

CN 21

C/S -- HELENA PETRANKOVA BURIED IN PRAGUE

PRAGUE, SEPT 4 (UPI)-COL.HELENA PETRANKOVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S MOST HONORED WOMAN SOLDIER, WAS BURIED IN PRAGUE YESTERDAY.

MRS.PETRANKOVA, 64, WHO WAS THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE COUNTRY TO ACHIEVE THE MILITARY RANK OF COLONEL, FOUGHT IN THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR AND LATER WON NUMEROUS SOVIET MEDALS FOR GALLANTRY DURING SERVICE WITH THE CZECH BRIGADE OF THE RED ARMY.

FRIENDS SAID THAT SHE HAD BEEN ILL FOR SEVERAL MONTHS,

THE EULOGIST AT HER FUNERAL, LIGHT INDUSTRY MINISTER MRS. BOZENA MACHACOVA-DOSTALOVA, SAID: "NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE WOULD HAVE LIKED YOU TO BE AMONG US, WE ARE SORRY YOUR LIFE DID NOT END SIX DAYS EARLIER THAN IT DID."

AMONG THOSE ATTENDING THE FUNERAL WERE MRS.LUDVIK SVOBODA, WIFE OF THE PRESIDENT, AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT JOSEF SMRKOVSKY.

WD/F 0752/68 *NG*