

X/13 C/S -- WEST GERMAN CSSR REPORTING "BIGGEST LIES SINCE GOEBBELS"

BERLIN, SEP 3 (RFE SPECIAL/SCHLEICH) -- THE COVERAGE OF THE EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA FOLLOWING THE WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION WAS A "GIGANTIC BLUNDER" AND "THE MOST FOOLISH AND MOST OBVIOUS LIE CAMPAIGN SINCE GOEBBELS," NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, THE OFFICIAL EAST GERMAN COMMUNIST (SED) DAILY CHARGED TODAY.

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND SAID THE REPORTS KEPT CONTRADICTING ONE ANOTHER IN A STRIKING MANNER. THE RADIO ANNOUNCERS, FOR INSTANCE, WERE TALKING ABOUT "GIANT DEMONSTRATIONS AND ACTIVE RESISTANCE WHILE ONLY A FEW MINUTES LATER THE CORRESPONDENTS ON THE SPOT, REPORTING LIVE BY TELEPHONE, SAID THAT BY AND LARGE THE SITUATION WAS RATHER QUIET AND THE POPULATION WAS GOING ABOUT ITS NORMAL BUSINESS," THE PAPER SAID.

MOREOVER, BOTH THE FIRST AND THE SECOND WEST GERMAN TELEVISION PROGRAM "PRESENTED 'SENSATIONAL FILM REPORTS' WHICH WERE SENSATIONAL, INDEED, FOR THEIR PRIMITIVENESS," THE PAPER CONTINUED.

THE PAPER CONTRASTED THESE "MENDACIOUS 'INFORMATION EXERCIZES'" WITH THE COVERAGE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK DEVELOPMENTS BY THE COMMUNIST PRESS, RADIO AND TELEVISION.

"ALL SOCIALIST MASS MEDIA HAVE PROPERLY MET THEIR DUTY TO INFORM (THE PUBLIC), AND NO INTELLIGENT PERSON HOLDS ANY DOUBTS ANY MORE ABOUT THE MEASURES TAKEN TO SUPPORT OUR (CZECHOSLOVAK) BROTHER NATION," NEUES DEUTSCHLAND COMMENTED.

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