

CN 174

X/13 E/W--INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS CALL FOR BOYCOTT

LONDON, AUGUST 26--(RFE SPECIAL/WELLS)--
THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION TODAY CALLED ON ALL ITS AFFILIATED UNIONS TO BOYCOTT ALL TRANSPORT OPERATED BY THE SOVIET UNION, POLAND, HUNGARY, BULGARIA AND EAST GERMANY AS A PROTEST AGAINST THEIR "UNLAWFUL INVASION AND OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA."

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FEDERATION, WHICH REPRESENTS MORE THAN SIX MILLION MEMBERS OF SOME 350 UNIONS IN THE NON-COMMUNIST WORLD, SAID THE EXECUTIVE DECIDED ON THE BOYCOTT AFTER APPEALS FROM ITS MEMBERS FOR A DEMONSTRATION "OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE SUFFERING CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE".

THE FEDERATION HAS CALLED FOR THE BOYCOTT TO START AT MIDNIGHT TUESDAY AND IT WILL COVER ROAD, RAIL, SEA AND AIR TRANSPORT. THE FEDERATION HAS NO RPT NO POWER TO ORDER MEMBER-UNIONS TO OBSERVE THE BOYCOTT BUT EXPECTS A WIDE RESPONSE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE FEDERATION SAID THE BOYCOTT IS DESIGNED TO DEMONSTRATE ITS MEMBERS "SENSE OF OUTRAGE AT THE BRUTAL AND CYNICAL FLOUTING OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER AND ALL STANDARDS OF DECENCY IN DEALINGS BETWEEN NATIONS".

PRW/L 1900/68/CR