

CN 103

X/13 BERLIN -- EXPELLEE LEADER: KEEP PRAGUE LESSON IN MIND

BERLIN AUG. 31 (RFE SPECIAL/SCHLEICH)--IT WOULD BE "FATAL" FOR WEST GERMANY TO DISREGARD THE "TOUGH LESSON WHICH WE HAD TO WITNESS IN PRAGUE" AND TO PREVENT BY "FALSE APPEASEMENT" THAT THE NECESSARY CONCLUSIONS ARE DRAWN FROM THIS LESSON, WEST GERMAN EXPELLEE LEADER REINHOLD REHS SAID IN WEST BERLIN TODAY.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERATION OF EXPELLEES AND SPD BUNDESTAG DEPUTY CONDEMNED THE MILITARY INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY SOVIET AND OTHER WARSAW PACT FORCES AND NOTED SPECIFICALLY THAT IT HAD TAKEN PLACE ON THE EVE OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS RIGHTS DECLARATION.

REHS, WHO WAS ADDRESSING THE "ALL-GERMAN PARLIAMENT-IN-ADVANCE" ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNUAL EXPELLEE-ORGANIZED "TAG DER DEUTSCHEN," TERMED IT "ESPECIALLY SHAMEFUL AND TRAGIC THAT GERMANS WERE ALSO FORCED TO TAKE PART IN THIS PLOT" AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

HE PRAISED THE ATTITUDE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE AND SAID "THE EXAMPLE OF THE NATION OF THE CZECHS AND SLOVAKS HAS SHOWN US AND THE ENTIRE WORLD THAT EVEN UNDER A DEADLY THREAT A NATION CAN TURN ITS FATE TOWARD THE BETTER" IF IT WAS HOLDING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF UNANIMITY.

REHS SAID THAT "FOR THE TIME BEING" THE PEACE POLICY OF THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT WAS FACED WITH "INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES" AS A RESULT OF THE WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. HE WARNED THAT IT WAS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT NOW TO AVOID "IMPAIRING THE BASIC (GERMAN) POSITIONS" BY INDICATING READINESS TO MAKE UNDUE CONCESSIONS. THIS WAS TRUE PARTICULARLY OF "SUCH HIGHLY PROBLEMATIC FORMULATIONS AS THAT OF A TENTATIVE RECOGNITION OF THE ODER-NEISSE LINE," REHS EMPHASIZED.

(MORE) WD/ O

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