

CN 93 (ATTRIBUTION REQUIRED)

X/13 CS - - - MOLLET SEES SOVIET DEFEAT

PARIS, AUG 30 (RFE SPECIAL/EDWARDS) - - - FRENCH SOCIALIST LEADER GUY MOLLET SAID LAST NIGHT THAT EVEN IF THE SOVIETS SUCCEED IN STIFFLING CZECHOSLOVAK LIBERALIZATION FOR THE MOMENT THEY WOULD NEVER SUCCEED IN SNUFFING IT OUT COMPLETELY. THE EX-PREMIER WAS INTERVIEWED ON THE RADIO STATION "EUROPE-ONE".

MOLLET SAID THAT "THE FALSE ACCORDS OF MOSCOW - - IN REALITY, THEY ARE NOTHING BUT A DIKTAT -- COULD LEAD TOMORROW TO AN HONORABLE CAPITULATION OF OUR CZECH FRIENDS. NEVERTHELESS, I THINK THE SOVIET UNION HAS COMMITTEED A SERIOUS ERROR AND ALREADY SUFFERED A DEFEAT."

EVEN IF THE SOVIETS HAD STIFFLED CZECHOSLOVAK LIBERALIZATION FOR THE MOMENT, THE PEOPLE "HAVE JUST DEMONSTRATED TO THE WORLD, AND PARTICULARLY TO THEIR OCCUPIERS, A DETERMINATION FOR LIBERALIZATION WHICH WILL NEVER AGAIN BE SNUFFED OUT."

THE SOCIALIST CHIEF AGAIN WELCOMED THE FRENCH COMMUNIST STATEMENT OF DISAPPROVAL FOR THE SOVIET INVASION, BUT REPEATED THAT THIS DECLARATION REMAINED "INSUFFICIENT".

HE ALSO CRITICIZED THE FRENCH COMMUNIST-LED UNION, THE C.G.T., FOR NOT JOINING LAST MONDAYS FIVE-MINUTE SOLIDARITY STRIKE BY FRENCH WORKERS. IT WAS REGRETTABLE-HE SAID THAT "THE WORKING CLASS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN UNANIMOUSLY BEHIND A PEOPLE FIGHTING FOR ITS INDEPENDENCE."

MBW/AP/1146/68 AUG 30

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