

CN 153

X/13 E/W--3RD ADD BRITISH PRIME MINISTER DENOUNCES (CN-148)

XXX DETENTE

WILSON ANNOUNCED THAT AS A DIRECT HELP TO CZECHS IN BRITAIN, HOME SECRETARY (INTERIOR MINISTER) JAMES CALLAGHAN HAD AGREED THAT NO CZECH NATIONAL AT PRESENT VISITING BRITAIN WOULD BE REQUIRED TO RETURN TO HIS OWN COUNTRY WHEN HIS VISA EXPIRED IF HE WAS UNWILLING TO DO SO.

WILSON SAID THE ONLY FUTURE OF THE WORLD RESTED UPON WORKING FOR AN EAST-WEST DETENTE BUT THIS WOULD NOW BE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT.

"BUT I REJECT THE VIEW THAT THE EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK LEAVE US NO CHOICE EXCEPT THE FROZEN IMMOBILISM OF THE COLD WAR," HE ADDD.

THE PRIME MINIST^ER WAS CHEERED AS HE CONCLUDED THE CRISIS WAS ABOUT THE RIGHT OF A COMMUNIST COUNTRY TO DECIDE HOW IT SHOULD GOVERN ISELF UNDER COMMUNISM AND "THE DAY WILL SURELY COME WHEN THERE ARE MORE FREE THOUGHTS THAN TANKS."

REFERRING TO PROPOSALS TO CURB EAST-WEST CULTURAL CONTACTS WILSON SAID:"THE (BRITISH) GOVERNMENT FEEL IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO IMPOSE A BAN ON VISITS PLANNED.

"INDIVIDUAL BRITISH CITIZENS ARE FREE TO DECIDE HOW FAR THEY WANT TO SUPPORT THESE VISITS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE REACTION OF INDIVIDUALS CAN BE MUCH MORE ELOQUENT IN THIS CONEX^T."

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