

CN 181

X/13 SPORTS -- TWO SOVIET SPORTS EVENTS CANCELLED

BERLIN, AUG. 30 (RFE SPECIAL/WULFF)-- TWO SPORTS EVENTS IN WEST BERLIN IN WHICH SOVIET SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN WERE TO PARTICIPATE HAVE BEEN CANCELLED IN PROTEST OF THE SOVIET OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WEST BERLIN SPORTS FEDERATION SAID TODAY.

ONE EVENT WAS A MEETING OF WEST BERLIN AND 30 SOVIET ATHLETES AT WEST BERLINS POST STADIUM WHICH WAS SCHEDULED FROM AUG. 25 TO 31.

THE SECOND EVENT CANCELLED SO FAR IS A TENNIS TOURNAMENT BETWEEN WEST BERLIN AND MOSCOW IN WHICH FOUR FEMALE AND FOUR MALE PLAYERS WERE TO PARTICIPATE. THE TOURNAMENT WAS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE FROM 9 TO 13 SEPTEMBER.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS BELIEVED THAT SEVERAL OTHER SPORTS EVENTS -- INCLUDING A MEETING OF WEST BERLIN AND MOSCOW HEAVY ATHLETES FROM SEPT. 25 TO 30, A VISIT TO MOSCOW OF THE WEST BERLIN VOLLEY BALL TEAM, AND A SOCCER GAME IN MOSCOW NEXT OCTOBER BETWEEN THE LOCAL HERTHA BSC TEAM AND THE MOSCOW TEAM OF SPARTAK -- WOULD ALSO BE CANCELLED.

PRW/ O 1757/68

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