

X/13 CS - SWISS YOUTH GROUP PONDERING ACTION ON CS

GENEVA, SEPT. 4 (RFE SPECIAL/MAHONEY) -- THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE SCHWEIZERISCHE ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT DER JUGENDVERBAENDE, THE CEILING ORGANIZATION FOR ALL YOUTH GROUPS IN THIS COUNTRY, SAID HERE TODAY THAT TWO POSSIBLE ACTIONS ARE BEING CONSIDERED IN THE WAKE OF THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA:

- BREAKING OF ALL CONTACTS WITH YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS IN WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES
- INVITING YOUTH GROUPS FROM WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES TO VISIT WESTERN EUROPE (WHICH WAS THE PROGRAM OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE, WHEN IT BEGAN TO CONTACT EAST EUROPEAN GROUPS TWO YEARS AGO, ACCORDING TO THE SWISS SPOKESMAN).

THE SWISS GROUP HAS YET TO FORMULATE A STATEMENT ON THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN SITUATION.

HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE PERSONALLY WAS IN FAVOUR OF INVITING EAST EUROPEAN GROUPS TO THE WEST, SINCE "IT WOULD BE A GOOD CHANCE TO TELL THESE YOUNG PEOPLE THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CZECHOSLOVAKIA EVENTS, WHICH WE BELIEVE THEY DO NOT NOW KNOW."

HE SAID THAT NO STATEMENT WILL BE ISSUED BEFORE THE NEXT CONFERENCE OF ALL SWISS YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS. THIS MEETING HAS NOT YET BEEN SCHEDULED.

HE SAID THAT IN ANY CASE THE SWISS GROUP WOULD DECIDE THE ISSUE ON ITS MERITS AND WOULD NOT CONSIDER THEMSELVES BOUND BY ANY DECISIONS MADE AT THE EUROPEAN NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE LEVEL.