

CUMSTANCES

HEATH SAID THE INVASION SHOWED THE SOVIET UNION WAS PREPARED TO USE BRUTE FORCE TO MAINTAIN ITS EASTERN EUROPEAN EMPIRE.

"THAT MUST BE THE OVERRIDING LESSON TO EMERGE FROM RECENT EVENTS."

HE ADDED: "THE DOMINATION BY FORCE OVER THE SOVIET EMPIRE CAN ONLY IN FACT BE CHALLENGED BY FORCE...."

HE SAID THE WEST WAS NOT RPT NOT PREPARED TO CONSIDER FORCE OVER HUNGARY, AND WAS NOT RPT NOT PREPARED TO DO SO TODAY.

HEATH SUGGESTED CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR BERLIN AND THE "CORRIDOR" SHOULD BE REVIEWED.

HE ALSO REFERRED TO THE IMPORTANCE OF RECONSIDERING POLICY IN AREAS WHERE IT WAS STILL POSSIBLE TO HELP TO PREVENT SMALL COUNTRIES FROM FALLING UNDER THE THREAT OF SUBVERSION OR FOREIGN DOMINATION.

"IT WAS FRUSTRATING ENOUGH ONLY TO BE ABLE TO PROTEST IN THE CASE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA - HOW MUCH WORSE WOULD IT BE IF WE WERE TO FIND LATER IN THE CASE OF ANOTHER SMALL COUNTRY IN THE MIDDLE EAST OR FAR EAST, OR PERHAPS IN THE COMMONWEALTH, THAT WE WERE ONLY ABLE TO PROTEST BECAUSE WE HAD WITHDRAWN FROM OUR RESPONSIBILITIES", HE CONCLUDED.

MINORITY LIBERAL PARTY LEADER JEREMY THORPE SAID THAT "BY AN ACT OF NAKED AGGRESSION" A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL "SUPPORTED BY ITS FOUR HIRELINGS" HAD INVADED A SMALL NATION WITH WHOM IT HAD TREATY RELATIONS.

"THE TREACHERY OF RUSSIA HAS BEEN ALL TOO APPARENT", HE SAID. "THIS IS A CALCULATED DECISION OF THE COOLHEADED TECHNOCRATS WHICH ARE IN CHARGE OF RUSSIA TODAY".

BRITAIN MUST MAKE IT ABUNDANTLY PLAIN THAT WE WISHED TO MAINTAIN RELATIONS, BUT THEY WOULD BE EXCLUSIVELY OF A DIPLOMATIC AND TRADING NATURE, HE SAID. W, JON/L 1930/68 AUG 26/CR