

C/S - PITHART SATISFIED ON STAND OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT, CP

PARIS, AUG 25 (UPI) - WILEM PITHART, CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, TODAY EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION AT THE STAND TAKEN BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT AND THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY ON THE OCCUPATION OF HIS COUNTRY.

HOWEVER HE CALLED ON THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY, THE SECOND LARGEST IN EUROPE AFTER THE ITALIANS, TO GO FURTHER AND SUPPORT "THE THREE ESSENTIAL DEMANDS" OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT - THE LIBERATION OF ALL ARRESTED LEADERS, THE UNCONDITIONAL WITHDRAWAL OF ALL OCCUPATION TROOPS AND THE NORMALIZATION OF THE FUNCTIONS OF CONSTITUTED BODIES AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

"I UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY THE POSITION OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT," PITHART TOLD NEWSMEN, "IT IS MORE THAN ENCOURAGING FOR US SINCE IT FOLLOWS OUR DEMANDS, ABOVE ALL CONCERNING THE END OF THE MILITARY OCCUPATION OF OUR COUNTRY."

ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE STAND OF THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY PITHART SAID THAT WHAT HE REMEMBERED WAS THAT THE PARTY "HAS DISAPPROVED THE SOVIET INTERVENTION. THAT IS THE IMPORTANT THING."

PITHART SAID HE CONSIDERED THE BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAK AND RUSSIAN LEADERS IN MOSCOW "A GOOD SIGN" BECAUSE DUBCEK AND HIS FELLOW REFORMERS WERE THE FREELY ELECTED LEADERS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND ENJOYED THE FULL CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE.

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