

US - DEMOCRAT COMMITTEE CONDEMNS INVASION

CHICAGO, AUG 27 (UPI) -- THE POLICY-DRAFTING PLATFORM COMMITTEE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY DECLARED MONDAY THAT THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS AN "OMINOUS REVERSAL" OF A TREND TOWARD GREATER FREEDOM IN EASTERN EUROPE.

"THE TRAGIC EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ARE A SHOCKING REMINDER THAT WE LIVE IN A DANGEROUS AND UNPREDICTABLE WORLD," THE COMMITTEE SAID IN ITS TENTATIVE DRAFT PLATFORM.

"THE SOVIET ATTACK ON AND INVASION OF A SMALL COUNTRY THAT ONLY YESTERDAY WAS MOSCOW'S PEACEFUL ALLY, IS AN OMINIOUS REVERSAL OF THE SLOW TREND TOWARD GREATER FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE IN EASTERN EUROPE," IT SAID.

"THE REIMPOSITION OF SOVIET TYRANNY RAISES THE SPECTRE OF THE DARKEST DAYS OF THE STALIN ERA AND INCREASES THE RISK OF WAR IN CENTRAL EUROPE, A WAR THAT COULD BECOME A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST."

IT CONTINUED: "AGAINST THIS SOMBER BACKDROP, WHOSE FULL PORTENT CANNOT NOW BE SEEN, OTHER RECENT SOVIET MILITARY MOVES TAKE ON EVER GREATER SIGNIFICANCE.

"WE HAVE A SIGNIFICANT LEAD IN MILITARY STRENGTH AND IN ALL VITAL AREAS OF MILITARY TECHNOLOGY, YET MOSCOW HAS STEADILY INCREASED ITS STRATEGIC NUCLEAR ARSENAL, ITS MISSILE-FIRING NUCLEAR SUBMARINE FLEET, AND ITS ANTIMISSILE DEFENSES.

"COMMUNIST CHINA IS PROVIDING POLITICAL AND MILITARY SUPPORT FOR SO CALLED WARS OF NATIONAL LIBERATION.

"A GROWING NUCLEAR POWER, PEKING HAS DISDAINED ALL ARMS CONTROL EFFORTS.

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