

X/13 E/W - 6TH ADD - BRITISH PRIME MINISTER DENOUNCES

(CN 180) XXX SAID

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATE TAKING PLACE AT THE SAME TIME AS THE COMMONS DEBATE, THE EARL OF AVON, FORMERLY SIR ANTHONY EDEN, SAID THAT THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS A NATION, IT HAD BEEN THE MOST DETERMINED AND LOYAL ALLY OF RUSSIA.

LORD AVON SAID "IF THIS IS HOW AN ALLY CAN BE TREATED, WHAT MANY OF US WILL BE THINKING IS, WHAT WILL BE THE FATE OF THOSE WHO ARE NOT?"

NATO COLLECTIVELY MUST TAKE A LONG, FULL LOOK AT ITS DEFENSIVE ARRANGEMENTS "FOR IT CANNOT REST SATISFIED TO LEAVE ANYTHING TO CHANCE IN PRESENT CONDITIONS."

BACK IN THE COMMONS, FORMER FOREIGN SECRETARY GEORGE BROWN WARNED AGAINST GIVING MOSCOW THE OPPORTUNITY OF

"TELLING ALL THE CZECHS AND ALL THE RUSSIANS WHO MAY BE WAVERING" THAT THE INVASION WAS BEING USED BY THE IMPERIALIST BLOC TO BUILD A STRONGER NATO AND SO GIVE RUSSIA A WEAPON TO DAMP DOWN THE CHANGE OF WHICH THEY WERE SO FRIGHTENED."

SPEAKING WITH CONSIDERABLE FEELING BROWN SAID:

"DO NOT EXACERBATE THE SITUATION UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT COMES OUT. IF THERE IS A REFUSAL TO DO THE THINGS I HAVE SAID, AND IF THERE IS PATENTLY A PHONEY ARRANGEMENT MADE, THEN PERHAPS WE MIGHT TALK IN A DIFFERENT WAY THEN".

BROWN SAID: "I SHALL NOT ATTEND ANY OFFICIAL RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES IN THIS COUNTRY FOR A BIT, BUT I WOULD NOT HAVE ANY BREAK IN CULTURAL RELATIONS, OR ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH GIVE US THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE TO SHOW WHAT WE THINK AND FOR THEM TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US. TO DO SO WOULD BE THE UTMOST MADNESS."

JON/A 2244/68 AUG 26

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