

CN 124

X/13 CS - PRAGUE TRAMS RUN AGAIN

(ATTRIBUTION TO NEWSPAPER: SVOBODA" REQUIRED ON CRITICISM OF
PILLER.)

PRAGUE, AUGUST 24 (DPA/GND)- THE PEOPLE OF PRAGUE WERE PARTLY
ABLE TO GO TO WORK TODAY BY TRAM.

REPAIRS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT ON THE OVERHEAD LINES AND
SOME ROUTES ARE RUNNING AGAIN.

AROUND THE MAIN RAILWAY STATION AND THE HOTEL ESPLANADE THIS
MORNING, ABOUT 25 TANKS AND OTHER TRACKED VEHICLES KEPT WATCH. THE
NEXT SOVIET TANK WAS CONCEALED BEHIND BUSHES IN A PARK.

OTHERS STILL BLOCKED OPLETALOVA STREET WHERE THE OFFICIAL
NEWS AGENCY CETEKA HAS ITS HEADQUARTERS.

EVERYWHERE -- ON WALLS, PARKED CARS, MONUMENTS -- WERE
PLACARDS DEMANDING THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET TROOPS. ON THE
STATUE OF KING WENCESLAS IN WENCESLAS SQUARE, IN ADDITION TO
THE ANTI-SOVIET SLOGANS, THERE WERE PHOTOGRAPHS OF PRESIDENT
SVOBODA, PARTY CHIEF DUBCEK AND PREMIER CERNIK, BEDECKED WITH
FLOWERS.

IN PRAGUE AND OTHER CITIES STREET NAMES AND HOUSE NUMBERS
DIAPPEARED OVERNIGHT TO BE REPLACED BY SIGNS LETTERED "DUBCEK",
"KRIEGEL", "SMRKOVSKY", "CISAR" AND "SVOBODA". IN THE COUNTRYSIDE AND
IN PRAGUE ITSELF DIRECTION SIGNS FOR LONG-DISTANCE TRAFFIC
HAVE BEEN REMOVED AND REPLACED BY NEW ONES SAYING "DIRECTION
MOSCOW", "DIRECTION BUDAPEST", "DIRECTION WARSAW" AND "DIRECTION
BERLIN".

SOME NEWSPAPERS APPEARED ON THE STREETS. SVOBODA, A CENTRAL CZECH
REGIONAL PAPER, CARRIED AN ARTICLE UNDER THE HEADING "SHOULD
WE TRUST PILLER?"

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