

CN 233

X/13 - C/S - FREE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION TO CONTINUE (W/CN 226)

VIENNA, AUG 24 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- FREE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION EXPECTS TO BE ON THE AIR WITH PICTURE AND SOUND EVERY FULL HOUR FOR 20 MINUTES, PRAGUE TELEVISION STUDIO ANNOUNCED IN ITS BROADCAST AT 1600 HOURS TODAY.

THE 20-MINUTE PROGRAM OPENED WITH SHARP CRITICISM OF A TELEVISION BROADCAST ON CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION CHANNEL NUMBER ONE, WHICH WAS CALLED BY THE ANNOUNCER "THE TELEVISION OF OCCUPANTS AND COLLABORATORS."

ACCORDING TO THE DESCRIPTION GIVEN BY THE ANNOUNCER OF THE "FREE PRAGUE STUDIO", THE SHORT TRANSMISSION ON CHANNEL NUMBER ONE HAD SHOWN ONLY A PICTURE OF THE ST. NICHOLAS CATHEDRAL IN PRAGUE WHILE THREE MALE VOICES WERE READING COMMENTARIES JUSTIFYING THE OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND ACCUSING THE FREE CZECHOSLOVAK RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS OF "INCITING THE POPULATION."

AFTER THE POLEMICS WITH THE OCCUPATIONAL FORCES TELEVISION BROADCAST, OTOKAR NOVY, A DELEGATE TO THE 14TH CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS, TALKED ABOUT "THE ADMIRABLE SPIRIT OF THE NATION" HE HAD NOTICED DURING A TRIP THROUGH SOUTHERN MORAVIA AND BOHEMIA.

CONCLUDING, THE FREE PRAGUE TELEVISION ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL COME BACK WITH PICTURE AND SOUND AT 1700 ON THE CHANNELS SIX, EIGHT, NINE, TEN AND 12.

JON/U/CR 1943/68 *KB*