

X/13 CURT - MORNING INTRO - FREE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION GOES AHEAD

VIENNA, AUG 25 (RFE/SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- BROADCASTING ON CZECHOSLOVAK HOME CHANNELS NUMBER SIX, EIGHT, TEN AND TWELVE AND WELL RECEIVED IN VIENNA- THE CZECHOSLOVAK "FREE TELEVISION -STUDIO PRAGUE" WAS ON THE AIR THIRTEEN TIMES ON SATURDAY.

AFTER HAVING OPENED ITS BROADCASTS AT 1000 (MT), THE STATION CALLING ITSELF "THE FREE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION - A STATION OF THE LEGAL CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT", WAS ON THE AIR EVERY FULL HOUR FOR 20 MINUTES WITH PICTURE AND SOUND.

BROADCASTING FROM AN OBVIOUSLY IMPROVISED STUDIO, THE STATION PRESENTED ITS LISTENERS WITH A VARIETY OF INTERVIEWS SHOWING AMONG OTHERS CZECHOSLOVAK WRITERS UNION VICE-CHAIRMAN JAN PROCHAZKA, CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY COLONEL AND POPULAR SPORTSMAN EMIL ZATOPEK, PRODUCER KAREL KACHYNA, ARCHITECT OTOKAR NOVY, ACTRESS JIRINA PROCHAZKOVA AND WRITER MILOSLAV STEHLIK.

WITH A BARE WHITE WALL AS BACKGROUND -THE ONLY DECORATION BEING A FRAMED PICTURE OF CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA- THE FURNITURE IN THE ROOM CONSISTED OF A SIMPLE WOODEN DESK WITH MICROPHONE AND TWO WOODEN CHAIRS. ANNOUNCER-INTERVIEWER AND THE INTERVIEWEE HAD TO SIT CLOSE TOGETHER BEHIND THE DESK FACING THE CAMERA.

THE ANNOUNCERS, WORKING IN SHIFTS, WERE RECOGNIZED AS STAFF MEMBERS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION WHICH CEASED BROADCASTING ON WEDNESDAY.

ACCORDING TO THE ANNOUNCER IN THE 2200 BROADCAST, LOCAL TELEVISION CIRCUITS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED ON SATURDAY ALSO IN NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN BOHEMIA.

IN THE 1900 HOURS TELEVISION BROADCAST, CZECHOSLOVAK WRITERS UNION VICE-CHAIRMAN PROCHAZKA READ AN APPEAL ISSUED BY THE UNION AND ADDRESSED "TO THE PEOPLE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND TO THE WORLD."

THE CZECHOSLOVAK WRITERS UNION APPEALS TO THE WORLD TO SUPPORT CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND TO PROTEST AGAINST THE OCCUPATION OF THE COUNTRY.

COUNTRIES WHICH DISAGREE WITH THE SOVIET MILITARY INTERVENTION SHOULD DISCONTINUE CULTURAL CONTACTS WITH THE OCCUPYING POWERS AND STOP PERFORMANCES OF THEATRICAL PLAYS AND FILMS ORIGINATING IN COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE APPEAL DEMANDED.

ACCORDING TO PROCHAZKA, THE PREMISES OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK WRITERS UNION HAD BEEN ONE OF THE FIRST OBJECTIVES TAKEN OVER IN PRAGUE BY SOVIET TROOPS ON WEDNESDAY.

BEFORE SIGNING OFF FOR SATURDAY AT 2200 HOURS, THE FREE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL BE BACK ON THE AIR ON SUNDAY FROM 1200 TO 2200 HOURS.

ACCORDING TO THE PRAGUE STUDIO ANNOUNCER, THERE IS ANOTHER TELEVISION STATION OPERATING IN PRAGUE ON TV CHANNEL NUMBER ONE.

THIS STATION WAS DESCRIBED BY THE ANNOUNCER AS "THE TELEVISION STATION SET UP BY SOVIET OCCUPATION FORCES AND COLLABORATORS". IT SHOWS ONLY PHOTOGRAPHS WHILE COMMENTS ARE BEING READ BY UNIDENTIFIED ANNOUNCERS.

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