

CN 138,

C/S -1ST ADD SMRKOVSKY ADDRESSES PARLIAMENTARY PRESIDUM (CN 126)

XXX WAVED

BEFORE THE SESSION, LARGE CROWDS HAD GATHERED OUTSIDE THE ENTRANCE TO PARLIAMENT WAITING TO SEE WELL KNOWN POLITICIANS ARRIVE.

TANKS HAD DESERTED THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE BUILDING WHICH WAS FREE OF HEAVY ARMOUR THIS MORNING FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE INVASION. BUT HALF A DOZEN MEDIUM ARMoured CARS KEPT UP GUARD DUTIES AND THE BUILDING WAS BARRICADED OFF BY MAKESHIFT BARRICADES AND ARMED SENTRIES.

SMRKOVSKY HAD EARLIER SAID PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA, WHO LED THE DELEGATION TO MOSCOW, MR. DUBCEK AND PREMIER CERNIK WERE EXPECTED TO MAKE PUBLIC ADDRESSES LATER TODAY.

BG/JM/HI *1101* 1315/68

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