

CN 154 (ATtribution REQUIRED)

RUSS - SOVIET PLENUM RUMORED

MOSCOW, SEPT 2 (CNR/AGENCIES) - WESTERN NEWS AGENCY CORRESPONDENTS REPORTED FROM MOSCOW TODAY THAT AN IMPORTANT MEETING APPEARED TO BE TAKING PLACE IN THE SOVIET CAPITAL.

ACCORDING TO THE NEWS AGENCIES, THERE WERE RUMORS THAT A PLENARY SESSION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE WAS BEING HELD.

THE CORRESPONDENTS OF REUTERS, AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE AND THE WEST GERMAN NEWS AGENCY DPA SAID THE RUMORS BEGAN THIS AFTERNOON WHEN AN NUMEROUS OFFICIAL BLACK LIMOUSINES WERE SEEN ARRIVING AT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S HEADQUARTERS BUILDING NEAR THE KREMLIN.

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL ALSO REPORTED ON THE RUMORS, BUT QUOTED "AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES" AS DENYING THAT A PLENUM WAS IN SESSION.

THE LAST MEETING OF THE 330-MAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE WAS HELD ON AUG. 20-21. COINCIDING WITH THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY WARSAW PACT FORCES.

TB/BG/HI

2040/68

(PRW)