

CN 315

X/13 C/S - SHORTER ITEMS

C/S MAJOR RETURNS SOVIET MEDALS

LONDON, AUG 23 (UPI)--A FORMER CZECHOSLOVAK TANK COMMANDER HEAVILY DECORATED BY THE SOVIET UNION FOR BRAVERY DURING WORLD WAR II TODAY RETURNED HIS MEDALS "WITH DISGUST" AS A PROTEST AGAINST SOVIET INVASION OF HIS COUNTRY."

MAJ. JOSEF BURSİK, A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF CZECHOSLOVAK LEGIONAIRES IN EXILE, MADE HIS PRONOUNCEMENT IN A LETTER TO THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN LONDON.

BURSİK WAS MADE A HERO OF THE SOVIET UNION, AN HONOR HE SHARES WITH PRESIDENT LUDVİK SVOBODA, FOLLOWING HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE 1943 BATTLE FOR KIEV.

HE ALSO HOLDS THE ORDER OF LENIN, THE MILITARY ORDER OF SUVOROV, THE GOLD AND RED STAR, AND 34 OTHER DECORATIONS, INCLUDING FIVE CZECHOSLOVAK WAR CROSSES.

SECRETARY GENERAL OF GAULLIST PARTY SENDS TELEGRAM

PARIS AUG 23 (RFE SPECIAL)/AFP) - - - THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE GAULLIST PARTY, MR. ROBERT POULADE, SENT TO AMBASSADOR VILEM PITHART OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN PARIS THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM

"DEEPLY MOVED BY RECENT EVENTS, I SEND TO YOUR EXCELLENCY MY SYMPATHY FOR THE CZECHOSLOVAK NATION, MY WISHES FOR THE RESPECT OF ITS INDEPENDENCE AND ITS LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS THAT HAVE ENTERED YOUR SOIL."

IRAQ URGES SOVIET WITHDRAWAL

BAGHDAD, AUG 23 REUTER - PRESIDENT AHMED HASSAN AL-BAKR OF IRAQ HAS EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WARSAW PACT FORCES WILL WITHDRAW FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL KEEP TO THE SOCIALIST LINE, IT WAS ANNOUNCED HERE TODAY.

HE EXPRESSED HIS VIEW WHEN HE RECEIVED THE SOVIET CHARGE D'AFFAIRES EARLY ON WEDNESDAY MORNING AT THE REQUEST OF THE SOVIET ENVOY, WHO GAVE A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE WARSAW PACT FORCES ENTRY INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

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