

CN 193

X/13 C/S - CZECHOSLOVAK PROTEST AT SPACE CONFERENCE

VIENNA, AUG 28 (RFE SPECIAL/KOCH) -- THE HEAD OF CZECHOSLOVAKIAS DELEGATION AT THE VIENNA SPACE CONFERENCE PROF. VLADIMIR GUTH, HAS PROTESTED AGAINST, THE ARMED INTRUSION AND TAKEOVER BY SOVIET SOLDIERS OF THE PREMISES OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK ACADEMY OF SCIENCE.

THE PROTEST LETTER YESTERDAY, BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE, DR. KURT WALDHEIM, AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, SAID THAT THE FORCIBLE TAKEOVER OF THE QUARTERS OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE IN PRAGUE WAS CARRIED OUT BY SOVIET SOLDIERS WHO MADE USE OF THEIR WEAPONS AND EJECTED ITS OCCUPANTS.

GUTH, SPEAKING IN THE NAME OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION, SAID THAT THE SOVIET ACTION WILL CAUSE DEEP UNREST IN THE RANKS OF SCIENTISTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

GUTH SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, WHO IS ALSO A FOREIGN CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE SOVIET ACADEMY, HAD PROTESTED THIS ACTION.

ON THE LAST DAY OF THE SPACE CONFERENCE SESSIONS, MONDAY, PROFESSOR GUTH'S LECTURE RECEIVED UNUSUAL APPLAUSE IN AN EXPRESSION OF THE SYMPATHY BY THE OTHER DELEGATES AND CONFEREES FOR THE CZECHOSLOVAK CAUSE.

A SIGNATURE ACTION BY ONE DELEGATE TO THE CONFERENCE SUPPORTING A CZECHOSLOVAK LETTER TO WARSAW PACT NATION DELEGATES TO CALL ON THEIR GOVERNMENT TO WITHDRAW FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA CARRIED THE NAMES OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM OVER 40 OF THE 70 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT THE TWO-WEEKLONG SPACE CONFERENCE.

BG / 0 *10* 1632/68 *z*