

X/13 W GER -- CDU BOARD CONDEMNS INTERVENTION IN CSSR AS ILLEGAL ACT

BONN, SEPT 3 (RFE SPECIAL/MARSH) -- THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WEST GERMAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION TODAY CONDEMNED THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS AN ILLEGAL ACT, AND SAID "THE EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE MILITARY INTERVENTION OF THE SOVIET UNION HAS PROVED THAT PEACE IN EUROPE IS STILL ENDANGERED."

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MET IN CLOSED SESSION HERE LAST NIGHT UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF CHANCELLOR KURT GEORG KIESINGER.

STATEMENT ISSUED THIS MORNING SAID THE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA "REPRESENTED A SERIOUS SETBACK TO ALL EFFORTS OF THE WESTERN WORLD TO CREATE A LASTING ORDER OF PEACE IN EUROPE."

THE BOARD SAID THAT IT WAS NEVERTHELESS DETERMINED TO CONTINUE ITS WORK WITH OTHER COUNTRIES TOWARD A MEANINGFUL PEACE.

IT ADDED: "THE PREREQUISITE FOR THE SUCCESS OF SUCH A POLICY, HOWEVER IS THAT THE COUNTRIES ALLIED IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC PACT CONSCIENTIOUSLY STRENGTHEN THEIR DEFENSIVE POWER, SINCE ONLY WITH A SECURE FUNDAMENT OF FREEDOM CAN A LASTING PEACE BE REALIZED IN EUROPE."

IT SAID, "THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE CDU CONDEMNS THIS INTERVENTION AS AN ILLEGAL ACT."

THE STATEMENT SAID THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE CDU "AGAIN REAFFIRMED ITS INTENTION OF NOT RPT NOT SEEKING THE SOLUTION OF ANY PROBLEM THROUGH VIOLENCE."

IT SAID, "THE CDU ALSO EXPECTS THIS OF OTHER PEOPLES."

DURING THE BOARD SESSION, CHANCELLOR KIESINGER REPORTED ON HIS MEETING YESTERDAY WITH THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO BONN, SEMYON TSARAPKIN.

BG/LA 1315/68 (MORE IN THE FEATURE FILE ON BUFFF)

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