

CN 161

C/S - 18,000 CZECHOSLOVAKS AROUND VIENNA (W/ CN 156)

VIENNA AUG 31 (UPI)--AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES SAID TODAY SOME 18,000 CZECHOSLOVAKS WERE GATHERED IN CAMPS IN OR AROUND VIENNA. SO FAR, 531 HAVE ASKED FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM.

ACCORDING TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, ABOUT 800 CZECHOSLOVAKS RETURNED TO THEIR HOMELAND ACROSS THE AUSTRIAN BORDER WITHIN THE PAST 24 HOURS.

MOST OF THE CZECHOSLOVAKS IN THE REFUGEE CAMPS WERE VACATIONING IN YUGOSLAVIA, ITALY AND OTHER COUNTRIES WHEN THE SOVIETS MARCHED IN. THEY ARE AWAITING FURTHER POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA PRIOR TO RETURNING.

BG/E 2037/68

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