

X-13 CS- SWISS BRACE FOR HEAVY INFLUX OF CS REFUGEES

GENEVA, SEPT. 4 (RFE SPICAL/MAHONEY) -- A SWISS GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID IN BERN TODAY THAT THIS COUNTRY EXPECTS A HEAVY INFLUX OF CZECHOSLOVAK REFUGEES WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS AND IS PREPARED TO HANDLE THEM.

FROM AUG. 21 TO SEPT. 3, HE SAID, SOME 16,000 WERE REGISTERED IN AUSTRIA AND MANY OF THESE HAVE EXPRESSED A WISH TO MOVE TO SWITZERLAND. HE SAID THAT FROM 100 TO 700 DAILY HAVE APPLIED FOR VISAS AT THE SWISS EMBASSY IN VIENNA. THUS FAR, ABOUT 2,000 SWISS THREE-MONTH VISAS HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE CZECHOSLOVAKS FREE OF CHARGE THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

YESTERDAY HANS MUMENTHALER, CHIEF OF THE ASSISTANCE DIVISION OF THE SWISS FEDERAL POLICE, WENT TO VIENNA TO COORDINATE THE MOVEMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SWISS AND AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS HAVE COOPERATED TO ARRANGE THE SMOOTH AND EASY TRANSFER OF THOSE CZECHOSLOVAKS WHO WISH TO MOVE TO SWITZERLAND.

AS IT NOW STANDS, THERE WILL BE TWO SPECIAL TRAINS DAILY FROM AUSTRIA TO SWITZERLAND, CARRYING A DAILY TOTAL OF 300. OTHERS WHO WISH TO TRAVEL BY THEIR PERSONAL CARS WILL BE GIVEN MONEY AND GAS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THEY WILL BE RECEIVED IN TWO ""WELCOME CAMPS"" IN THE ST. GALL CANTON, THEN PASSED ON TO SWISS FAMILIES, MORE THAN 700 SWISS FAMILIES ALREADY HAVE NOTIFIED AUTHORITIES OF THEIR DESIRE TO RECEIVE CZECHOSLOVAKS IN THEIR HOMES. (MORE) PRW/ H1

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