

X/13 E/W - TRAFFIC SITUATION BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

VIENNA, AUG 25 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- ON THE FIFTH DAY OF THE MILITARY OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE TRAFFIC SITUATION BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA REMAINED UNCHANGED.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA, INCLUDING LETTER MAIL, TELEGRAMS AND TELETYPE, IS STILL INTERRUPTED.

AIR TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES CAME TO AN END IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON WEDNESDAY.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON THE RAILWAYS IS HEAVILY RESTRICTED AND IRREGULAR.

ROAD TRAFFIC FLOWS ONLY FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO AUSTRIA AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER IS CLOSED FOR FOREIGN MOTORISTS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DIPLOMATS AND VEHICLES IN SPECIAL MISSION.

THE EXODUS OF FOREIGNERS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA, INCLUDING FAMILY MEMBERS OF PRAGUE FOREIGN LEGATIONS, CONTINUES:

THE CHOPIN EXPRESS WITH COACHES FROM PRAGUE, WARSAW AND MOSCOW ARRIVED IN VIENNA ON FRIDAY FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 48 HOURS, BUT THE AUSTRIAN RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION HAS NO INFORMATION WHETHER THE TRAIN WILL CONTINUE OPERATION ACCORDING TO THE NORMAL TIME-TABLE.

TELETYPE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND EAST GERMANY, POLAND AND THE SOVIET UNION IS INTERRUPTED SINCE FRIDAY SINCE THE MAIN TELETYPE CABLE GOES THROUGH CZECHOSLOVAK TERRITORY.

AUSTRIAN FLIGHTS TO OTHER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES EXCEPT HUNGARY - HAD TO BE RE-ROUTED: THE FLIGHTS TO MOSCOW OPERATE VIA YUGOSLAVIA, RUMANIA AND THE BLACK SEA. THOSE TO WARSAW VIA WESTERN GERMANY AND THE BALTIC SEA.

FREIGHT TRANSPORT ON THE DANUBE IS REPORTED BACK TO NORMAL AGAIN SINCE SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE HUNGARIAN BORDER WAS CLOSED FOR ROAD TRAFFIC AT THE BORDER CROSSING POINT KLINGENBACH-SOPRON.

FREIGHT RAILWAY TRANSPORT IS REPORTED NORMAL.

BMCG/HEKR

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