE CREDENTIALS HAD NOT BEEN CHECKED AND THAT THE DECISION ADOPTED AT THE CONGRESS, "WHICH WAS PREPARED IN ADVANCE, AIMED AT ISOLATING CZECHOSLOVAKIA FROM THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY AND AT FANNING HOSTILITY TO FRATERNAL COUNTRIES AND THEIR ARMED FORCES."

(CMD-- THE CONGRESS CALLED FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN WARSAW PACT TROOPS AND FOR A GENERAL STRIKE TODAY. IT ALSO ELECTED A NEW PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND PRESIDUM, WHILE CONFIRMING ALEXANDER DUBCEK IN HIS ROLE AS PARTY FIRST SECRETARY.)

(MORE) JM/ O /RT 2222/68 /N