

CN 71

X/13- E/W- SWITZERLAND ADMITTING CS TOURISTS AND REFUGEES

VIENNA, SEPT 4 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA)-- APPLICATIONS FOR SWISS ENTRY VISAS SUBMITTED BY CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS AWAITING IN AUSTRIA FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN ORDER TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO RETURN TO THEIR HOME-COUNTRY, ARE BEING ACCEPTED BY THE SWISS EMBASSY IN VIENNA, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EMBASSY SAID ON WEDNESDAY MORNING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE APPLICANTS MUST BE IN POSSESSION OF A VALID CZECHOSLOVAK PASSPORT OR A CZECHOSLOVAK IDENTIFICATION CARD.

SWISS VISA, VALID FOR THREE MONTHS, AND A THREE-MONTHS LABOUR PERMIT FOR SWITZERLAND ARE BEING ISSUED TO CZECHOSLOVAK APPLICANTS.

CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONALS ADMITTED TO SWITZERLAND ARE FREE TO DECIDE WHETHER THEY WOULD LIKE TO APPLY FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM AND STAY IN SWITZERLAND FOR GOOD, OR WHETHER THEY PREFER TO PROCEED TO OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES OR EVENTUALLY RETURN TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SWISS EMBASSY IS UNABLE TO GIVE AN EXACT NUMBER OF VISAS ISSUED UP TO NOW BUT SOME 500 TO 600 VISAS FOR CZECHOSLOVAKS ARE ISSUED DAILY SINCE LAST SATURDAY

JON/U *100* 1337/68 *H*