

CN 208

C/S - ITALY'S COMMUNISTS VOTE AGAINST SOVIET CONDEMNATION

ROME, AUG. 30, REUTER--ITALIAN COMMUNISTS AND EXTREME LEFT-WINGERS TONIGHT VOTED AGAINST A RESOLUTION IN THE LOWER HOUSE CONDEMNING THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND PRAISING THE CZECHOSLOVAKS FOR THEIR "HEROIC AND CIVILISED RESISTANCE."

BUT THE VOTE, WHICH ALSO REAFFIRMED ITALYS SUPPORT FOR NATO AND EUROPEAN UNITY, WAS PASSED WITH A LARGE MAJORITY.

THE COMMUNISTS PRESENTED AND LOST THEIR OWN MORE MILDLY WORDED RESOLUTION DESCRIBING THE INVASION AS "UNJUSTIFIED INTERVENTION" EXPRESSING THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND CALLING FOR TH RAPID WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET TROOPS.

ASB/E 1927/68/ER