

CN 191

X/4 C/S -2ND ADD SILHAN PRESS CONFERENCE (CN 181) XXX ADDED

SILHAN SAID: "I PERSONALLY BELIEVE THAT IF IT WERE NOT FOR THIS INITIATIVE, IF IT WERE NOT FOR THIS GREAT POLITICAL MATURITY OF DELEGATES, REGULARLY ELECTED DELEGATES BY THE PARTY REGIONAL CONFERENCES -- THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITUATION IN OUR COUNTRY WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY BAD. THERE WOULD BE NO FORCES, NO POLITICALLY ORGANIZED FORCES, THE HOPE OF THE REST OF THE CITIZENS AND ALL

WHO WANTED TO SOLVE THE NORMAL POLITICAL SITUATION PURPOSEFULLY, TO SOLVE IT WITH HONOR AND DIGNITY... AND SIMPLY ALL THAT WHAT YOU ALONE WILL KNOW.

"PERSONALLY, I AM CONVINCED THAT THE SPEEDY CONVOCAION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS OF THE PARTY WAS A LIFE-SAVING DECISION FOR THE PARTY AS SUCH. THAT IS "THE OCCUPATION TROOPS AND THEIR SEUCIRTY ORGANS WOULD HAVE ARRESTED THE BEST FORCES OF THE PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND ITS PRESIDUM. THOSE WHO WERE LEFT HAVE BEEN REPRESENTED BY PEOPLE WHOSE POLITICAL STANDS DID NOT CRYSTALLIZE IN THE SENSE OF THE PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM AND, THESE PEOPLE MIGHT EVENTUALLY PROVE INCAPABLE OF PREVENTING THE PARTY FROM DISINTEGRATING, THEY MIGHT PROVE INCO-?)3 OF ACTIVATING IT IN THE DIRECTION OF RESISTANCE TO THE OCCUPATION, THEY MIGHT FAIL TO FIND POLITICAL SOLUTIONS THE CONGRESS OF THE PARTY PROVED CAPABLE OF FINDING."

-- AFTERWARDS, COMRADE SILHAN SPOKE OF THE TRIP TO MOSCOW OF OUR DELEGATION, HEADED BY PRESIDENT SVOBODA AND, HE STATED IN THIS CONTEXT:

"... THE TALKS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC HAVE BECOME PROTRACTED. ORIGINALLY, IT WAS EXPECTED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S CONSULTATIONS WOULD LAST ROGGHLY ONE OR ONE AND A HALF OR TWO DAYS. NOW, HOWEVER, OUR DELEGATION HAS BEEN IN MOSCOW THE THIRD DAY ALREADY AND NOBODY HAS THE CERTAINTY THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN DRAWING TO THEIR END. IF WE RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION OF THE REPORTS THAT INVITED TO MOSCOW WERE ALSO ULBRICHT, GOMULKA, ZHIVKOV AND KADAR, WE MAY EXPECT THE NEGOTIATIONS TO BECOME STILL MORE DIFFICULT AND LONGER TOO. THEY MAY BE PROTRACTED BY ONE MORE DAY.

(MORE) PRW/HI

2235/68/3