

X/13 CS - - - GARAUDY : "SOVIETS FALLEN BACK INTO STALINISM"

PARIS, AUGUST 27 (RFE SPECIAL/EDWARDS) - - - ROGER GARAUDY, MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO OF THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY, HAS SAID THAT BY INVADING CZECHOSLOVAKIA THE SOVIET UNION HAS "FALLEN BACK INTO STALINISM AND THOSE LEADERS RESPONSIBLE SHOULD "GET OUT".

GARAUDY MADE HIS STRONGLY WORDED ATTACK ON THE WARSAW PACT AGGRESSION IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE PARIS CORRESPONDENT OF CETEKA. THE TEXT HAS BEEN RELEASED TO THE PRESS.

THE FRENCH POLITBURO MEMBER CONDEMNED THE INVASION AS "UNJUSTIFIED AND UNJUSTIFIABLE". THE STORY OF COUNTER-REVOLUTION, HE SAID, WAS "A PRETEXT", AND IT DID NOT "STAND UP".

THE ONLY SOLUTION WAS "THE UNCONDITIONAL WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN TROOPS", GARAUDY SAID. CZECHOSLOVAKIA SHOULD BE "FREED FROM ALL EXTERNAL PRESSURE SO THAT ... IT CAN PURSUE THE BUILDING OF SOCIALISM ACCORDING TO THE STYLE IT HAS CHOSEN ITSELF."

AFTER THAT, THE POLITBURO MEMBER ADDED, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO "DESTROY THE SEQUELS OF STALINISM, TO PREVENT THE RETURN OF SIMILAR SITUATIONS."

GARAUDY OPENED HIS STATEMENT WITH THE DECLARATION THAT "NO COMPROMISE WAS CONCEIVABLE". THE ONLY SOLUTION, HE SAID, WAS "THE UNCONDITIONAL WITHDRAWAL OF ALL THE FOREIGN TROOPS AT PRESENT OCCUPYING CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE RESTORATION OF THE LEADERS OF THE PARTY AND STATE WHOM THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE THEMSELVES HAVE CHOSEN, SO THAT THE PEOPLE CAN CONDUCT, AUTONOMOUSLY, THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MODEL OF SOCIALISM CORRESPONDING TO ITS DEGREE OF DEVELOPMENT AND ITS NATIONAL CONDITIONS."

(MORE) BG/A /rr 1640/68 IV