

CN 244

X/4 C/S -- SVOBODA THANKS THE ARMY

MUNICH, AUGUST 28 -- (CMD)-- PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA TODAY SAID HE HIGHLY APPRECIATED THE STAND OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY IN THE COUNTRY'S CRITICAL DAYS.

RADIO CZECHOSLOVAKIA ONE TONIGHT CARRIED AN ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT WHICH SAID THAT IN THESE DAYS CZECHS AND SLOVAKS WERE GOING THROUGH "FATEFUL" EVENTS IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT.

"THE CZECHOSLOVAK ARMY CLEARLY SUPPORTED THE DECLARATION OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CSSR AND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ABOUT THE SITUATION WHICH RESULTED FROM THE ENTRY OF FIVE ARMIES ON THE TERRITORY OF OUR REPUBLIC.

"COMMANDERS, POLITICAL WORKERS AND ALL SOLDIERS HAVE UNDERSTOOD THE SERIOUSNESS AND COMPLEXITY OF THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL- POLITICAL SITUATION.

"BY ITS PRUDENCE AND DISCIPLINE THEY POSITIVELY INFLUENCED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERNAL EVENTS IN THE COUNTRY, PREVENTED USELESS BLOODSHED AND THUS SIGNIFICANTLY SUPPORTED COMPLICATED AND DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS OF OUR DELEGATION IN MOSCOW.

"I HIGHLY APPRECIATE THE ATTITUDE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLES ARMY IN THESE CRITICAL DAYS AND EXPRESS TO YOU MY THANKS," THE ORDER SAID.

(MORE) LD/ O 2046/68

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