

CN 2

X/4 C/S - TEXT OF SVOBODA MESSAGE (W/ CN 299)

MUNICH, AUGUST 25 (CMD)- RADIO "FREE" CZECHOSLOVAKIA ONE SAID  
AT 2243 HOURS M.T. LAST NIGHT:

"WE HAVE, DEAR FRIENDS, A PLEASANT REPORT FOR YOU."

"HERE IS A MESSAGE WHICH OUR GOVERNMENT RECEIVED FROM  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC: "(FOLLOWS FULL SVOBODA'S MESSAGE-CMD):

"DEAR FELLOW CITIZENS AT HOME IN OUR COUNTRY,  
FIRST, ACCEPT, ALL OF YOU, SINCERE GREETING FROM ALL THE COMRADES WHO  
ARE ACCOMPANYING ME."

"BEFORE I LEFT, I TOLD YOU THAT I INTENDED TO RETURN  
STILL ON THAT EVENING, AND WOULD REPORT TO YOU ON THE RESULTS OF  
THE TALKS. BELIEVE, I WOULD NOT RPT NOT STAY A SINGLE MINUTE LONGER  
IN THESE DIFFICULT MOMENTS, IF IT WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE IN THE  
INTEREST OF OUR SOCIALIST REPUBLIC AND OF ALL OUR PEOPLE WHICH  
URGENTLY REQUIRES IT."

"AND JUST BECAUSE OUR RETURN HOME HAS BEEN DELAYED, AND BECAUSE I  
FEEL THE NEED TO MEET YOU AT LEAST AT DISTANCE, I ADDRESS YOU THIS WAY."

"AT ONCE AFTER OUR ARRIVAL IN KREMLIN, WE STARTED  
NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE LEADING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOVIET UNION.  
WE CONSIDERED IT NECESSARY THAT IN OUR TALKS SHOULD ALSO PARTICIPATE  
THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK  
COMMUNIST PARTY, COMRADE DUBCEK, PREMIER OLDRICH CERNIK, AND THE CHAIRMAN  
OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMRADE (JOSEF) SMRKOVSKY."

"I CAN ANNOUNCE TO YOU NOW THAT THESE COMRADES ARE  
ALREADY PARTICIPATING WITH US IN PREPARATIONS FOR FURTHER  
TALKS, AND THAT IS THE REASON WHY WE HAVE PROLONGED OUR STAY IN MOSCOW."

"I CONTINUOUSLY THINK ABOUT YOU AT HOME, DEAR FRIENDS,  
AND I ASSURE YOU THAT THE INTERESTS OF OUR FATHERLAND, THE INTERESTS  
OF SOCIALISM AND PROGRESS, THE INTERESTS OF ALL, WORKERS,  
FARMERS, THE INTERLIGENSIA, DETERMINE OUR ENTIRE TALKS."

"I AGAIN ADDRESS YOU, DEAR FELLOW CITIZENS, ON MY BEHALF,  
AND ALSO ON BEHALF OF COMRADES DUBCEK, CERNIK AND SMRKOVSKY AND  
ALSO OF THE OTHERS HERE PRESENT WITH A REQUEST FOR CALM,  
MODERATION AND CONFIDENCE."

"DO YOUR WORK RESPONSIBLY IN THE FACTORIES, ON THE FIELDS AND AT  
ALL OTHER PLACES OF WORK."

"SUCH A CONSCIOUS ATTITUDE OF YOURS WILL BE THE BEST  
SUPPORT OF OUR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS."

SIGNED "PRESIDENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC LUDVIK  
SVOBODA."

(RADIO FREE CZECHOSLOVAKIA ONE DOMESTIC, M, AUG 24, 2243)

JH/JM/E 0017/68