

CN 267

E/W -- 1ST ADD BONN TO PROTEST (CN 266) XXX SAY

AHLERS SAID IT HAD NOT YET BEEN DECIDED WHETHER THE PROTEST NOTE WOULD BE HANDED TO THE SOVIETS IN MOSCOW OR BONN.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ALSO TOLD NEWSMEN TODAY THAT THE CABINET HAD RECEIVED NEWS THAT SHOWED WITHOUT DOUBT THAT THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE WARSAW PACT INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS EAST GERMANY.

AHLERS SAID EAST GERMAN CHIEF OF STATE WALTER ULBRICHT, ABOVE ALL, PUSHED STRONGLY THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS FOR THE MILITARY INTERVENTION.

HE SAID SOVIET PROPAGANDA HAD SWITCHED FROM ITS FORMER CLAIM THAT THE WARSAW PACT FORCES WENT INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST BY PRAGUE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS. IT WAS NOW ATTEMPTING TO MAKE WEST GERMANY RESPONSIBLE IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD FOR THE INVASION.

HE SAID THE SOVIETS WERE NOW SAYING THE REASON FOR THE INVASION WAS BECAUSE WEST GERMANY WAS HELPING TO STRENGTHEN COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE WEST GERMAN MILITARY WAS TRANSMITTING PROPAGANDA INTO THE COUNTRY.

AHLERS SAID THE GOVERNMENT STRONGLY REJECTED BOTH CHARGES.

PRW/U AUG 30

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