

CN 111 X/13 CS - L'HUMANITE COMMENT TEXT (WITH CN - 92)  
PARIS, AUGUST 26 (RFE SPECIAL) - - - MONDAYS L'HUMANITE CARRIED  
THIS EDITORIAL BY FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE  
MEMBER RENE ANDRIEU :

THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE TAKING PLACE IN MOSCOW BETWEEN SOVIET LEADERS AND THE DELEGATION LED BY PRESIDENT SVOBODA, IT IS HARDLY NECESSARY TO SAY SO, HAVE A CAPITAL IMPORTANCE. IN PARTICULAR, SINCE THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, COMRADE DUBCEK, AND THE OTHER LEADERS OF THE PARTY HAD STATE AN ARE TAKING PART IN THEM. FOR THE SITUATION IN PRAGUE AND IN THE WHOLE COUNTRY SHOWS WITH SUFFICIENT CLARITY THAT WITHOUT THEIR PRESENCE OR THEIR AGREEMENT, THE TALKS WOULD BE STRIPPED OF ALL EFFECT.

THE DIVERGENCES WHICH HAVE ARISEN AMONG THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY AND THE FIVE MUST BE SETTLED BY THIS MEANS TO THE EXCLUSION OF ALL OTHERS. THE MILITARY INTERVENTION HAS BEEN A TERRIBLE ERROR, WHATEVER MAY HAVE BEEN THE INTENTIONS OF THOSE WHO DECIDED IT. THE QUESTION NOW IS TO AVOID THE WORST.

FOR THAT, IT IS NECESSARY THAT A NORMAL SITUATION BE RAPIDLY REESTABLISHED IN THE COUNTRY AND THAT THE TROOPS OF THE WARSAW PACT BE WITHDRAWN. IT IS TRUE THAT THESE DID NOT ENTER CZECHOSLOVAK TERRITORY WITH AIMS OF CONQUEST AND PRAGUE, DESPITE ITS UNHAPPINESS, CANNOT FORGET THAT IT OWES ITS LIBERATION FROM FASCISM TO THE SOLDIERS OF MARSHAL KONIEV AND, MORE GENERALLY, TO THE SACRIFICES OF THE SOVIET PEOPLE.

IT STILL REMAINS THAT THE INTERVENTION OF 1968 IS UNJUSTIFIED. PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM IS THE CRITERION OF A TRULY COMMUNIST ATTITUDE. BUT IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT IT CANNOT BE BORN OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION, EVEN LESS OF A MILITARY INTERVENTION. IT CAN ONLY BE THE FRUIT OF A FREE CHOICE AND SUPPOSES THE SOVEREIGNTY OF EACH PARTY AND EACH COUNTRY. IT BEING UNDERSTOOD THAT ANY COMMUNIST PARTY WORTHY OF THIS NAME CONSIDERS ITSELF RESPONSIBLE BEFORE ITSELF AND BEFORE THE WHOLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKER MOVEMENT.

THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY, WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST EQUIVOCATION, HAS EXPRESSED ITS DISAPPROVAL AND --- SINCE WE MUST DO IT THE IS FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE NOT TO UNDERSTAND - - - ITS REPROBATION BEFORE THIS MILITARY INTERVENTION BY FRIENDLY COUNTRIES. EVEN IF IT FELT SOME PREOCCUPATIONS TOWARDS THE ACTION THAT REACTIONARY ELEMENTS WERE CONDUCTING IN THE COUNTRY UNDER THE COVER OF THE CORRECT EFFORTS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK TO DEVELOP SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY. BUT THIS DID NOT JUSTIFY THAT.

UNDOUBTEDLY, THERE EXIST IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA SOME FORCES HOSTILE TO SOCIALISM. BUT IT IS UP TO THE PARTY TO CONTAIN THEM. MOREOVER, WHAT IS STRIKING, UNTIL PROOF OF THE CONTRARY, IS THE DIGNITY AND THE WISDOM OF THIS PEOPLE, HIT BY AN UNJUST FATE. THE PRESIDUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, IN THE DECLARATION THAT IT PUBLISHED YESTERDAY, MADE A POINT OF STATING THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY HAD NOT ONLY A MISSION TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF SOCIALISM IN THE COUNTRY BUT THAT IT SHOULD ALSO PRESERVE, "BY CONFIDENCE AND COOPERATION, THE ALLIANCE OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT".

IT IS TRUE, TOO - - - THE CONTRARY WOULD HAVE BEEN ASTONISHING -- THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS TODAY DISCOVERING SOME STRANGE FRIENDS. ALL THE ANTISOVIET CRUSADERS ARE THROWING THEMSELVES INTO THE BREACH AND OFFERING THEIR GOOD OFFICES, LIKE M. FRANCOIS-PONCET WHOSE TEARS ARE UNUNDATING THE NEWSROOMS OF FIGARO AND WHO PROCLAIMS HIS INDIGNATION, HIS CONSTERNATION AND HIS PAIN.

IT WILL BE REGRETTED THAT HE WAS NOT INDIGNANT SOONER, WHEN, IN 1938, HE CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS DELIVERING CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO HITLER. AND FOR OUR PART WE WILL TAKE CARE NOT TO FORGET THAT FOR THE SUN OF LIBERATION TO RISE AGAIN OVER PRAGUE, AS OVER PARIS, IT TOOK IN THE INTERVAL COUNTLESS DEAD FROM ALL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING 20 MILLION SOVIETS.

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