

CN 204

CS -1ST ADD CSSR HOPES... (CN 203) XXX SAID

GYMNAST VERA CASLAVSKA, 26-YEAR OLD GOLDEN GIRL OF CZECHOSLOVAK SPORT, WILL BE HER COUNTRY'S LEADING COMPETITOR. SHE WON THREE GOLD MEDALS AT THE TOKYO OLYMPICS AND HAS SINCE BECOME EUROPEAN AND WORLD CHAMPION.

MR SOKOL SAID HIS TEAM ALSO HAD GOOD PROSPECTS IN HIGH JUMPING, CYCLING, WRESTLING, AND BOXING.

THERE IS PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE VOLLEYBALL. THE RUSSIAN WON THE GOLD AT TOKYO BUT WERE BEATEN BY THE CZECHOSLOVAKS IN THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP.

EMIL ZATOPEK, THE LONG DISTANCE RUNNER WHOSE POST WAR OLYMPIC VICTORIES MADE HIM THE HERO OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, WILL NOT GO TO MEXICO WITH HIS COUNTRY'S TEAM MR SOKOL SAID. HE HAS NOT BEEN HELPING TO TRAIN THE TEAM FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

BUT THE MEXICAN ORGANISERS HAVE INVITED ZATOPEK, NOW AN ARMY COLONEL AND PHYSICAL TRAINING INSTRUCTOR, TO GO TO THE OPENING CEREMONY WITH HIS WIFE DANA, WHO WON THE JAVELIN GOLD MEDAL AT HELSINKI IN 1952.

THE COLONEL, WHO HAS OUTSPOKENLY CONDEMNED THE WARSAW PACT INVASION, LEFT PRAGUE YESTERDAY FOR ALCURE IN A SPA TOWN WHERE HE WILL HAVE TREATMENT FOR AN OLD WRIST INJURY.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK TEAM, WHOSE FIRST PARTY WILL LEAVE FOR MEXICO ON SEPTEMBER 16 WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY 38 OFFICIALS, DOCTORS, AND TRAINERS.

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