

CN 56

X/13 CS - - - "VAST CRISIS COMING IN COMMUNISM"

PARIS, AUG 31 (RFE SPECIAL/EDWARDS) " - - - THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE FRENCH UNIFIED SOCIALIST PARTY SAID LAST NIGHT THAT THE COMMUNIST WORLD WAS HEADED INTO "A VAST CRISIS".

PSU LEADER MICHEL ROCART WAS SPEAKING AT PARIS MEETING CALLED BY HIS PARTY TO PROTEST THE SOVIET AGGRESSION. HE TOLD A LARGE GATHERING THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK EXPERIMENT HAD PROVED THERE COULD BE NO TRUE SOCIALISM WITHOUT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.

"WE KNOW", HE SAID, "THAT THERE IS MALAISE WITHIN THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY AND THAT IT IS SPREADING THROUGH ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE EAST. A VAST CRISIS IS BEING PREPARED IN THE COMMUNIST WORLD."

JACQUES SAUVAGEOT, LEADER OF THE FRENCH NATIONAL STUDENTS UNION (UNEF), LARGEST STUDENT ORGANIZATION IN FRANCE, TOLD THE MEETING THAT EVERY NATION SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO BUILD SOCIALISM AS IT WANTED TO. HE SAID WHAT HAD HAPPENED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA COULD SHORTLY HAPPEN ELSEWHERE.

MARC HEURGON, MEMBER OF THE PSU NATIONAL BUREAU, SAID THE CRISIS SHOWED THAT THE POLICY OF BLOCS WAS A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM. HE WELCOMED THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTYS DISAPPROVAL OF THE SOVIET ATTACK AS AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP. BUT HE SAID THERE HAD TO BE ANOTHER STEP BY THE PARTY. THIS WAS NOT ENOUGH.

MBW/ O *he* 1205/68