

CN 162

X/13 EURO - 1ST ADD - MEDICI: CS CRISIS NOT OVER (CN - 159)

X X X COUNTRIES

MOVING ON TO EUROPEAN SECURITY, MEDICI SAID IT WAS NECESSARY FOR ITALY TO RE-EXAMINE ITS POSITION AND RENEW ITS FAITH IN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE.

"THE VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF THE RENUNCIATION OF THE USE AND THE THREAT OF FORCE BRINGS WITH IT THE NECESSITY OF BEING VIGIL ON THE MATTER OF OUR SECURITY," HE SAID.

"IT IS NECESSARY TO RENEW OUR FAITH IN THE DEFENSIVE FUNCTION OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE THAT HAS GIVEN US 20 YEARS OF PEACE AND THAT HAS ALLOWED OUR COUNTRY A WIDE INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION EVEN WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES.

"THUS, THE RECENT EVENTS MAKE IT NECESSARY FOR OUR GOVERNMENT TO CONFIRM THE ESSENTIAL CHARACTER OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE COUNTRY," HE SAID.

MEDICI CONCLUDED PLEDGING THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO WORK FOR THE RELAXATION OF TENSION IN EUROPE.

"THE GOVERNMENT, THOUGH RECOGNIZING THAT THE ... CRISIS IN PRAGUE HAS POSED GRAVE OBSTACLES, BELIEVES THAT IT MUST CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS FOR THE CARRYING OUT OF A POLICY FOR THE RELAXATION OF TENSION," HE SAID.

TP/MBW/HE *not*

AUG 29 *6*

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