

CN 234

CS - 1930 INTRO - CZECHOSLOVAKIAN DECLARATIONS

PRAGUE, MUNICH, AUG 28 (CNR)- CZECHOSLOVAK PREMIER OLCRICH CERNIK HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL REMAIN AS PREMIER, AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS PREPARING MEASURES TO MEET THE PRESENT SITUATION.

MR. CERNIK'S BROADCAST THIS EVENING CLIMAXED A DAY OF OFFICIAL STATEMENTS IN RAGUE WHICH INCLUDED:

-- A CENTRAL COMMITTEE STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR PARTY LEADER ALEXANDER DUBCEK

-- A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PROCLAMATION THAT THE OCCUPATION OF THE COUNTRY IS ILLEGAL, AND REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE ACTION PROGRAM PUBLISHED EARLIER THIS YEAR BY THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT

-- AN APPEAL FROM PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA, MR. DUBCEK, PREMIER CERNIK AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN JOSEF SMRKOVSKY APPEALING FOR CALM.

MR CERNIK, IN HIS SPEECH THIS EVENING, SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD WORK OUT A DOCUMENT WHICH WOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE FIVE WARSAW PACT ALLIES - THE SOVIET UNION POLAND EAST GERMANY HUNGARY AND BULGARIA WHICH HAVE OCCUPIED THE COUNTRY.

IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S AIM TO ACHIEVE THE GRADUAL WITHDRAWAL OF THE TROOPS HE SAID,

HE PLEDGED THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT WOULD FOLLOW THE PRINCIPLE THAT WHAT COULD NOT BE ACHIEVED BY THE PEOPLE WOULD NOT BE IMPOSED BY FORCE.

"WE MUST FACE THE REALITY THAT THE WAY OUT IS A POLITICAL SOLUTION OF THE CRISIS," HE SAID.

AT ANOTHER POINT, CERNIK SAID: "I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS, FELLOW CITIZENS, BUT WE CAN COME OUT OF THIS SITUATION ONLY IF WE KEEP CLEAR HEADS."

(MORE) JON/L 1935/68

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