

X/13 CS - FAR-LEFT DANISH PARTY SPLITS OVER CSSR

COPENHAGEN, SEPT 2 -- (RFE SPECIAL /THOMSON) -- EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAVE LED TO A FURTHER DIVISION OF DENMARK'S FARTHEST LEFT POLITICAL PARTY IN PARLIAMENT, THE LEFTIST SOCIALISTS (VS).

AT THE MEETING OF THE VS MAIN BOARD DURING THE WEEKEND, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER HANS HENRIK NIELSEN RESIGNED HIS SEAT BECAUSE THE BOARD WOULD NOT ADOPT A MINORITY DRAFT RESOLUTION CONDEMNING CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S ALEXANDER DUBCEK FOR "RIGHTIST ORIENTATED POLICY".

"IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY VIEW," NIELSEN SAID TODAY, "THAT DUBCEK'S REFORMS WOULD LEAD AWAY FROM SOCIALISM. ALTHOUGH I DEPLORE THE SOVIET INTERVENTION, IT IS MY BELIEF, AND THAT OF A MINORITY ON THE MAIN BOARD, THAT WE SHOULD DRAW UP THE LINES OF OUR POLICY SHARPLY. THE REJECTION OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION MEANS THAT I CANNOT MAINTAIN MY POST, AND THE FACT THAT WE DID NOT SUCCEED IN CLARIFYING SHARPLY THE PARTY'S POLITICAL LINE HAS CAUSED ME TO RECONSIDER MY POSITION IN THE PARTY AS A WHOLE. AN EXTRAORDINARY PARTY CONGRESS WILL NOT, IN MY OPINION, THROW MORE LIGHT ON THE SUBJECT OF WHERE THE VS STANDS...."

IN AN INTERVIEW ON A RADIO PROGRAM "AKTUELT KVARTER", LAST NIGHT, NIELSEN'S SUCCESSOR ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, TAGE SAND KIRK, SAID THAT DESPITE DEVELOPMENTS IN RECENT DAYS, INCLUDING RESIGNATION FROM THE VS PARLIAMENT GROUP OF MEMBERS HANNE REINTOFT AND KAI MOLTKE, THERE HAD AS YET ONLY BEEN 74 PARTY MEMBERSHIP RESIGNATIONS. ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL VS FIGURES, THE PARTY HAS 4,000 MEMBERS.

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