

DEF - 2ND ADD NATO FORCES UNDER REVIEW (CN 184) XXX DEVELOPMENTS

(UPI)--HERE IS THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONCERNING THE CHANGED MILITARY SITUATION IN EUROPE AFTER THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA:

"THE MOVEMENT OF WARSAW PACT FORCES INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THEIR CONTINUING OCCUPATION OF THAT COUNTRY HAS OBVIOUSLY AFFECTED THE MILITARY SITUATION IN EUROPE. THE STATUS QUO HAS BEEN CHANGED.

"THERE ARE LARGER SOVIET FORCES NOW PRESENT IN CENTRAL EUROPE THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE THE EARLY POST-WAR PERIOD. THE MILITARY OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA PUTS SOVIET FORCES IN A COUNTRY WHERE THEY HAVE NOT BEEN SINCE WORLD WAR II.

"THERE IS NO ASSURANCE AS YET THAT THE WARSAW PACT FORCES WILL SOON RETURN TO THEIR DEPLOYMENTS AS THEY EXISTED SIX MONTHS AGO.

"THE CHANGED EAST-WEST MILITARY SITUATION IN EUROPE IS OF SIGNIFICANCE TO THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES. IN LIGHT OF THESE EVENTS WE ARE REVIEWING WITH OUR ALLIES WHAT THE IMPLICATION MAY BE FOR EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR OUR COMMON SECURITY."

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