

CN 243

X/4 C/S - IZVESTIA BELIEVES CS PARTY HAS STRENGTH TO KEEP LEADING
ROLE

MOSCOW, AUGUST 28 (CMD)-- THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT PAPER "IZVESTIA" TODAY EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY HAD SUFFICIENT STRENGTH TO ENSURE ITS OWN LEADING ROLE, AS WELL AS TO TAKE "EFFECTIVE" MEASURES TO SECURE "THE INTERESTS OF SOCIALIST POWER."

THE NEWSPAPER'S COMMENTATOR VIKENTY MATVEYEV WAS ALSO QUOTED BY TASS AS SAYING THAT "THE QUESTION NOW IS, HOW TO REALISE SUCH POSSIBILITIES (CMD- OF MAINTAINING SOCIALIST POWER AND ENSURING THE LEADING ROLE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY) SO THAT THE MENACE TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLES SOCIALIST GAINS BE REMOVED AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST AND WITH MINIMUM COMPLICATIONS."

BUT, MATVEYEV, WENT ON TO SAY "ONE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT TURN A BLIND EYE TO THE EXISTING DIFFICULTIES BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE ACTIVISATION OF ANTI-SOCIALIST FORCES, THEIR RELUCTANCE TO RECONCILE THEMSELVES TO THE LOSS OF POSITIONS."

THE IZVESTIA COMMENTATOR WENT ON TO SAY "THE COUNTER-REVOLUTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS NO RPT NO MYTH, IT STILL KEEPS MAKING ITSELF FELT, TRYING TO BRING THINGS TO A HEAD, DISORIENT THE POPULATION, STAGE PROVOCATIONS, AND SENT UNSTABLE PEOPLE AGAINST THE FRATERNAL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, IN SHORT, TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PUSH THE COUNTRY OFF THE ROAD OF SOCIALISM."

(MORE) JM/ O

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