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C/S - MRS GANDHI SHOUTED DOWN IN PARLIAMENT (RELEADS CN 182)

NEW DELHI, AUG. 23, REUTER - INDIA'S PRIME MINISTER MRS. INDIRA GANDHI WAS SHOUTED DOWN IN PARLIAMENT TODAY WITH CRIES OF "SHAME" BECAUSE OF THE INDIAN ABSTENTION ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE LOWER HOUSE WAS IN UPROAR FOR TWO HOURS AS ANGRY OPPOSITION MEMBERS^{ERS} CALLED ON THE GOVERNMENT TO JOIN OTHER NATIONS IN CONDEMNING THE SOVIET UNION FOR AGGRESSION.

MRS. GANDHI THREATENED TO WALK OUT OF THE LOWER HOUSE AND RETURN TO THE UPPER HOUSE, WHERE DURING A SECOND ANGRY BUT CALMER DEBATE SOME OPPOSITION MEMBERS LEFT THE CHAMBER TO SHOW THEIR OUTRAGE.

WHEN MRS. GANDHI WAS ABLE TO MAKE HERSELF HEARD SHE TOLD THE HOUSE: "WE ARE AVERSE TO ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT LOOK LIKE AN EMPTY GESTURE, AN EXERCISE IN PROPAGANDA, OR ADD TO THE DIFFICULTIES OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA."

THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS WERE DIRECTED TOWARDS CREATION OF AN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ENSURE OBSERVANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, SHE SAID.

MRS. GANDHI ADDED: "TO CONDEMN OR NOT TO CONDEMN IS NOT THE QUESTION. WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT IS TO SECURE THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND TO SEE THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE CZECH PEOPLE RESTORED."

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