

CN 278

X/13 BRIT--ANTI-SOVIET DEMONSTRATION IN EDINBURGH

LONDON AUG 24 (RFE SPECIAL/KW)- PRO-CZECHOSLOVAK DEMONSTRATORS STAGED A PROTEST OUTSIDE A CONCERT HALL IN THE SCOTTISH CAPITAL, EDINBURGH, TONIGHT WHERE THE SOVIET STATE ORCHESTRA WAS ABOUT TO GIVE A PERFORMANCE AS PART OF THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL.

CONCERT-GOERS FACED A BARRAGE OF SHOUTING AND BOOING BY ABOUT 1,000 PLACARD-WAVING STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE PROTESTING THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES.

POLICE SEALED OFF STREETS LEADING TO THE CONCERT HALL BUT THE DEMONSTRATORS MANAGED TO FORCE THEIR WAY UP TO THE DOORS OF THE HALL BEFORE THEY WERE STOPPED.

LATER A SMALL DELEGATION HANDED A PROTEST LETTER TO THE ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR, GEORGI ANDREVSKI.

JON/U /RT 2247/68/3