

CS - POPE RELIEVED AT EASING OF CSSR CRISIS

VATICAN CITY, AUG 30 (UPI)-POPE PAUL VI HAS EXPRESSED RELIEF AT THE EASING OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK CRISIS, THE VATICAN REPORTED TODAY.

L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO, THE VATICAN NEWSPAPER, SAID THE POPE SPOKE ON THE SITUATION TO TWO GROUPS OF CZECHOSLOVAK PILGRIMS AFTER HIS REGULAR GENERAL AUDIENCE WEDNESDAY.

"YOU KNOW THAT WE UNDERSTAND THE PASSION THAT TODAY WEIGHS ON YOUR NATION,"THE POPE SAID."WE ARE HAPPY THAT THINGS DID NOT BECOME MORE TRAGIC AS THEY MIGHT HAVE DONE.

"BUT TO FACE A TRIAL SUCH AS THAT WHICH YOU ARE SUFFERING FILLS US WITH UNDERSTANDING FOR YOU AND WITH PRAYERS, GOOD WISHES, VOWS AND THE DESIRE TO HELP YOU...

"THE POPE..PRAYS FOR ALL YOUR COMPATRIOTS WITH SENTIMENTS OF PARTICULAR SOLIDARITY, WHILE NOW WE BLESS YOU ALL, HOPING YOU WILL BE PATIENT, GOOD, STRONG, AND UNITED AND WILL WAIT FOR THE LORD TO GIVE MERCY, PEACE AND PROSPERITY TO YOUR NATION."

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