

CN 31 (ATtribution REQUIRED)

X/4 C/S - CZECHOSLOVAK DEPUTIES SLEEPING ON FLOOR

MUNICH, AUGUST 26 (CMD)- DEPUTIES TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH HAS BEEN IN CONTINUOUS SESSION SINCE LAST WEDNESDAY, ARE SLEEPING ON THE FLOOR WITH ONLY A SINGLE BLANKET TO COVER THEM, AND ARE GETTING ONLY COLD FOOD TO EAT SAID FREE RADIO CZECHOSLOVAKIA LAST NIGHT.

IN A REPORT ON THE CONDITIONS IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING, THE RADIO SAID THAT WOMEN DEPUTIES HAD TAKEN OVER THE TASKS OF PREPARING AND SERVING THE FOOD AND WASHING THE DISHES AFTERWARDS.

A WOMAN DEPUTY, IDENTIFIED AS MIKOVA, PARTICULARLY PRAISED THE FORMER MINISTER OF DEFENCE, GENERAL BOHUMIR LOMSKY "WHO ALSO SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR, AND DUE TO HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE, AND HIS AUTHORITY HAS SETTLED MANY THINGS WHICH OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE."

MIKOA SAID THE DEPUTIES HAD TO REMAIN IN THE BUILDING TO ENSURE THAT THERE WAS A CONSTITUTIONAL QUORUM FOR ANY DECISIONS WHICH MIGHT HAVE TO BE TAKEN.

THIS WAS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THE FIRST THREE DAYS WHEN THE BUILDING WAS UNDER BLOCKADE. DEPUTIES WHO LEFT THE BUILDING WERE UNABLE TO RETURN, AND THERE WAS CONCERN ABOUT MAINTAINING THE QUORUM. (RADIO CZECHOSLOVAKIA ONE DOMESTIC, M, AUGUST 25, 1725)

RE/RGS/RF/E 0415/68/13