

CN 146

C/S - SOVIET LEAFLETS BURNED

PRAGUE, AUG 24 (REUTER/DPA/UPI) - A RUSSIAN HELICOPTER FLEW OVER WENCESLAS SQUARE TODAY AND DROPPED LEAFLETS ON THE CROWDS BENEATH.

YOUTHS RAN THROUGH THE SQUARE, SNATCHING THE LEAFLETS FROM PEOPLES HANDS AND TEARING THEM INTO PIECES.

THEN A FIRE STARTED IN FRONT OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AT THE TOP OF THE SQUARE.

THE YOUTHS HURLED THE LEAFLETS ONTO THE FIRE AND BURNED THEM.

THE LEAFLETS HAD CARRIED THE TEXT OF A PROCLAMATION TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE ISSUED YESTERDAY BY THE FIVE WARSAW PACT POWERS WHICH INVADED CZECHOSLOVAKIA LATE ON TUESDAY NIGHT.

(REUTER) MANY PEOPLE IN PRAGUE WEAR IN THEIR LAPELS OR ON THEIR DRESSES THE CZECHOSLOVAK RED, WHITE, AND BLUE TRICOLOUR - OFTEN WITH A BLACK BAR ACROSS IT - OR LITTLE PAPER FLAGS BEARING SUCH SLOGANS IN CZECH, RUSSIAN, AND ENGLISH AS "IVAN GO HOME."

FEW PEOPLE SEEM TO BE AT WORK IN PRAGUE TODAY. FOOD STORES ARE SOME OF THE FEW SHOPS OPEN, AND THERE ARE LONG QUEUES OUTSIDE THEM.

BMCG/HE 1101 1310/68 4B