

ROME, AUG. 28, - (RFE SPECIAL/WILSON). - SHORTLY AFTER NEWS OF THE AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAKS AND SOVIETS IN MOSCOW WAS RECEIVED IN ROME, LUIGI LONGO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, OPENED A SPECIAL COMBINED SESSION OF THE PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND CENTRAL CONTROL COMMISSION.

HIS STATEMENT, RELEASED TO THE PRESS, SAID:

"COMRADES,

"WE ARE MEETING WHILE -- AFTER DAYS OF ALARM AND ANXIETY -- THE NEWS IS NOW OFFICIAL THAT A COMPROMISE SOLUTION -- WHICH THE COUNTRIES AND PARTIES DIRECTLY INTERESTED WILL BE CALLED TO RATIFY -- HAS BEEN REACHED IN THE MOSCOW NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMRADES AND THE SOVIET LEADERS WHO LED THE MILITARY INTERVENTION.

"THE SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY, ON WHICH WE FIRMLY CALLED EVEN THIS MORNING IN OUR NEWSPAPER, HAS PREVAILED AT THE END. ALL THE CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERS HAVE REGAINED PRAGUE TO TAKE UP IN THE FULLNESS OF THEIR FUNCTIONS THEIR POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY, AND WORK TO RECTIFY THE PROFOUND DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE MILITARY INTERVENTION.

"WE WISH THEM FULL SUCCESS, CERTAIN THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE -- WHO DURING THESE HARD DAYS CONFIRMED IN THE GREATEST UNITY THEIR BASIC SOCIALIST CHOICE -- WILL BUILD, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, A SOCIALIST PARTY WHICH IS STILL MORE FORWARD LOOKING, DEMOCRATIC AND MODERN, FULLY LIVING UP TO THE NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS AND TRADITIONS.

"WE APPRECIATE POSITIVELY THAT, IN SUCH A DRAMATIC SITUATION, IT WAS AT LAST POSSIBLE TO FIND A WAY TO NEGOTIATION THAT WAS LINKED TO A POLITICAL SOLUTION.

"THE DIRECTORATE OF OUR PARTY HAD FIRMLY DEMANDED A POLITICAL NEGOTIATION IN ITS RESOLUTION OF AUG. 23.

"IN THIS IT HAD DECLARED -- I CITE TEXTUALLY -- THAT IT WAS INDISPENSIBLE AND URGENT THAT THE COMMUNIST PARTIES AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FIVE INTERVENING COUNTRIES ACCEPT THE REQUEST PROPOSED BY THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNIST PARTY TO WITHDRAW THE TROOPS, (THAT THEY) CONSENT THAT THE LEGAL ORGANS, DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED, OF THE STATE AND THE PARTY AGAIN TAKE UP THEIR ACTIVITIES, (THAT) THEY ASSURE COMRADE DUBCEK AND THE OTHER CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERS THE POSSIBILITY OF FREELY CARRYING OUT THEIR DUTIES.

"ONLY IN THIS WAY -- WE ADDED -- CAN A POLITICAL SOLUTION BE REACHED RAPIDLY WHICH WOULD AVOID FURTHER DRAMATIC AGGRAVATIONS OF THE SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND GRAVER LACERATIONS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST AND DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT.

"WE HOPE THAT THE AGREEMENTS REACHED WILL PERMIT THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND COMMUNIST PARTY TO CARRY ON, CONSEQUENTLY, WITH FULL AUTONOMY, THE PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL AND CONSOLIDATION OF THE SOCIALIST SOCIETY INITIATED BY THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DECISION OF LAST JANUARY.

(MORE) TB/F 0403/68

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