

X/13 E/W -- 1ST ADD BRITISH PRIME, MINISTER DENOUNCES

(CN 142) XXX BEFORE
WILSON SAID THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INVASION
OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA MUST HAVE COUNTED THE COST OF THE INEVITABLE
WORLD REACTION AND HAVE CONSIDERED HOW UNHAPPY RUSSIA
AND HER SATELLITES WOULD APPEAR TO THE WORLD.

"THE TRAGIC THING IS THAT THEY KNEW THERE WOULD
BE A PRICE, AND THAT THEY WERE PREPARED TO PAY THAT
PRICE -- CRITICISM AND CONDEMNATION BY COMMUNIST
PARTIES IN ADVANCED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ALIKE."

WILSON TOLD THE COMMONS: "IF THE GOVERNMENT
WHICH PLANNED AND LED THAT ACTION LAST WEEK HAVE BEEN OBLIGED
RUEFULLY TO RECOGNISE HOW GROSSLY THEY UNDER-
ESTIMATED WORLD REACTION, STILL MORE RUEFUL MUST BE THEIR
RECOGNITION OF HOW THEY MISCALCULATED THE REACTION IN
CZECHOSLOVAKIA ITSELF."

"IT WAS THE REACTION OF A PEOPLE WHO, HAVING
ONCE BRIEFLY SAVOURED HOPES OF FREEDOM, SAW THEIR HOPES
APPARENTLY SO BRUTALLY AND IRREVOCABLY FRUSTRATED.

MR WILSON PROMISED: "SHOULD THERE BE DEVELOPMENTS
EITHER LATER TODAY OR OVERNIGHT, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY
(MICHAEL STEWART) WILL BE WILLING TO MAKE A STATEMENT
TOMORROW.

MR WILSON SAID THAT IF NOW, AS ALL THE WORLD
MUST HOPE, A CONCLUSION ACCEPTABLE TO THE FREE LEADERS
OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS WELL AS TO THE RUSSIANS AND PARTNERS,
COULD BE REACHED, THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN BECAUSE OF WORLD
REACTION.

"BUT ABOVE ALL, FIVE DAYS HAVE SHOWN THAT
STILL A TANK CAN DESTROY, IT CANNOT CREATE, AND
ABOVE ALL IT CANNOT CREATE THE GOVERNMENT THAT A PEOPLE
ARE DETERMINED TO HAVE ".