

CN 25

C/S -- 4TH ADD COUNCIL MEETS (CN 22) XXX TAKE

UNITED STATES DELEGATE GEORGE BALL SAID THE SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD DO NOTHING TO INTERFERE WITH THE COURSE OF TALKS WHICH WERE REPORTED TO BE GOING ON NOW BETWEEN "SOME REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA" AND THE SOVIET UNION.

NOTHING SHOULD BE DONE WHILE THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT AGREEMENT MIGHT YET BE REACHED BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERS AND THE SOVIET UNION, AND WHILE THE SOVIET UNION -- FACED WITH "A VERY OVERWHELMING EXPRESSION OF WORLD PUBLIC OPINION" -- MIGHT YET HAVE SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT ITS ACTION.

THERE WAS NO CERTAINTY THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN, SAID BALL -- "THE PROGNOSIS BASED ON EXPERIENCE IS NOT VERY ENCOURAGING."

MEANWHILE, SAID BALL, "WE MUST FEEL A DEEP AND HONEST CONCERN FOR THE BRAVE MEN WHO, IN THE ADVANCE OF FREEDOM AND THEIR COUNTRY'S HONOUR, ARE DEFYING THE TANKS AND THE TROOPS..."

RT/BG/U

AUG 24

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