

CN 76

X/4 C/S -- PRAGUE DENIES CERNIK REPORT

MUNICH, SEPT 1 (CMD) -- THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY DENIED TODAY REPORTS THAT PREMIER OLDŘICH CERNIK HAD EXPRESSED FEARS FOR HIS OWN SAFETY AND HAD URGED THE "BEST PEOPLE" TO FLEE CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

RADIO CENTRAL BOHEMIA SAID THE GOVERNMENT PRESS SECRETARY HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED TO STATE THAT "THIS REPORT IS NOT RPT NOT BASED ON TRUTH."

THE FULL TEXT OF THE RADIO BROADCAST:

"ON 30 AUG THE BBC BROADCAST AN ALLEGED STATEMENT MADE BY PREMIER OLDŘICH CERNIK -- WHICH WAS THEN CARRIED BY REUTERS AND THE EVENING PAPERS -- THAT NOBODY COULD GUARANTEE THE PERSONAL SAFETY OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA."

"THIS STATEMENT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE ENDED WITH THE APPEAL FOR THE BEST PEOPLE TO LEAVE THE REPUBLIC BECAUSE OF THE SOVIET LIST OF PEOPLE WHICH WERE TO BE DEPORTED.

THE PRESS SECRETARY OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO STATE THAT THIS REPORT IS NOT BASED ON TRUTH."

(RADIO CENTRAL BOHEMIA/M F, 1222, SEPT 1)

KK/JT/MBW/A

1512/68/HAB