

CN 80****

U.N. - HAJEK MEETS THANT (W/CN 67, 60)

UNITED NATIONS, AUG. 24, REUTER - THE CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER, DR. JIRI HAJEK, HAD AN HOUR-LONG MEETING WITH SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT HERE SHORTLY AFTER FLYING IN OVERNIGHT TO STATE HIS COUNTRYS CASE IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AGAINST SOVIET OCCUPATION.

BUT DR. HAJEK HELD OFF ASKING THE COUNCIL TO HEAR HIM, TELLING REPORTERS THAT HE HAD NOT MADE UP HIS MIND WHETHER TO SPEAK YET AS HE WAS WAITING FOR "WORD FROM MY COUNTRY" AND ALSO FROM MOSCOW.

CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA IS AT PRESENT HAVING DISCUSSIONS WITH KREMLIN OFFICIALS IN THE SOVIET CAPITAL IN A BID TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS CREATED BY THE INVASION OF HIS COUNTRY BY SOVIET AND OTHER WARSAW PACT TROOPS.

A HEAVY SECURITY GUARD SURROUNDED HAJEK AS HE SPOKE WITH REPORTERS AFTER EMERGING FROM HIS TALKS WITH U THANT.

(MORE) RF/LA 0550/68 ^B 42