

X/13 US - DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND US-SOVIET  
RELATIONS (RELEADS CN - 56)

P-3 CHICAGO, AUG. 27 (RFE SPECIAL/TRIMBLE) -- THE PROPOSED PLATFORM FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION CALLS THE SOVIET UNION'S ACTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA "BRUTAL AND UNPROVOKED ... AGGRESSION ... (WHICH) IS AN OMINOUS REVERSAL OF THE SLOW TREND TOWARD GREATER FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE IN EASTERN EUROPE.

"BY THIS ACT, MOSCOW HAS CONFESSED THAT IT IS STILL THE PRISONER OF ITS FEAR OF FREEDOM, AND THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN PEOPLE HAVE SHOWN THAT THE LOVE OF FREEDOM, IN THEIR LAND AND THROUGHOUT EASTERN EUROPE, CAN NEVER BE CRUSHED," THE PROPOSED PLATFORM SAID.

THE 17,000-WORD STATEMENT OF PARTY ACHIEVEMENTS, BELIEFS, AND AIMS, WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL TO THE CONVENTION TODAY, LEFT THE DOOR OPEN, HOWEVER, FOR SEEKING AGREEMENTS WITH THE SOVIET UNION "TO REDUCE THE RISK OF NUCLEAR WAR".

IT NOTED THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES "STILL HAVE A COMMON INTEREST ... IN PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (AND) REDUCING THE COST OF NATIONAL DEFENSE" AND SAID "WE MUST CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER.

"EVEN IN THE PRESENT TENSE ATMOSPHERE," THE DOCUMENT SAID, "WE STRONGLY SUPPORT PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S EFFORT TO SECURE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION UNDER WHICH BOTH STATES WOULD REFRAIN FROM DEPLOYING ANTI-MISSILE SYSTEMS ..."

THE TEXTS OF THE RELEVANT PORTIONS FOLLOW:

UNDER "THE WORLD" SECTION OF THE PLATFORM:

"THE CONSCIENCE OF THE ENTIRE WORLD HAS BEEN SHOCKED BY THE BRUTAL AND UNPROVOKED SOVIET AGGRESSION AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA. BY THIS ACT, MOSCOW HAS CONFESSED THAT IT IS STILL THE PRISONER OF ITS FEAR OF FREEDOM. AND THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN PEOPLE HAVE SHOWN THAT THE LOVE OF FREEDOM, IN THEIR LAND AND THROUGHOUT EASTERN EUROPE, CAN NEVER BE CRUSHED.

"THIS SEVERE BLOW TO FREEDOM AND SELF-DETERMINATION REINFORCES OUR COMMITMENT TO THE UNENDING QUEST FOR PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE WORLD. THESE DARK DAYS SHOULD NOT OBSCURE THE SOLID ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PAST YEARS. NUCLEAR WAR HAS BEEN AVOIDED. WEST BERLIN AND WESTERN EUROPE ARE STILL FREE.

"THE BLEND OF AMERICAN POWER AND RESTRAINT, SO DRAMATICALLY DEMONSTRATED IN THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS, EARNED THE RESPECT OF THE WORLD AND PREPARED THE WAY FOR A SERIES OF ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. LONG AND PATIENT NEGOTIATION BY PRESIDENTS KENNEDY AND JOHNSON RESULTED IN THE NUCLEAR TEST BAN, NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AND OUTER SPACE TREATIES AND THE "HOT LINE." THESE HARD-WON AGREEMENTS PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR PURSUING OTHER MEASURES TO REDUCE THE RISK OF NUCLEAR WAR...

"THE UNPRECEDENTED EXPANSION OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY HAS INVIGORATED THE WHOLE FREE WORLD. MANY ONCE SKEPTICAL NATIONS, INCLUDING SOME COMMUNIST STATES, NOW REGARD AMERICAN ECONOMIC TECHNIQUES AND INSTITUTIONS AS THE MODELS TO FOLLOW...

UNDER THE "NATIONAL DEFENSE" SECTION OF THE PLATFORM:

(MORE)

BG/HE

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