

"THE SOCIALIST CHOICE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND THE VALIDITY OF THIS ACTION OF RENEWAL HAVE BEEN FULLY ENDORSED BY THE PROOF OF RESPONSIBILITY AND FIRM AGREEMENT TO IT WHICH THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND COMMUNISTS GAVE DURING THE DRAMATIC SITUATION CREATED BY THE MILITARY INTERVENTION.

"WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THIS IS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, WHICH WILL PERMIT, ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY AND FULL RESPECT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY OF EACH STATE, A REAL STRENGTHENING OF THEIR UNITY AND COLLABORATION IN ALL AREAS.

"THE GRAVE HAPPENINGS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE PROFOUND REPERCUSSIONS WHICH THESE HAD ON THE WORKER AND DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, FIRMLY REQUIRE THE NEED THAT ALL SEEK WITH GREATER AND MORE OVERT DILIGENCE THE WAY TO UNITY IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, FOR THE BUILDING OF NEW INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND OF A SYSTEM OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE, BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUALITY AND NON-INTERVENTION IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

"TO THIS STRUGGLE THE SOVIET UNION AND ALL THE OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ARE CALLED UPON TO GIVE, EVEN IN THE FUTURE, AN IRREPLACEABLE CONTRIBUTION OF INITIATIVE AND ACTION, WHICH WILL BE ALL THE MORE VALID AND EFFICACIOUS AS RELATIONS OF EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION DEVELOP BETWEEN THESE COUNTRIES.

, "IT BEHOOVES ALL THE COMMUNIST AND WORKER PARTIES TO DRAW FROM, AS THE FRENCH COMRADES HAVE DEFINED IT, THE TERRIBLE ERROR OF MILITARY INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ALL THE ESSENTIAL, INDISPENSIBLE LESSONS.

"OUR PARTY WILL CONTINUE, ON ITS PART, IN FULL COHERENCE WITH ITS OWN POLITICAL POSITIONS AND ON THE LINES REPEATEDLY REITERATED THESE YEARS, TO GIVE ITS OWN CONTRIBUTION, POLITICAL AND IDEALISTIC, TO THE BUILDING OF NEW RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNIST AND PROGRESSIST FORCES SO THAT THE PROCESS OF RENEWAL OPENED BY THE TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE CPSU MAY THEREBY GO FURTHER AND MORE RAPIDLY.

"WE HAVE EXPRESSED CLEARLY -- AND, I ASK THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE CENTRAL CONTROL COMMISSION TO CONFIRM THIS -- OUR SERIOUS DISSENT AND OUR REPROVAL OF THE MILITARY INTERVENTION BY THE SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER FOUR COUNTRIES OF THE WARSAW PACT IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

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