

CN 187

X/4 CS - CZECHOSLOVAK ARTISTS AND JOURNALISTS SAY THEIR VOICE WILL
NOT DIE

MUNICH, AUG 31 (CMD)- CZECHOSLOVAK ARTISTS, JOURNALISTS AND
SCIENTISTS HAVE ISSUED A STATEMENT SAYING THAT THEIR VOICE,
WHICH IS THE VOICE OF "OUR NATIONS CANNOT BE SILENT."

THE STATEMENT, WHICH WAS BROADCAST BY RADIO PRAGUE TONIGHT, SAID:
"OUR NATIONS HAVE AWOKEN IN A COMPLETELY NEW, DIFFICULT SITUATION.
BUT EVEN IN THIS MOMENT OUR PEOPLE CANNOT ABANDON THE IDEA
OF HUMANITY AND DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM; FOR THIS REASON OUR CULTURE
AND ARTS HAVE EXTRAORDINARY SIGNIFICANCE.

"THE VOICE OF ARTISTS, JOURNALISTS AND SCIENTISTS, WHICH IS
THE VOICE OF OUR NATIONS, CANNOT BE SILENT.

"REPORTS ARE APPEARING ABROAD THAT CULTURAL WORKERS ARE LEAVING
OUR COUNTRY IN DROVES."

THE STATIONS COMMENTATOR SAID THAT THIS WAS NOT SO AND THAT THE
MAJORITY OF THOSE ABROAD NOW WERE NOT THERE AS REFUGEES. "ON
THE CONTRARY, THEY PLAN TO RETURN HOME, WHERE THEY BELONG."

WE EXPECT THAT OUR FRIENDS WILL THEMSELVES TAKE A STAND IN THIS
SENSE WHILE ABROAD. AT THIS MOMENT WE DO NOT WANT TO BE THE VITCIMS
OF PANICKY MOODS SHOULD (NOT) CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF HOPELESSNESS,
AND ENDANGER OURSELVES, AND ALL SOCIETY," SAID THE STATEMENT.

(MORE) RGS/JM/L

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