

CS MUSICIANS EXPECTED FOR ISLE OF MAN FESTIVAL

ISLE OF MAN, AUG 31 -- (RFE SPECIAL/KW) - A PARTY OF 250 CZECHOSLOVAK SINGERS, DANCERS, AND MUSICIANS IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN AN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OPENING ON THE ISLE OF MAN NEXT WEEKEND.

HARRY PICKARD, WHO HAS ORGANIZED THE FESTIVAL ON THE IRISH SEA ISLAND, SAID HE RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL YESTERDAY FROM PRAGUE CONFIRMING THAT THE PARTY WOULD BE COMING -- IF THEY COULD GET BRITISH VISAS.

"I HAD HEARD NOTHING FROM THEM SINCE I MET THEM IN PRAGUE JUST BEFORE THE INVASION," PICKARD SAID.

SAIGON PRICES RISE

SAIGON, AUG. 31, REUTER- THE NEW WAVE OF VIET CONG ATTACKS THROUGHOUT SOUTH VIETNAM HAS FORCED UP PRICES IN THE CAPITAL BY FIVE PER CENT IN ONE WEEK, A U.S. SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THE COST OF LIVING IN SAIGON ROSE BY THIS AMOUNT LAST WEEK. FOOD PRICES WERE UP BY SIX PER CENT.

BUT WITH THE REPAIR OF TWO KEY BRIDGES ON THE MAIN ROAD INTO SAIGON FROM THE RICE-GROWING MEKONG DELTA, THE PRICE OF RICE, THE STAPLE FOOD HERE, WAS EXPECTED TO DROP NEXT WEEK.

THE BRIDGES WERE BLOWN UP IN GUERRILLA ATTACKS LAUNCHED ON AUGUST 18, BUT SHOULD BOTH BE BACK IN OPERATION TOMORROW

ADEN EXPECTS SOVIET MILITARY AID

BEIRUT, AUG. 31, REUTER - THE SOUTHERN YEMEN FOREIGN MINISTER, MR. SEIF AHMED AL DHALAIE, SAID HERE TODAY THAT THE THE SOVIET UNION HAD AGREED TO SEND ELEVEN EXPERTS TO TRAIN SOUTHERN YEMENIS IN THE USE OF SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

AN AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR SOVIET MILITARY AND TECHNICAL AID WAS SIGNED IN ADEN, ACCORDING TO A SOUTHERN YEMEN RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT LAST THURSDAY.

MR. AL DHALAIE, SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT BEIRUT AIRPORT ON HIS WAY TO CAIRO FOR TOMORROWS ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL SESSION, DID NOT SAY WHEN THE EXPERTS WOULD ARRIVE.

FRENCH CASTLE BURNS

PERIGUEUX, FRANCE, AUG. 31, REUTER - ONE OF FRANCES MOST PICTURESQUE CASTLES, THE CHATEAU DE HAUTEFORT, WAS ALMOST COMPLETELY DESTROYED BY FIRE DURING THE NIGHT.

THE DAMAGE TO THE 17TH CENTURY CHATEAUS RICH COLLECTION OF ANCIENT TAPESTRIES AND FURNITURE WAS NOT YET KOWN.

FOREMEN FROM DOZEN NEIGHBOURING COMMUNITIES FOUGHT 150-FOOT-HIGH (46 METRES) FLAMES IN VAIN THIS MORNING AT THE CHATEU, BUILT ON THE SITE OF A MEDIEVAL CASTLE.

THE CHATEAU IS NEAR THE LITTLE VILLAGE OF HAUTEFORT 40 KILOMETRES (25 MILES) FROM HERE.

MBW/HI 1402/68 N