

C/S 1600 INTRO - EAST EUROPEAN PRESS COMMENT

MUNICH, AUG 29 (CNR/ AGENCIES) PRAVDA, THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER, DECLARED TODAY THAT THE SOVIET OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS MEETING WITH GROWING APPROVAL IN THE WORLD COMMUNIST MOVEMENT AND THAT THE PRESENCE OF SOVIET TROOPS WAS TIMELY AND JUSTIFIED.

PRAVDA AND OTHER SOVIET NEWSPAPERS DEVOTED A GREAT DEAL OF SPACE TODAY TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK SITUATION, BUT DID NOT RPT NOT MENTION YESTERDAY'S REJECTION BY THE CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE AGREEMENTS MADE IN MOSCOW BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAK AND SOVIET LEADERS.

THE PRAVDA ARTICLE, TURNING SPECIFICALLY TO THE SITUATION IN SLOVAKIA, SAID NORMALIZATION THERE WOULD DEPEND VERY MUCH ON THE RESULTS OF THE SLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS.

IT SAID LIFE IN THE SLOVAK CAPITAL OF BRATISLAVA IS BEING NORMALIZED AND PART OF THE CREDIT FOR THIS BELONGS TO THE SOVIET ARMY, WHICH, IN PRAVDA'S WORDS, OPPOSED ATTEMPTS BY COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES TO PROVOKE EXCESSES.

IN OTHER ARTICLES, PRAVDA ASSURED ITS READERS THAT THE OCCUPYING SOVIET TROOPS WOULD NOT RPT NOT INTERFERE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INVOKED THE WORDS OF LENIN TO JUSTIFY THE PRESENCE OF THE SOVIET FORCES.

A LEADING ARTICLE IN PRAVDA SAID THE SOVIET TROOPS AND THOSE OF THE OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WERE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA NOT RPT NOT AS OCCUPATION TROOPS BUT AS CLASS BROTHERS.

PRAVDA CLAIMED HOWEVER THAT COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES WERE SEEKING TO AGGRAVATE THE SITUATION AND DISCREDIT AND FRUSTRATE THE MOSCOW AGREEMENTS.

NEWSPAPERS FROM OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ALSO CONTINUED TO COMMENT ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK PROBLEM.

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