

CN 279 (ATTRIBUTION REQUIRED)

CURT - WARSAW PACT MANOEUVRES IN RUMANIA?

MUNICH, AUGUST 28 (CNR/AGENCIES)- A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT SAID TODAY THAT WEST GERMANY HAD REASON TO TAKE SERIOUSLY REPORTS THAT WARSAW PACT EXERCISES MIGHT BE HELD IN RUMANIA.

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL REPORTED FROM BUCHAREST, HOWEVER, THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES THERE DESCRIBED THE REPORT AS NONSENSE.

THERE WAS NO FORMAL RUMANIAN COMMENT.

THE BONN STATEMENT, MADE BY GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN CONRAD AHLERS FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THE REPORT IN A ROME NEWSPAPER, SAID THAT IF SUCH MANOEUVRES TOOK PLACE, THEY WOULD "NOT BE NORMAL EXERCISES."

"THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT HAS REASON TO TAKE THESE REPORTS SERIOUSLY," HE SAID.

"THEY DO NOT SEEM TO BE PURE INVENTION."

JON/E 2328/68

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