

TEN CREWMEN QUIT CZECHOSLOVAK FREIGHTER

BARI, ITALY, AUG. 31, REUTER--TEN OF THE

36 CREWMEN OF A CZECHOSLOVAK CARGOSHIP, THE 7,730-TON BRNO, HAVE SLIPPED OFF THE VESSEL AND ASKED FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM, POLICE REPORTED TODAY.

EIGHT CAME OFF EARLIER THIS WEEK AND TWO OTHERS JOINED THEM TODAY, LEAVING ONLY 26 CREWMEN ABOARD THE FREIGHTER WHICH DOCKED HERE TWO WEEKS AGO WITH A CARGO OF WHEAT FROM CANADA.

POP SINGER RETURNING TO PRAGUE

BERLIN, AUG 31 (DPA/GND)-- ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR CZECHOSLOVAK POP SINGERS, KAREL GOTT, SAID TODAY HE WILL RETURN TO HIS HOME COUNTRY AFTER FINISHING HIS TOUR THROUGH WEST GERMANY.

GOTT SAID, HE WAS IN SOPOT, POLAND, FOR THE SONG FESTIVAL THERE WHEN THE INVASION OCCURRED. HE SAID HE CANCELLED AN APPEARANCE THERE WHEN HE HEARD THE NEWS.

ASKED WHETHER HE BELIEVES HE CAN GO ON WORKING IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS HE DID BEFORE THE INVASION, GOTT SAID: "I THINK SO, YYES."
HE ADDED HOWEVER, IN A LOWER VOICE: "I AM AN OPTOMIST."

SOCCER TEAM DROPS OUT OF TOURNEY

BOLOGNA, ITALY, AUG 31 (UPI)--JUNIOR SOCCER TEAM DUKLA FROM PRAGUE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BERNABEU CUP SOCCER TOURNEY TO BE HELD HERE, ORGANIZERS SAID TODAY.

DUKLA ANNOUNCED IN A TELEGRAM TODAY THAT "OWING TO THE PRESENT SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA" THEY ARE UNABLE TO COME, ORGANIZERS SAID.

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