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X/13 E/W -- BRITISH PRIME MINISTER DENOUNCES SOVIET AGGRESSION

(RELEADS CN-130)

LONDON AUGUST 26--(RFE SPECIAL/WELLS)--BRITISH PRIME MINISTER HAROLD WILSON TODAY DENOUNCED THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS AN "ACT OF BLATANT AGGRESSION" AND SAID BRITISH PROTESTS "NEED NOT BE IMPOTENT."

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS SPEAKING TO A PACKED HOUSE OF COMMONS SUMMONED FROM ITS SUMMER RECESS TO "HOLD AN EMERGENCY DEBATE ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK CRISIS.

WILSON TOLD THE COMMONS HOW THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN LONDON CALLED ON DEPUTY FOREIGN SECRETARY LORD CHALFONT EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING TO TELL HIM OF THE INVASION AND GIVE HIS ASSURANCE THAT IT WOULD NOT RPT NOT HARM ANGLO-SOVIET RELATIONS.

HE SAID "THERE WERE PERHAPS SOME WHO FELT THAT THIS HOUSE WOULD BE POWERLESS TO DO ANYTHING BEYOND RECORDING A PROFOUND SENSE OF SHOCK AND DISMAY AT THIS ACT OF BLATANT AGGRESSION, BUT A PROTEST NEED NOT BE IMPOTENT."

THE PRIME MINISTER WENT ON TO SPEAK OF "STIRRINGS OF FREEDOM" IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN RECENT MONTHS AND BRITISH REJOICING AT THE "ROBUST DETERMINATION" OF THE PRAGUE GOVERNMENT NOT RPT NOT TO BE DETERRED FROM ITS CHOSEN PATH.

WHEN THE INVASION CAME, HE SAID "ALL OF US WERE CHILLED BY THE FEELING THAT WE HAD BEEN HERE BEFORE."

(MORE) BG/L

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