

CN437

X/13 C/S -- SWEDES PROTEST SOVIET SEARCH OF CAR IN CSSR

STOCKHOLM, AUG 29 -- (RFE SPECIAL/HENRY) -- THE SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTRY TODAY SAID ITS EMBASSY IN MOSCOW WOULD SUBMIT A PROTEST TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WITH REGARD TO AN INCIDENT NEAR PRAGUE TUESDAY.

THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SAID A SWEDISH EMBASSY CAR WITH CORPS DIPLOMATIQUE PLATES ON IT WAS STOPPED BY A SOVIET GUARD GROUP OUTSIDE PRAGUE. THE CAR HAD BEEN ESCORTING THREE SWEDISH PRIVATE VEHICLES TOWARD THE BORDER, AND WAS RETURNING TO PRAGUE.

DESPITE THE PROTESTS OF THE EMBASSY CAR DRIVER, THE SOVIET SOLDIERS SEARCHED THE VEHICLE, SAYING THEY WERE LOOKING FOR WEAPONS, AND WERE ON ORDERS TO DO SO. THEY FOUND NO WEAPONS AND THEN LET THE CAR CONTINUE.

MA/U *he*

1340/68 *4*