

CN 118

X/13 CS - 2ND ADD UNITA ON CS (CN 117) XXX COUNTRY

THE MOSCOW PRESS, IN ITS REPORTING

FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA, REFLECTS THIS PROGRESSIVE AGGRAVATION OF THE TENSION, THE ALWAYS GREATER DIFFICULTIES WHICH SOVIET SOLDIERS ARE MEETING IN THEIR CONTACT WITH THE POPULATION.

"THUS, FOR EXAMPLE, COL. BORZENKO, IN PRAVDA, TALKS OF THE APPEARANCE OF 'SNIPERS', OF THE DISCOVERY OF 'ARMS' CACHES AND ALSO OF THE CONTINUAL FLOW OF QUESTIONS WHICH EACH SOVIET SOLDIER IS FINDING IT MORE DIFFICULT TO ANSWER: WHY DID YOU COME HERE?

"FINALLY THE PRAVDA EDITORIAL REFLECTS THE PREOCCUPATION SPREADING IN PUBLIC OPINION (AND WHICH SHOWED ITSELF IN GESTURES OF PROTEST SUCH AS THAT WHICH TOOK PLACE TODAY BY A GROUP OF YOUTHS IN RED SQUARE AND, ABOVE ALL, THE NEW ACTIVITY OF EACH PARTY ASSEMBLY".

WRITING FROM VIENNA, L'UNITA'S CHIEF FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT GIUSEPPE BOFFA, UNDER AUG. 25 DATE, REPORTS A DAY OF CONTINUED TENSION.

"THE PRESENCE AT THE TALKS OF DUBCEK AND CERNIK, REPORTED BY VARIOUS SOURCES YESTERDAY AND TODAY, IS NOW ALMOST CERTAIN EVEN IF NOT RPT NOT OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED...

"THE DAILY PROTRACTION OF THE TALKS, WHICH AT A CERTAIN MOMENT YESTERDAY APPEARED TO HAVE REACHED AN END, IS CONSIDERED AS THE SIGN OF A POSSIBLE ENLARGMENT OF THE MOSCOW TALKS TO OTHER COUNTRIES (AS HAPPENED A MONTH AGO AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CIERNA MEETING) ON THE BASIS OF A GENERAL AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN THE CHIEF PROTAGONISTS.

"THIS OPTIMISTIC INTERPRETATION DIMINISHES, HOWEVER, IN THE LIGHT OF THE INCREASING TENSION EXISTING INSIDE CZECHOSLOVAKIA BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND THE FOREIGN TROOPS.

MBW/ O *in* 1537/68 AUG 26.