

CN 93

X/13 GENEVA -- BRANDT : INVASION AFFECTS (CN 92) XXX VETO

ASKED TODAY IF THE SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WOULD HAVE A PARALYZING EFFECT ON PROGRESS TOWARDS RATIFICATION OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY, MR. BRANDT SAID THAT REACTIONS IN WEST GERMANY ^EW_ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE IN ITALY, SWITZERLAND, JAPAN AND OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH EXPRESSED THE FEELING THAT ""THIS WAS NOT THE PROPER MOMENT FOR A DECISION ON NON-PROLIFERATION.""

""ID LIKE TO UNDERLINE WHAT I SAID YESTERDAY,"" THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID. ""I AM VERY SORRY BUT THE FACT IS THAT THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN MANY COUNTRIES -- ESPECIALLY IN EUROPE-- AGAIN HAVE RAISED THE QUESTION OF CONFIDENCE AND RELIABILITY, THE PROBLEM OF WHAT A SIGNATURE IS WORTH.""

HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT WISH TO SEE AN ATTITUDE OF RESIGNATION, SINCE MANKIND MUST ALWAYS SEARCH FOR AN ORGANIZED PEACE.

""BUT THOSE WHO CARRY POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY ALSO MUST KNOW THAT THEY DO NOT LIVE IN AN ABSTRACT WORLD, BUT MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE FEARS AND DOUBTS OF OTHERS,"" HE SAID.

MR. BRANDT SAID THAT HE COULD NOT CONFIRM A REPORT THAT THE WEST GERMAN TRADE MISSION IN PRAGUE WAS NO LONGER FUNCTIONING. HE NOTED THAT THE MISSION WAS ACTUALLY ESTABLISHED AND BEGAN OPERATING UNDER THE NOVOTNY ERA.

(MORE) RE/JON/U/TP

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