

CN 181

X/4 C/S -- 1ST ADD SILHAN PRESS CONFERENCE (CN 180) XXX PRAGUE

(ATTRIBUTION REQUIRED)

SILHAN SAID THAT HE WAS CONVINCED THAT WITHOUT THE INITIATIVE FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY PARTY CONGRESS, AND WITHOUT THE GREAT POLITICAL MATURITY OF DELEGATES" THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WOULD HAVE BEEN "VERY BAD".

"I AM PERSONALLY CONVINCED THAT THE SPEEDING UP OF THE EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS WAS A LIFE-SAVER FOR THE PARTY.

SINCE THE OCCUPATION TROOPS AND ITS SECURITY ORGANS HAD DETAINED THE LEADING FORCES OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COUNTRY," SILHAN ADDED.

(RADIO BRNO, M, AUG 25, 1900)

(PRW)

DOS/PRW/U

AUG 25

2129/68/13