

CN 58
X/4/13 C/S - SHORTER ITEMS

ARTISTS KILLED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENT

MUNICH AUG 31 (CMD) -- THE CZECHOSLOVAK MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK ARTISTIC AGENCY "PRAGOCONCERT", HAVE ANNOUNCED NAMES OF ARTISTS WHO RECENTLY LOST THEIR LIVES IN A CAR ACCIDENT DURING THEIR PROFESSIONAL VISIT TO THE MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC, RADIO CENTRAL BOHEMIA ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING.

THE NAMES OF THE ARTISTS WERE GIVEN AS KAREL DUBA, JOSEF POSLEDNI, JAROSLAV STRUDL, BOHUMIL VANEK, DANA HOBZOVA AND MARIE POKSTEFLOVA. THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED ON 21 AUG.
(RADIO CENTRAL BOHEMIA, DOMESTIC/M AUG 31, 0510)

BRITISH VISA OFFICE IN PRAGUE OPEN ALL WEEKEND

LONDON AUGUST 31--(RFE SPECIAL/WELLS)--THE BRITISH EMBASSY VISA OFFICE IN PRAUE WILL BE OPEN TODAY AND SUNDAY BECAUSE OF THE RUSH OF APPLICATIONS FROM CZECHOSLOVAK CITIZENS, THE FOREIGN OFFICE SAID TODAY.

A FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN WAS UNABLE TO GIVE ANY FURTHER DETAILS OF THE SPECIAL MEASURES BEING TAKEN BY THE PRAGUE EMBASSY TO COPE WITH THE EMERGENCY SITUATION, BUT CONFIRMED THAT THE VISA SECTION WOULD REMAIN OPEN OVER THE WEEKEND.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID HE HAD 0 NO RPT NO FIGURES ON THE NUMBER OF VISAS ISSUED IN PRAGUE DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS, BUT SAID "OBVIOUSLY THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN BUSINESS."

VISAS ARE NORMALLY GRANTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE VISA OFFICER IN PRAGUE WITHOUT REFERENCE TO LONDON EXCEPT IN SPECIAL CASES. JURISDICTION IS EXERCISED PRINCIPALLY THROUGH THE BRITISH HOME OFFICE (INTERIOR MINISTRY) RATHER THAN THE FOREIGN OFFICE, EVEN THOUGH THE OFFICER ISSUING THE VISAS IS A MEMBER OF THE CONSULAR STAFF.

NO SPECIAL STRASBOURG MEETING

PARIS, AUG 31 (RFE SPECIAL/EDWARDS) -- THE BUREAU OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE'S STRASBOURG ASSEMBLY HAS DECIDED NOT RPT NOT TO CALL A SPECIAL ESSION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT TO DEBATE THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

A PARIS MEETING OF THE BUREAU LAST NIGHT DECIDED TO MAKE NO MOVE FOR A SPECIAL SESSION SINCE THE ASSEMBLY'S POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION IS DUE TO MEET IN ROME ON MONDAY. THE BUREAU SAID IN A STATEMENT THAT THE COMMISSION ITSELF COULD CALL A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY SESSION IF IT CONSIDERED SUCH A MEETING NECESSARY.

IF NO EXTRAORDINARY SESSION IS CALLED, THE ASSEMBLY IS DUE TO RESUME ITS NORMAL TWENTIETH SESSION IN STRASBOURG ON SEPT 23.

MBW/HI *bx*

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