

CN 84

X/4 C/S - 6TH ADD HUSAK ELECTED (CN 80) XXX SAID

(CMD)-THE 55-YEAR-OLD HUSAK REPLACES VASIL BILAK, WHO BECAME SLOVAK PARTY LEADER AFTER ALEXANDER DUBCEK WAS ELECTED NATIONAL PARTY CHIEF LAST JANUARY.

A LAWYER BY ORIGINAL PROFESSION, HUSAK LED THE THEN ILLEGAL SLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY INTO THE 1944 UPRISING.

AFTER THE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER IN 1948 A DRIVE AGAINST "BOURGEOIS NATIONALISTS" BEGAN. HUSAK WAS IMPRISONED IN 1951 AND GIVEN A LIFE SENTENCE IN 1954.

HE WAS RELEASED IN 1960 AND FORMALLY REHABILITATED IN 1963, BUT WAS NOT RPT NOT ALLOWED TO ASSUME ANY POLITICAL FUNCTION UNDER THE ANTONIN NOVOTNY LEADERSHIP.

HE HAS BEEN ACTIVE AS A PUBLICIST AND WORKED IN THE HISTORICAL INSTITUTE OF THE SLOVAK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

(MORE) REN/MBW/F 0743/68 AUG 29 *mw*

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