

CN 283

X/4 CS - 1ST ADD SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT (CN-260) XXX MOSCOW

TASS SAID THAT THOUSANDS OF PRAGUE CITIZENS GATHERED AROUND LOUDSPEAKERS TO LISTEN TO THE COMMUNIQUE ON THE MOSCOW TALKS.

"THEY RECEIVED THE SOVIET-CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIQUE AS AN IMPORTANT POLITICAL DOCUMENT WHICH OPENS NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES AND AGAINST INTRIGUES OF IMPERIALISM, FOR CONSOLIDATION OF SOCIALIST GAINS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLES OF THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES," SAID TASS.

TASS ALSO REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT SSVOBODA ADDRESSED THE PEOPLE OVER THE RADIO TODAY.

HE IS QUOTED AS STRESSING THAT "CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS A MEMBER OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY AND COULD NOT BUT BE A MEMBER OF IT."

TASS THEN GOES ON: "SPEAKING OF THE TERMS OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALLIED TROOPS FROM THE TERRITORY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY NORMALIZES, THE PRESIDENT NOTED THAT PRIOR TO THE RESTORATION OF NORMAL LIFE IN THE COUNTRY THEIR PRESENCE WAS A POLITICAL REALITY."

TASS THEN PUTS INTO DIRECT QUOTATION MARKS THE FOLLOWING REMARK BY SVOBODA: "THE REASON AND DISCIPLINE DISPLAYED BY YOU SO FAR ARE AN IMPERATIVE CONDITION FOR THE FINAL SOLUTION OF THIS QUESTION."

(TASS IN ENGLISH, AUG 27)

(MORE) MA/L 2210/68 AUG 27

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