

X/13 CURT -- CSSR TOURISTS STAYING IN SWEDEN

STOCKHOLM, AUG 29 -- (RFE SPECIAL/THRANE) -- THE CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM HAS RECOMMENDED THROUGH THE SWEDISH PRESS THAT ALL CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS IN SWEDEN RETURN HOME BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1.

BUT NOT ALL CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS INTEND TO DO SO, SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ALIENS COMMISSION IN STOCKHOLM THIS MORNING.

"I HAVE PERSONALLY 20 APPLICATIONS FOR A PROLONGED PERMIT TO STAY," SAID THE SPOKESMAN AND ADDED THAT SEVERAL COLLEAGUES HAD SIMILAR NUMBERS OF APPLICATIONS, AND THAT FURTHER APPLICATIONS WERE COMING TO THE COMMISSION ALL THE TIME FROM POLICE STATIONS ALL OVER SWEDEN. THE COMMISSION EXPECTED THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS TO INCREASE AS MORE AND MORE TOURIST VISAS EXPIRED.

"SO FAR, THERE HAVE NOT BEEN ANY DIRECT DEFECTORS AFTER THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA," THE SPOKESMAN SAID. THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR EXTENDED VISA ARE THOSE WHO WANT TO WAIT AND SEE HOW THE SITUATION DEVELOPS BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO RETURN. THEY ARE NORMALLY GIVEN A PROLONGATION FOR A MONTH.

FOR THE TOURISTS WHO WANT TO RETURN TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE SWEDISH PRESS TODAY GIVES INSTRUCTIONS IN CZECH AND SWEDISH. RAILWAY AND AEROPLANE TICKETS CAN BE CHANGED TO GO THROUGH WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER FREE OF CHARGE. AT SWEDISH RAILWAY STATIONS, CZECHOSLOVAK CITIZENS WILL FURTHERMORE GET A PRESENT OF 100 SW. CROWNS (20 DOLLARS) TOWARDS EXPENSES DURING THE TRIP. CAR TOURISTS WILL GET AN EXTRA SUM FROM THE RED CROSS.