

X/13 CS - FLOW OF CS TOURISTS AND REFUGEES INCREASING

VIENNA, SEPT 1 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- THE FLOW OF CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS AND REFUGEES TO AUSTRIA IS EXPECTED TO REACH ITS PEAK ON SUNDAY, AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES SAID TODAY.

CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS FROM AUSTRIAN PROVINCES, YUGOSLAVIA AND FROM WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES BEGAN TO REACH VIENNA IN INCREASED NUMBERS ON SATURDAY. ORIGINALLY HOME-BOUND BECAUSE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR BEGINNING IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON MONDAY, THE MAJORITY IS EXPECTED TO STAY IN VIENNA AND AWAIT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL ESTIMATES, THE NUMBER OF CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS IN VIENNA, HESITATING WHETHER OR NOT TO RETURN TO THEIR HOME-COUNTRY, REACHED 15,000 ON SUNDAY MORNING.

THE AUSTRIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY ADVISED ALL SCHOOLS TO ADMIT AUTOMATICALLY CHILDREN OF CZECHOSLOVAK REFUGEES AND TOURISTS FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINNING IN AUSTRIA ON WEDNESDAY.

AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED THAT AN INCREASED FLOW OF CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONALS - WITH CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONAL PASSPORTS AND REGULAR AUSTRIAN VISAS - BEGAN TO REACH AUSTRIA BY ROAD AND RAIL ON SATURDAY. THE MAJORITY ARE INTELLECTUALS, CIVIL SERVANTS, TECHNICIANS AND PEOPLE WITH HIGHER EDUCATION, AUTHORITIES SAID.

CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS ARE QUEUING IN FRONT OF THE SWISS VIENNA EMBASSY WHERE THE OFFICES OF THE SWISS CONSULATE ARE OPEN ON THIS SUNDAY TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM AND FOR VISAS.

JON/A/1423/68