

X/13 - TEN THOUSAND DEMONSTRATE IN MUNICH

MUNICH, AUG 25 (GND/MACDONALD) -- SOME TEN THOUSAND PEOPLE DEMONSTRATED LAST NIGHT FOR THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF WARSAW PACT OCCUPATION TROOPS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE MASS RALLY IN MUNICH'S KOENIGSPLATZ WAS SUPPORTED BY THE MAIN POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE TRADE UNIONS. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES COVERING A WIDE RANGE OF THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM FROM THE CHRISTIAN SOCIAL UNION ON THE RIGHT TO THE EXTRA PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION ON THE LEFT.

AMONG THEM WERE SOME CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS STRANDED IN WEST GERMANY. ONE CZECHOSLOVAK STUDENT CARRIED A HOME MADE PLACARD WHICH READ: 'DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM EQUAL DUBCEK - NEVER AGAIN LISTEN TO A COLLABORATIONIST REGIME'.

DR. GUENTER MUELLER, A SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC BUNDESTAG DEPUTY, TOLD THE GROUP THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAD TAKEN UP THE TRADITION OF "CZARIST IMPERIALISM".

"WE EUROPEANS WHO HAVE A FREEDOM MUST DRAW CLOSER TOGETHER," HE SAID, CALLING FOR MORE POLITICAL INTEGRATION IN WEST EUROPE.

DR. MUELLER CONCLUDED WITH THIS MESSAGE TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE: "THE TRUTH WILL WIN. FREEDOM CAN NOT RPT NOT BE DEFEATED."

PRINCE CONSTANTIN OF BAVARIA, A CSU BUNDESTAG DEPUTY, TOLD THE GATHERING HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM THE WEST GERMAN-CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER.

HE SAID HE HAD SEEN HOW THE GERMAN TOURISTS HAD COME OVER FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND HOW CZECHS AND SLOVAKS WHO HAD BEEN ON HOLIDAY IN THE WEST, WERE RETURNING TO THEIR FAMILIES AND WORK AT HOME.

"BETWEEN THESE PEOPLE THERE WAS ONLY A SPIRIT OF BROTHERHOOD AND OF UNDERSTANDING," HE DECLARED.

(MORE) TB/LA 0140/68 AUG 25

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