

X/4 C/S - KODAJ ATTACKS INTERVENTION, PRESS CENSORSHIP

(NOTE TO EDITORS: ESPECIALLY USEFUL -- OPD)

MUNICH, AUG 29 (CMD)-- CZECHOSLOVAK GENERAL SAMUEL KODAJ SAYS IN AN INTERVIEW OVER RADIO CZECHOSLOVAKIA THAT THE INTERVENTION BY WARSAW PACT TROOPS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS "UNREASONABLE AND STUPID."

"ONE CANNOT RPT NOT CONDUCT SUCH A POLICY," HE SAID, "WHEREBY EVERYTHING EXISTING BETWEEN" THE POLITICS OF WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW MUST "EITHER BE MINDLESSLY ADAPTED TO THESE POLICIES, OR ELSE, ALL THAT EXISTS IN BETWEEN IS TRAMPLED UPON."

KODAJ ALSO SAID HE WAS AGAINST THE REINTRODUCTION OF PRESS CENSORSHIP.

(CMD)-- KODAJ WAS IN THE NEWS IN JUNE WHEN HE WAS AMONG THE FIRST TO ATTACK THE "2,000-WORD" DECLARATION OF PROMINENT CZECHOSLOVAKS FROM VARIOUS WASLKS OF LIFE. HIS ATTACK WAS MADE IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. THE 2,000-WORD DECLARATION CALLED FOR S SPEED-UP IN THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF THE COUNTRY.

RADIO CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S INTERVIEW, YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, SAID:

QUESTION: COMRADE GENERAL, TODAY I WANT TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE ARMED INTERVENTION. I WILL ASK YOU ONLY QUESTIONS OF A MILITARY CHARACTER. YOU ARE A GENERAL, AN OFFICER, AND I AM SURE YOU HAVE YOUR OWN OPINIONS ON THESE EVENTS. TELL ME. PLEASE, WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON THE COMMUNIQUE WHICH OUR COMRADES HAVE COME FROM MOSCOW WITH?

ANSWER: (WORDS INDISTINCT) I REALIZE THAT THE SITUATION IS VERY COMPLICATED AND A WAY OUT MUST BE SOUGHT. AND NO RPT NO ONE CAN SO HUMILIATE AND MORALLY INSULT A SOLDIER'S PATRIOTIC SENTIMENTS AS THE THINGS WHICH HAVE HAPPENED. I AM FOR SOCIALISM, FOR COMMUNISM. BUT I AM ALSO A CITIZEN OF THIS REPUBLIC, AND NEVER WOULD I HAVE THOUGHT THAT I WOULD LIVE TO SEE A THING OF THIS SORT.

LOOK AT IT THIS WAY: ARMIES THE WORLD OVER ARE ALWAYS AND EVERYWHERE THE INSTRUMENT OF POLITICS AND WHEN SOMEONE WANTS TO ASSERT THESE POLITICS WITH VIOLENT MEANS, HE USES THESE INSTRUMENTS OF POWER. THERE ARE, OR COURSE, SITUATIONS WHERE POLITICS CAN BE UNREASONABLE AND STUPID, THERE ARE ALSO UNREASONABLE AND STUPID INTERVENTIONS BY ARMIES. IT DEPENDS ON WHAT THE LEVEL OF THINKING IS AMONG MEMBERS OF THE ARMY, SO THAT THEY SHOULD NOT RPT NOT MULTIPLY UNREASONABLE ACTS AND STUPIDITIES.

(MORE) EH/HH/REN/MBW/U *not* 1518/68