

X/13 VATICAN - PAUL CONDEMNS USE OF FORCE

CASTELGANDOLFO, ITALY, SEPT 2 (UPI) - POPE PAUL VI TODAY CONDEMNED THE USE OF "BRUTAL FORCE", BUT SAID MEN SHOULD NOT LOSE HOPE IN THE PROSPECT OF DETENTE AND PEACE IN THE WORLD.

THE POPE SPOKE TO MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL COMMISSION OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, WHO OPENED THEIR ANNUAL MEETING IN ROME EARLIER TODAY BY OBSERVING ONE MINUTE OF SILENCE AS A SIGN OF SYMPATHY WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE.

THE PONTIFF DID NOT MENTION CZECHOSLOVAKIA DIRECTLY BUT SAID: "RECENT EVENTS HAVE RECALLED ABRUPTLY TO MEN OF GOOD WILL THE PRECARIOUSNESS OF THEIR EFFORTS, AND THUS IT WILL BE SO LONG AS BRUTAL FORCE PREVAILS OVER JUSTICE TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF ONE AT THE EXPENSE OF THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS."

RATHER THAN LOSING HOPE, HOWEVER, HE SAID MEN SHOULD NOW SEEK TO CONSOLIDATE DETENTE AND PEACE.

IN HIS SPEECH AT CASTELGANDOLFO, POPE PAUL TOLD THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 18 WESTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS ON THE COMMITTEE THAT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH PURSUED NO RPT NO PARTICULAR POLITICAL GOALS.

BUT, HE SAID, THOUGH THIS WAS TRUE, THE CHURCH CANNOT RPT NOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO THE COMMITTEES EFFORTS TO CONSOLIDATE PEACE, DECREASE WORLD TENSIONS, AND DEFEND INDIVIDUAL AND NATIONAL RIGHTS.

THE CURRENT ATMOSPHERE, POPE PAUL SAID, IS UNFORTUNATELY CLOUDED OVER IN A EUROPE THAT SEEMED TO BE IMMUNE TO THE DRAMATIC CONFLICTS THAT AFFLICT OTHER REGIONS.

(MORE)

BG/HE

1814/68

EAH