

X/4 C/S - TASS CRITICISES LITERARNY LISTI

MOSCOW, AUGUST 31 (CMD)- THE SOVIET NEWS AGENCY TASS TODAY DESCRIBED THE CZECHOSLOVAK WRITERS UNION WEEKLY LITERARNY LISTI AS A "FILTHY LEAFLET."

THE COMMENT WAS CONTAINED IN A REPORT BY TASS CORRESPONDENTS IN PRAGUE. MOST OF THE REPORT DEALT WITH THE RETURN OF NORMAL LIFE TO PRAGUE, BUT TOWARDS THE END, IT SAID:

"COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ELEMENTS HAVE NOT STOPPED THEIR INTRIGUES IN THE CAPITAL. DESPITE THE OUTWARD CALM THERE IS STILL SOME LATENT TENSION.

"BURSTS OF SUBMACHINEGUN AND MACHINE GUN FIRE COULD BE HEARD AT NIGHT.

"FILTHY LEAFLETS WITH HOSTILE PROPAGANDA APPEAR IN THE STREETS NOW AND THEN. THEY INCLUDE A 'SPECIAL EDITION' OF LITERARNY LISTI -- THIS MOUTHPIECE OF ANTI-SOCIALIST ELEMENTS."

TASS CLAIMED THAT ANTI-INVASION POSTERS WERE BEING REPLACED BY OTHERS READING: "SOCIALISM-YES. COUNTER REVOLUTION - NO. PEOPLE BE VIGILANT." IT DID NOT SAY WHO PUT THE POSTERS UP.

TASS ALSO FOUND IT "HIGHLY SYMBOLIC" THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE WAS GUARDED BY A RUSSIAN, IGOR BARUZDIN AND A CZECH JAN KOPACEK.

"TOGETHER THEY ARE STANDING GUARD OVER PEACE AND ORDER IN THE CITY SYMBOLISING THE UNBREAKABLE ALLIANCE OF THE SOVIET AND CZECHOSLOVAK ARMIES," IT SAID. *N*

(TASS, AUGUST 31/68)

RE/BG/E 1810/68

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