

CN 251

X/13 UN - 1ST ADD CZECHOSLOVAK ISSUE (CN 250) XXX JUNCTURE

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL WAS CONSULTING MEMBERS OF THE 15-NATION BODY WEDNESDAY ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL ATTITUDES ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK REQUEST TO TERMINATE THE DEBATE AND TO DROP THE ITEM.

TUESDAY EVENING, FOLLOWING HIS TALK WITH CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER JIRI HAJEK, THE PRESIDENT TOLD NEWSMEN THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK REQUEST WOULD REQUIRE A DECISION OF THE COUNCIL.

A UN SPOKESMAN CITED A RULE OF PROCEDURE WEDNESDAY SAYING THAT AS LONG AS THE SECURITY COUNCIL REMAINS SEIZED OF AN ITEM, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CANNOT TAKE UP THAT SAME ITEM.

THIS WAS TO INDICATE THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD HAVE TO AGREE TO TERMINATE ITS DEBATE ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA, SHOULD PLANS BE AFOOT TO BRING THIS MATTER BEFORE AN EMERGENCY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

NO SUCH PLANS APPEARED MATURING, ALTHOUGH A LATIN AMERICAN INITIATIVE IN THIS DIRECTION WAS UNDERSTOOD TO BE STILL ALIVE.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, RUMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CORNELIU MANESCU, WAS IN NEW YORK, OSTENSIBLY IN CONNECTION WITH HIS OFFICIAL FUNCTION AS PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY.

BUT OFFICIAL UN SPOKESMEN DID NOT KNOW OF ANY APPOINTMENTS TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY FOR MANESCU. NOR COULD THEY INDICATE WHAT TYPE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUSINESS HE WAS PURSUING.

MEANWHILE, A UN SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THAT AS OF 11 A.M. WEDNESDAY NEW YORK TIME, THE CABLE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN UN HEADQUARTERS AND THE UN INFORMATION CENTER IN PRAGUE WERE RE-ESTABLISHED. HE SAID THAT THIS LINK HAD BEEN INTERRUPTED A FEW HOURS AFTER THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE SPOKESMAN DID NOT KNOW HOW MANY UN PERSONNEL WERE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN CONNECTION WITH A DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROJECT, AND WHAT WAS THEIR STATUS. JON/ O 2116/68 AUG 28. /15