

CN 201

X/13 CURT -- FINN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, YOUTH OPPOSE INVASION

HELSINKI, AUG 26 -- (RFE SPECIAL/RIDALA) -- FINLANDS SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, ITS YOUTH AND THE YOUTH OF THE FAR-LEFT SIMONITE PARTY TODAY CAME OUT IN OPPOSITION TO THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY SAID IN A PUBLIC RELEASE THAT "THE OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS A SERIOUS VIOLATION OF THE RIGHT OF NATIONAL SELF-DETERMINATION, AND HAS CAUSED WIDE-SPREAD CONCERN AND A FEELING OF DEFENSELESSNESS, ESPECIALLY AMONG SMALL NATIONS AND ALSO IN FINLAND."

THE PARTY SAID THAT IT NONETHELESS WOULD "CONTINUE ALL EFFORTS WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR MOVEMENT" AND HOPES THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK INVASION SITUATION "WOULD NOT THWART THIS."

THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC YOUTH SAID "ARMED FORCE CANNOT CREATE CONFIDENCE IN FRIENDSHIP. THE OCCUPATION SHOULD END AT ONCE AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE BE ALLOWED TO SOLVE MATTERS IN A SOVEREIGN WAY AND ACCORDING TO WHAT THEY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE."

THE SIMONITE YOUTH, LEFT OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY AND ON OCCASION EVEN MORE RADICAL THAN THE COMMUNISTS, DECLARED THAT THE "MEASURES USED BY THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES CAUSE SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE SUCCESS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR MOVEMENT. WE HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THIS."

MA/A 2045/68/CR