

X/13 GDR - PRESS REDUCES COVERAGE OF CSSR DEVELOPMENTS

BERLIN, SEPT 5 (RFE SPECIAL/SCHLEICH) - THE EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA DISAPPEARED FROM THE FRONT PAGES OF THE MAJOR EAST GERMAN COMMUNIST DAILIES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ALMOST TWO WEEKS TO-DAY.

IN AN INSIDE PAGE, THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE SEMI-OFFICIAL COMMUNIST (EAST) BERLINER ZEITUNG IN PRAGUE, KLAUS WILCZYNSKI, REPORTED ABOUT A TRIP TO PLZEN IN WHICH HE BLAMED ECONOMIC LOSSES ON THE "COUNTER-REVOLUTION."

"IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR THE IRRESPONSIBLE SLOGANS OF THE COUNTER-REVOLUTION HAVE CAUSED DAMAGE WHICH WILL BE DIFFICULT TO REPAIR AND HARMFUL TO THE PEOPLE," THE CORRESPONDENT SAID AND EXPLAINED HE HAD SEEN "TOO MANY" CORN FIELDS NOT YET HARVESTED, "SOME OF THEM SO OVERRIPE THAT IT WILL HARDLY BE POSSIBLE TO SAVE THE GRAIN."

REPORTING ABOUT HIS IMPRESSIONS OF PLZEN, THE EAST GERMAN CORRESPONDENT SAID THE CITY OUTWARDLY LOOKED NORMAL. BUT MARKS WERE LEFT "IN THE HEADS OF THE PEOPLE," AND THOSE WERE DIFFICULT TO REMOVE, HE SAID AMONG THOSE WITH WHOM HE "TRIED TO TALK" IN FRONT OF THE SKODA WORKS AND AT THE OLD PLZEN CITY HALL THESE MARKS "BECAME EVIDENT IN MISTRUST, TACITURNITY, FREQUENTLY FEAR AND, IN SOME CASES, EVEN DIRECT HOSTILITY," THE BERLINER ZEITUNG CORRESPONDENT REPORTED.

JON/BMCG /HE /MPI 1520/68 1-1