

CN 139 (ATTRIBUTION REQUIRED)

C/S - 2ND ADD 2130 INTRO: CZECHOSLOVAKIA (CN-132) XXX COURAGE

(DPA/REUTER)- ACCORDING TO WESTERN NEWS AGENCY CORRESPONDENTS WRITING FROM PRAGUE, THE NEW PRESIDUM APPEARED TO BE LARGELY COMPOSED OF PROGRESSIVES.

REUTERS CORRESPONDENT SAID THAT ONLY ONE KNOWN CONSERVATIVE -- MR. BILAK -- HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO THE NEW PRESIDUM.

THE CORRESPONDENT OF THE WEST GERMAN NEWS AGENCY DPA SAID THAT WHILE SOME CONCESSIONS HAD EVIDENTLY BEEN MADE TO SOVIET DESIRES, THE PROGRESSIVES HAD EMERGED WITH "AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY" ON THE PRESIDUM.

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL BROKE THE NEW PRESIDUM INTO GROUPS, LISTING TWO MEMBERS AS CONSERVATIVES, THREE AS NEUTRALS, SIX AS "UNKNOWN" AND TEN AS LIBERALS. UPI IDENTIFIED THE CONSERVATIVES AS MR. BILAK AND MR. PILLER.

REUTERS BROKE THE MEMBERSHIP DOWN INTO ONE CONSERVATIVE, NINE "UNDECIDED" AND ELEVEN PROGRESSIVES.

TB/BG/EH/L 2222/68 SEPT 1/AB<sup>B</sup>+