

X/4 C/S - SHOULD ARMY ASSIST PRAGUE POLICE?

MUNICH, AUGUST 30 (CMD)- PRAGUE LORD MAYOR LUDVIK CERNY SAID TODAY THAT PRAGUE POLICE MAY SEEK THE ASSISTANCE OF THE ARMY.

IN AN INTERVIEW CARRIED BY RADIO CENTRAL BOHEMIA TONIGHT, CERNY SAID THAT FOREIGN MILITARY UNITS MUST LEAVE THE CITY IF LIFE IN THE CAPITAL IS TO BE NORMALIZED.

THE CONDITION OF THE WITHDRAWAL IS THAT PUBLIC ORDER AND PUBLIC SERVICES MUST BE MAINTAINED, HE SAID ACCORDING TO THIS RADIO REPORT.

"I THINK THAT THERE IS A HOPE THAT A WAY TO AN AGREEMENT WILL BE FOUND AND, AS PRAGUE CITIZENS HAVE CERTAINLY NOTICED, THE DISLOCATED UNITS WERE FORCED BY OUR PRESSURE TO WITHDRAW FROM THEIR POSITIONS. I BELIEVE THAT WE SHALL FIND A REALISTIC WAY TO SECURE PUBLIC ORDER IN THE CITY."

CERNY SAID IT WAS WELL KNOWN THAT THE SECURITY FORCE (POLICE) WAS UNDERSTAFFED AND SUGGESTED AS A SOLUTION ASSISTANCE BY THE ARMY, THE RADIO REPORTED.

CERNY ALSO SAID, ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, THAT THE ARMY SHOULD TAKE OVER THE BUILDINGS NOW OCCUPIED BY FOREIGN TROOPS AND GUARANTEE THEIR SAFETY.

CERNY SAID THE REMOVAL OF SLOGANS FROM THE WALLS WAS HELPING TO PREPARE THE WAY TOWARD THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE TROOPS.

THE SUPPLY SITUATION HAD BEEN NORMALIZED, CERNY SAID, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GASS SUPPLIED WERE NORMAL AND ONLY PUBLIC TRANSPORT HAD BEEN HINDERED BY THE CURFEW. BUT HERE THE SITUATION WAS IMPROVING AS WELL, HE ADDED. (RADIO CENTRAL BOHEMIA /M, AUGUST 30, 1900)

OP/LD/E

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