

CN 147

X/13 C/S - POPE'S SUPPORT FOR CZECHOSLOVAK RESCUE COMMITTEE
IN VIENNA

VIENNA, SEPT 2 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- THE AUSTRIAN "CARITAS" RESCUE COMMITTEE FOR CZECHOSLOVAK REFUGEES AND TOURISTS IN AUSTRIA HAS RECEIVED 10,000 DOLLARS FROM POPE PAUL SIXTH, THE "CARITAS" ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE AMOUNT, A PERSONAL GIFT FROM THE HOLY FATHER, WILL BE SPENT ON SOCIAL AND MEDICAL AID FOR CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONALS WHO LEFT THEIR COUNTRY AFTER THE WARSAW PACT MILITARY INTERVENTION AND ON THOSE CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS WHO ARE AWAITING IN AUSTRIA FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO RETURN TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

IN A TELEGRAM ADDRESSED TO THE AUSTRIAN "CARITAS", THE POPE EXPRESSED HIS THANKS TO AUSTRIAN CATHOLICS FOR THEIR HELP EXTENDED TO CZECHS AND SLOVAKS.

THE AUSTRIAN "CARITAS" RESCUE COMMITTEE FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA ALSO RECEIVED 2,000 DOLLARS FROM THE FRENCH "SECOURS CATHOLIQUE" TO BE SPENT ON CZECHS AND SLOVAKS WHO ARE AT PRESENT IN AUSTRIA.

TO DATE, THE CATHOLIC "CARITAS" RESCUE COMMITTEE HAS DISTRIBUTED MORE THAN 6,000 PARCELS OF FOOD TO CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONALS LEAVING AUSTRIA FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

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