

X/13 CS - CS JOURNALISTS HEAD EXPECTS THAW TO CONTINUE.

(AMPLIFIES CN - 166, SEPT 4)

GENEVA, SEPT. 5 (RFE SPECIAL/MAHONEY) -- DR. VLADIMIR KASPAR, PRESIDENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK JOURNALISTS UNION, TOLD THE ZURICH CHAPTER OF THE SWISS JOURNALISTS UNION LAST NIGHT THAT HE STILL BELIEVED THAT THE POLITICAL EXPERIMENT IN HIS COUNTRY WOULD EVENTUALLY LEAD TO A THAW IN OTHER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK JOURNALIST APPEALED FOR UNITY AND SUPPORT. HE SAID "IF ONE CZECHOSLOVAK JOURNALIST IS ACCUSED OF BEING A COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY, THEN ALL OUR 4,000 MEMBERS ARE COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES."

HE SAID, IN RETROSPECT ONE WOULD HAVE TO CONCLUDE THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS HAD BEEN "TOO DYNAMIC" IN EXPOSING THE WRONGS OF THE PAST, ALTHOUGH IT NEVER POLEMIZED AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION, ACCORDING TO KASPAR. HE INSISTED THAT ALL HIS COLLEAGUES HAD ALWAYS BEEN FOR SOCIALISM.

"ONE DOES NOT BECOME A COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY OVER NIGHT," HE SAID.

KASPAR SAID HE INTENDED TO GO BACK TO PRAGUE. HE FLEW IN YESTERDAY FROM MILAN. HE SAID HE AND HIS CZECHOSLOVAK COLLEAGUES WHO ARE IN WESTERN EUROPE JUST NOW WOULD AWAIT CERTAIN GUARANTEES BEFORE RETURNING HOME. HE SPELLED THEM OUT AS "FREEDOM IN CREATIVE WORK".

KASPAR SAID NO GOVERNMENT IN EXILE WOULD BE FORMED, SINCE THIS WOULD BE BELOW THE DIGNITY OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE. HE ALSO PLEADED FOR A CONTINUATION OF CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS BY WESTERN COUNTRIES WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

AFTER A LONGER DISCUSSION, THE ZURICH CHAPTER OF THE SWISS JOURNALISTS UNION ADAPTED A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE SOVIET ACTION AS A FLAGRANT BREAKING OF THE LAW OF NATIONS AND DENOUNCING THE MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAK NEWS MEDIA AS "EXPECIALLY DEPLORABLE ATTEMPTS TO SUBJUGATE A PEOPLE." THE RESOLUTION EXPRESSED THE ADMIRATION OF THE SWISS JOURNALISTS FOR THE COURAGE SHOWN BY THEIR CZECHOSLOVAK COLLEAGUES.

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