

CN 94

C/S - PRAVDA: SOVIET TROOPS WILL NOT INTERFERE

MOSCOW, AUG 29, REUTER -- PRAVDA, THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER, ASSURED ITS READERS TODAY THAT SOVIET TROOPS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WOULD NOT INTERFERE IN THE COUNTRY'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

ITS LEADING ARTICLE SAID SOVIET TROOPS AND THOSE OF ITS ALLIES WERE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA NOT AS OCCUPATION TROOPS, BUT AS CLASS BROTHERS.

"THE MEN OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE U.S.S.R., AND THE OTHER FRATERNAL COUNTRIES, HAVE NOT INTERFERED AND WILL NOT INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC."

PRAVDA CLAIMED THAT THERE WAS GROWING UNDERSTANDING IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT THAT THE MEASURES TAKEN IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WERE "AN EXPRESSION OF GENUINE CONCERN FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF THE POSITIONS OF SOCIALISM, PEACE AND THE SECURITY OF PEOPLES."

IT SAID COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WERE SEEKING TO AGGRAVATE THE SITUATION THERE, AND TO DISCREDIT AND FRUSTRATE THE AGREEMENT REACHED IN MOSCOW BETWEEN RUSSIAN AND CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERS.

"THIS SERVES EXCLUSIVELY THE INTERESTS OF IMPERIALISTS, THESE SWORN ENEMIES OF SOCIALISM."

PRAVDA ADDED THAT "THE SOVIET UNION AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL GIVE A RESOLUTE REBUFF TO THE MILITARISTIC, REVANCHIST AND NEO-NAZI FORCES THAT ARE STRIVING TO REVISE THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR, TO ENCROACH ON THE INVIOABILITY OF THE BORDERS EXISTING IN EUROPE."

MA/A 1009/68

17