

X/13 - CURT - FREE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION

VIENNA, AUG 30 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- AFTER AN EXTENSIVE NEWS-BROADCAST AT 1700 "FREE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION - STUDIO MORAVSKA OSTRAVA" CAME BACK TO THE AIR AT 1800 WITH THE FIRST PART OF THE CZECH HISTORICAL FILM "PROTI VSEM" ("CONTRA MUNDUM").

INSTEAD OF THE SCHEDULED NEWSCAST AT 1900, THE ANNOUNCER OF STUDIO MORAVSKA OSTRAVA READ A DECLARATION BY "ALL EMPLOYEES OF CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION."

ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION, ALL CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION MEMBERS FULLY SUPPORT THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT AND ARE WILLING TO DO EVERYTHING TO NORMALIZE THE SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. BUT "AGAINST THE DIRECTIVES ISSUED BY THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT, CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION IS NOT IN A POSITION TO RE-OPEN OPERATION BECAUSE SOME OF THE STUDIOS, INCLUDING STUDIO PRAGUE, ARE STILL OCCUPIED BY SOVIET TROOPS AND OTHER STUDIOS ARE UNABLE TO ESTABLISH TELEPHONE OR OTHER COMMUNICATION WITH SLOVAKIA," THE DECLARATION SAID.

"TO PROTEST THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS, CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION IS SIGNING OFF," THE DECLARATION CONCLUDED.

AFTER HAVING ENDED, THE ANNOUNCER FOLDED HIS MANUSCRIPT, GOT UP AND LEFT THE STUDIO AND "FREE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION MORAVSKA OSTRAVA" SIGNED OFF.

FEW SECONDS AFTERWARDS AN ANNOUNCER FROM THE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION STUDIO IN BRNO APPEARED ON THE SCREEN AND READ THE SAME DECLARATION. BRNO TELEVISION SIGNED OFF AT 1910 AND SINCE THEN THERE IS NO BROADCAST ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION CHANNEL.

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