

THE FRENCH POLITBURO MEMBER SAID THE WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION CARRIED THE RISK OF "KILLING A GREAT HOPE" AROUSED BY THE CZECHOSLOVAK PARTYS ACTION PROGRAM.

THE INVASION, HE SAID, WAS "TOTALLY UNJUSTIFIED AND UNJUSTIFIABLE. THE PRETEXT OF THE DANGER OF COUNTER REVOLUTION DOES NOT STAND UP, FOR IF REACTIONARY ELEMENTS HAVE PROFITED FROM DEMOCRATIZATION TO AGITATE, THEY HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ORGANIZE ANY VIOLENCE, EXCEPT VERBAL VIOLENCE. THE GOVERNMENT, THE PARTY AND ITS LEADER ALEXANDRE DUBCEK, WHILE THEY FIRMLY UNDERLINED THE PRINCIPLES OF SOCIALISM, ENJOYED THE CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORT OF THE IMMENSE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE, AS IS PROVED BY THE FACT THAT NO ELEMENTS HAS AGREED TO COLLABORATE WITH THE OCCUPIER TO TAKE THE PLACE OF THE LEGAL LEADERS OF THE COUNTRY."

GARAUDY CONTINUED : "THE EXEMPLARY RESISTANCE AND CALM OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE UNITED AROUND ITS LEADERS HAVE FORCED THE ADMIRATION AND THE RECOGNITION OF THE COMMUNISTS, OF ALL THE FRIENDS OF SOCIALISM AND FREEDOM.

"OUR PARTY EXPRESSED ITS REPROBATION (FOR THE INVASION) FROM THE FIRST DAY.

"NOTHING COULD SERVE COUNTER-REVOLUTION BETTER, IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND IN THE WHOLE WORLD, THAN TO GIVE SOCIALISM SUCH A FACE, SO CONTRARY TO THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF MARXISM-LENINISM."

(MORE) BG/A 1645/68 AUG 27 22