

CS - 1930 INTRO - CZECHOSLOVAKIAN SITUATION

MUNICH, AUG 25 (CNR)- CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE WORLD WAITED THIS EVENING FOR ANY OFFICIAL INDICATION THAT THE TALKS IN MOSCOW BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAKIAN AND SOVIET LEADERS HAD REACHED SOME CONCLUSION.

EARLIER TODAY, WESTERN NEWS MEDIA QUOTED SOURCES AND RUMOURS IN MOSCOW THAT THE LEADERS OF THE FOUR WARSAW PACT POWERS WHICH INVADED CZECHOSLOVAKIA WITH THE SOVIET UNION WERE EXPECTED IN THE SOVIET CAPITAL. A SIMILAR REPORT WAS QUOTED TONIGHT BY FREE PRAGUE RADIO.

UP TO 1900 MT, HOWEVER, THERE HAD BEEN NO RPT NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THEY WERE EXPECTED.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, RADIO MOSCOW HAD REPORTED THAT THE TALKS BETWEEN A CZECHOSLOVAKIAN DELEGATION, LED BY PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA, AND THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP, WERE CONTINUING.

ALSO TAKING PART IN THE MOSCOW TALKS, ACCORDING TO FREE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN RADIO REPORTS YESTERDAY, ARE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN PREMIER OLDRICH CERNIK, PARTY LEADER ALEXANDER DUBCEK AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN JOSEF SMRKOVSKY.

RADIO FREE DANUBE HAD REPORTED EARLY THIS MORNING THAT DUBCEK HAD SAID IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION FROM MOSCOW THAT HE MIGHT BE RETURNING TO PRAGUE TODAY.

IN PRAGUE, THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN PARLIAMENT TODAY PROTESTED AGAINST SHOOTING IN PRAGUE BY THE OCCUPATION FORCES, ACCORDING TO A FREE PRAGUE RADIO REPORT.

THE PARLIAMENT ALSO CALLED ON CZECHOSLOVAKS TO SHOW MAXIMUM RESTRAINT DURING THE MOSCOW TALKS, THE RADIO ADDED.

(MORE) JON/L 1923/68/3