

X/4 CS - TASS SAYS SOVIETS OBSERVING TRADE CONTRACTS

MOSCOW, AUG 31 (CMD)- THE SOVIET NEWS AGENCY TASS SAID TODAY THE SOVIET SIDE IS "SCRUPULOUSLY CONFORMING" TO ALL ITS TRADE CONTRACTS AND LONG-TERM AGREEMENTS WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

TASS SAID THE SOVIET TRADE REPRESENTATIVE IN PRAGUE, ALEXANDER YEFIMOV, HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO NORMALIZE TRADE EXCHANGES AND INTENSIFY COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

ACCORDING TO TASS, YEFIMOV ALSO SAID IN AN IZVESTIA INTERVIEW TODAY THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT HAD ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS TO STRICTLY CONFORM TO ALL TRADE AGREEMENTS.

THE INSTRUCTIONS WERE ISSUED TO THE MINISTRIES, TRUSTS AND FACTORIES, YEFIMOV SAID.

TASS SAID NORMALIZATION OF FOREIGN TRADE IS "IN MANY RESPECTS DEPENDENT UPON THE NORMALIZATION OF THE GENERAL SITUATION" IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

YEFIMOV SAID THE MAIN DIFFICULTIES AT PRESENT CONCERN TRANSPORTATION. IT IS NECESSARY TO REMOVE JAMS IN FREIGHT TRAFFIC AT BORDER TRANSHIPMENT STATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, HE SAID.

YEFIMOV WAS QUOTED AS SAYING: "WE ARE PLANNING VIGOROUS COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE BRNO FAIR OPENING IN A FEW DAYS. WE ARE READY TO ARRANGE A SERIES OF MEETINGS AT THE LEVEL OF EXPERTS AND TRADE DELEGATIONS TO DRAFT AND SIGN A MUTUAL DELIVERIES PROTOCOL FOR 1969. THE VOLUME OF MUTUAL DELIVERIES UNDER THE LONG-TERM AGREEMENT IS TO GO UP BY 10 PER CENT."

TASS SAID THAT TALKS ON A NEW LONG-TERM AGREEMENT FOR 1971-75 "WILL BE RESUMED."

IT ALSO SAID IT HAD BEEN LEARNED THAT "HIGH LEVEL MEETINGS ARE EXPECTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO CONSIDER MAJOR ECONOMIC PROBLEMS."

(TASS IN ENGLISH/M, AUG 31)

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