

X/13 C/S -- TOP ARTISTS TO CUT CONTACTS WITH CS OCCUPIERS

MUNICH, AUG 24 (DPA/GND)-- NUMEROUS LEADING ARTISTS OF THE NON-COMMUNIST WORLD TODAY SIGNED A DECLARATION CONDEMNING THE OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY FIVE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES AND STATING THAT THEY WILL CUT ALL CONTACTS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, POLAND, HUNGARY, BULGARIA AND EAST GERMANY AS LONG AS THE OCCUPATION LASTS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BAVARIAN STATE RADIO SAID TODAY.

RAFAEL KUBELIK, WHO INITIATED THE PROTEST ACTION, IS THE CHIEF CONDUCTOR OF THE SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRA OF THE BAVARIAN STATE RADIO.

AMONG THE 28 SIGNATORIES ARE ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN, ISAAC STERN, SIR WILLIAM WALTON, GEORG SOLTI, NIKITA MAGALOFF, JAQUELINE DU PRE, FRIEDRICH GULDA, OTTO KLEMPERER, WOLFGANG FORTNER, CLAUDIO ARRAU, PIERRE FOURNIER, ENRICO MAINARDI, YEHUDI MENUHIN, NATHAN MILSTEIN FRITZ RIEGER AND KUBELIK.

THE DECLARATION OF THE ARTISTS SAYS: "THE OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY FIVE COUNTRIES OF THE WARSAW PACT IS IN STRICT CONFLICT WITH THE CONCEPTION OF HUMANITY WHICH WE ARTISTS HAVE. AS LONG AS THE OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS LASTING AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LEGAL GOVERNMENT IN PRAGUE HAS NOT RPT NOT REESTABLISHED WE CAN NOT RPT NOT CONTINUE OUR CULTURAL CONTACTS WITH THESE FIVE COUNTRIES AND WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA."

HWG/U 2350/68  
/RT