

X/13 C/S -- ESCAPES ON BULGARIAN-TURKISH FRONTIER

ISTANBUL, AUG 30 (RFE SPECIAL/NESTEROFF) -- THE MILITARY OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BROUGHT A NUMBER OF ESCAPES INTO TURKEY BY EAST EUROPEANS.

IN THE WEEK IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ENTRY OF THE WARSAW PACT TROOPS, DEFECTORS HAVE INCLUDED A FILM STAR, A DOCTOR, ENGINEERS FROM RUMANIA, BULGARIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND A REUNITED COUPLE FROM EAST GERMANY, AUTHORITIES REPORTED.

THE RUMANIAN ACTRESS EMILIA RUSO, ON HEARING OF THE MILITARY MOVES MADE HER WAY FROM BUCHAREST THROUGH BULGARIA AND CROSSED INTO TURKEY AT THE SVILENGRED-EDIREN BORDER POST. SHE IMMEDIATELY ASKED THE TURKISH AUTHORITIES FOR ASYLUM. REGARDING HER FILM WORK IN RUMANIA SHE SAID SHE FELT SHE WAS BECOMING STEREOTYPED.

ANOTHER RUMANIAN, A 26-YEAR-OLD PARTICIPANT IN THE SOFIA YOUTH FESTIVAL, DECIDED NOT TO RETURN HOME AND MADE HIS WAY INTO TURKEY BY MOTORCYCLE.

HE WANTS TO EMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES.

TWO RUMANIANS OF GERMAN ORIGIN, EMIL KRISTOV, 32, A CIVIL ENGINEER AND HIS WIFE CHRISTINE, 28, ALSO CROSSED OVER THE EDIREN BORDER FROM BULGARIA WITH THEIR TWO SMALL CHILDREN THIS WEEK AND TOLD THE TURKISH AUTHORITIES THEY WANT TO START A NEW LIFE IN SWEDEN.

A CZECHOSLOVAK COUPLE FROM BRATISLAVA, MILAS AND JOLANA KOZICOV -- WERE HOLIDAYING WITH THEIR SIX-YEAR-OLD SON ON THE BULGARIAN BLACK SEA COAST WHEN THE OCCUPATION OF THEIR COUNTRY TOOK PLACE. THEY IMMEDIATELY LEFT AND MADE THEIR WAY IN THEIR SKODA CAR TO THE TURKISH FRONTIER WHERE THEY ASKED FOR ASYLUM.

MILAS IS A MECHANICAL ENGINEER AND JOLANA A NURSE IN A KINDERGARTEN. THEY ARE NOW WAITING FOR FORMALITIES TO BE COMPLETED SO THAT THEY CAN JOIN HER UNCLE WHO LIVES IN THE UNITED STATES.

A BULGARIAN TECHNICIAN STEFAN IVANOV STOWED AWAY IN VARNA IN THE TANKER EMASIDE AND HID IN THE FUNNEL. HERE HE STAYED WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER FOR THREE DAYS UNTIL THE SHIP ENTERED THE BOSPHORUS

WHILE THE TANKER WAS PASSING THROUGH THE NARROWS AT ISTINIYE, HE EMERGED FROM HIS HIDING PLACE AND LEAPED OVERBOARD.

AN EAST GERMAN COUPLE, HANS NEUMANN, 26 WHO HAD ESCAPED INTO WEST GERMANY SOME TIME AGO AND WAS WORKING IN STUTTGART, AND HEIDE MARIE SCHWELLUS, THE MOTHER OF HIS 18-MONTH OLD CHILD, WHOM HE HAD LEFT BEHIND IN MERSEBURG, WERE REUNITED ACCORDING TO PLAN IN THE BULGARIAN TOWN OF HASKOVA, ABOUT 70 KILOMETRES FROM THE TURKISH BORDER.

HANS HAD TAKEN A MERCEDES TRUCK FROM THE FACTORY WHERE HE WORKED AND TOGETHER WITH THEIR CHILD THE COUPLE DROVE TO THE BORDER.

WHILE THE BULGARIAN OFFICIALS WERE IN THE BORDER POST OFFICE CHECKING THEIR DOCUMENTS, HANS STARTED THE ENGINE AND WITH HORN BLARING DROVE AT BREAKNECK SPEED THROUGH THE LOWERED FRONTIER BARRIER.

THE TURKISH BORDER GUARDS AND OFFICIALS IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDED THE BREAKAWAY TRUCK BUT FROM THE BULGARIAN SIDE CAME THE CLATTER OF MACHINEGUN FIRE. ONE BULLET SHATTERED THE WINDSCREEN. ANOTHER BULLET LANDED IN THE WALL JUST OVER THE HEAD OF THE CHIEF TURKISH CUSTOMS OFFICER SITTING IN HIS OFFICE AND ONE BURST PEPPERED A MINI-

BUS FULL OF TURKISH WORKERS

WAITING TO CROSS OVER ON THEIR WAY TO GERMANY.

THE BULGARIANS DEMANDED THE RETURN OF THE COUPLE "FOR VIOLATION OF CUSTOMS PROCEDURE" AND KEPT THE BORDER CLOSED FOR AN HOUR- THE FIRST TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED IN TEN YEARS.

THE GOVERNOR OF EDIRNE PROVINCE REJECTED THE BULGARIANS DEMANDS AND PROMISED TO ISSUE TEMPORARY RESIDENCE PERMITS STRAIGHT AWAY TO THE COUPLE SO THAT THEY COULD GET MARRIED WITHIN THE STIPULATED TWO WEEKS' RESIDENCE PERIOD IN TURKEY.

THE COUPLE TOLD REPORTERS LATER THAT THEY WOULD RETURN TO WEST GERMANY AFTER SPENDING A WHILE IN THE COUNTRY THAT HAD ENABLED THEM TO BECOME REUNITED.