

EURO - AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL SECRETARY CRITICAL OF SOVIET INVASION.

VIENNA, SEPT 1 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- STRONG CRITICISM OF THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES' INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS VOICED BY AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL SECRETARY FRIEDL FUERNBERG SUNDAY.

REJECTING THE AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST PARTYS ACCUSATIONS THAT THE AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTYS CRITICISM OF THE SOVIET INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA MUST BE CONSIDERED "INSINCERE", FUERNBERG RE-AFFIRMED HIS PARTYS STAND IN THE CZECHOSLOVAK CRISIS AS DEFINED IN THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION LAST WEEK.

ATTACKING THE AUSTRIAN SOCIALISTS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE WEST, FUERNBERG EMPHASIZED IN AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY VIENNA "VOLKSSTIMME" ON SUNDAY, THAT THE AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY IS "NOT SHARING THE VIEWS OF THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES".

"WE ARE NOT OF THE OPINION THAT THE MILITARY INTERVENTION SERVED THE INTERESTS OF SOCIALISM AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKING CLASS, ALTHOUGH WE KNOW ABOUT THE EXISTENCE OF ANTI-SOCIALIST AND REACTIONARY FORCES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA", FUERNBERG SAID IN HIS ARTICLE.

ACCORDING TO FUERNBERG, THE FIGHT AGAINST ANTI-SOCIALIST FORCES REPRESENTS, ON THE FIRST PLACE, A TASK AND CONCERN FOR THE WORKING CLASS AND THE STATE APPARATUS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

"WE ARE NOT OF THE OPINION THAT THESE (ANTI-SOCIALIST) FORCES HAVE BEEN SO STRONG THAT IT WOULD JUSTIFY MILITARY ACTION... ON THE CONTRARY, THE MILITARY ACTION MADE THE STRUGGLE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE THE ANTI-SOCIALIST FORCES ARE NOW IN A POSITION TO MAKE USE OF JUSTIFIED NATIONAL FEELINGS. THE EVOLUTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY HAD SUFFERED A SERIOUS SETBACK BY THE MILITARY ACTION AND THE FIGHT OF COMMUNIST PARTIES IN CAPITALISTIC COUNTRIES FOR DEMOCRACY, PEACE AND SOCIALISM HAS BECOME MORE DIFFICULT", FUERNBERG SAID.

BECAUSE THE MILITARY ACTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAS A PREJUDICIAL EFFECT ON THE INTERESTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKING CLASS, THE AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY MUST REJECT IT, THE AUSTRIAN PARTY'S CENTRAL SECRETARY CONCLUDED.

BG/LWD 2150/68+