

CN 41

X/4 C/ S - BORUVKA SAYS CS WILL BILL FOR DAMAGES (W/ CN 34)

MUNICH, AUGUST 25 (CMD)- CZECHOSLOVAK MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE JOSEF BORUVKA HAS SAID THAT "CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL BILL THE OCCUPYING POWERS FOR THE DAMAGE TO THE NATIONAL ECONOMY, REPORTED FREE RADIO CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

BORUVKA MADE THE COMMENT IN AN INTERVIEW YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND ADDED THAT SUCH A PROCEDURE "IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW," ACCORDING TO A RECORDING OF THE INTERVIEW BROADCAST LAST NIGHT.

HE NOTED THAT ACCORDING TO THE PRAGUE EVENING NEWSPAPER VERCINI PRAHA THE LOSS AMOUNTED TO ABOUT 65 MILLION CROWNS A DAY.

BORUVKA ALSO SAID THAT EVEN IF ALL WENT WELL AT THE MOSCOW NEGOTIATIONS NORMALIZATION OF THE SITUATION WOULD TAKE TIME.

HE SAID: "ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS THERE ARE SUPPOSED TO BE 200,000 MEN HERE; THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF TANKS HERE. EVEN IF ALL GOES WELL THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE ARMIES AND THE NORMALIZATION OF CONDITIONS HERE WILL TAKE SOME TIME."

BORUVKA SAID THAT HE KNEW NOTHING OF THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN MOSCOW.

WHEN ASKED WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS THE REASON FOR THE PROLONGATION OF THE TALKS IN MOSCOW, HE SAID: "PERHAPS IT IS A GOOD SIGN. IF THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES, AS OCCUPIERS OF OUR COUNTRY, WERE CONVINCED OF THEIR TRUTH THEY WOULD HARDLY TALK WITH US FOR MORE THAN HALF AN HOUR, AND THAT WOULD BE THAT.

"NOT ONLY IS OUR TRUTH APPARENT, BUT THE WRATH OF THE WHOLE WORLD HAS RISEN UP AGAINST THEIR OCCUPATION OF OUR COUNTRY, AND AFTER ALL THIS IS A TREMENDOUS FORCE WHICH NOBODY CAN OVERLOOK TODAY . TODAY WORLD OPINION IS SUCH A SERIOUS MATTER THAT NO BIG POWER CAN IGNORE IT, AND IT MUST TAKE NOTE OF IT."

(RADIO CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN CZECH/F, 2143, AUG 24, 68)

RE/RF/E 0640/68 TB