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C/S -- SVOBODA STATEMENT TO PLENUM

PRAGUE, SEPT 2 (REUTER/DPA)--PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA TOLD THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM THAT IF HE HAD RESIGNED RATHER THAN NEGOTIATED, IT WOULD HAVE MEANT THE SPILLING OF MORE BLOOD.

"I HAD ALREADY SEEN ENOUGH BLOODSHED. THEREFORE, I REJECTED THIS POSSIBILITY AND SOUGHT A POLITICAL SOLUTION," HE SAID, ACCORDING TO RADIO BOHEMIA.

HE ADDED: "PERHAPS THERE ARE PEOPLE HERE WHO ARE DISAPPOINTED ABOUT THE RESULTS.

"BUT OUR INSTITUTIONS ARE FUNCTIONING AGAIN, LIFE IS NORMALISING ITSELF, AND A WAY IS OPENING OUT OF THIS COMPLICATED SITUATION."

HE SAID "THE OBLIGATIONS WHICH WE ASSUMED IN MOSCOW DEMAND UNPOPULAR MEASURES WHICH WE MUST, HOWEVER, CARRY OUT - OTHERWISE THERE WOULD BE GREAT DANGER FOR US."

BG/EH/F 0014/68 +

