

CN 148

(ATTRIBUTION REQUIRED)

X/4 C/S - RUDE PRAVO DENIES EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS FOR NEUTRALITY

PRAGUE, AUG 25 (CMD) -- YUGOSLAVIA'S TANJUG NEWS AGENCY TODAY QUOTED RUDE PRAVO AS DENYING THAT THE EXTRAORDINARY 14TH CONGRESS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY HAD PASSED "A DECISION" ON CZECHOSLOVAK NEUTRALITY.

THE OFFICIAL YUGOSLAV NEWS AGENCY SAID THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY DAILY, QUOTING "RESPONSIBLE SOURCES", DESCRIBED SUCH A CLAIM BY THE SOVIET TASS NEWS AGENCY AS "SHEER INVENTION."

RUDE PRAVO IS ALSO QUOTED AS DENYING ACCOUNTS ACCORDING TO WHICH ITS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OLDRICH SVESTKA WAS FIRST ARRESTED BY "HOSTILE ELEMENTS" AND THEN FREED BY THE "SOVIET ARMY" LATER.

THE NEWSPAPER WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT SVESTKA HAD BEEN "QUIETLY" TAKEN FROM HIS "CABINET" BY A "HIGH-RANKING SOVIET ARMY OFFICER" ON THE FIRST DAY OF OCCUPATION, LAST WEDNESDAY.

TANJUG WENT ON TO SAY "ALSO DENIED HAS BEEN ANOTHER REPORT OF THE SOVIET NEWS AGENCY ACCORDING TO WHICH THE CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTRY ALLEGEDLY DISAPPROVES OF THE PRESENT DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE CZECHOSLOVAK QUESTION IN THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL."

(CMD -- THE TANJUG REPORT DOES NOT MAKE CLEAR WHETHER THIS LATTER DENIAL ALSO APPEARED IN RUDE PRAVO.)

(THE TEXT OF THE TANJUG REPORT FOLLOWS:

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