

X/13 C/S - LONGO: NO WORLD CONFERENCE BEFORE C/S NORMALIZATION

(RELEADS CN 72)

ROME, SEPT 5 - (RFE SPECIAL/ROBERTIELLO) - ITALIAN COMMUNIST LEADER LUIGI LONGO HAS SAID THAT THE WORLD COMMUNIST CONFERENCE PLANNED FOR THE FALL IN MOSCOW MUST BE POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER A "NORMALIZATION" WAS REACHED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

HE SAID THAT SUCH A NORMALIZATION IMPLIED THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET AND OTHER FOREIGN TROOPS OCCUPYING CZECHOSLOVAKIA SINCE AUG. 21.

LONGO STATED HIS POSITION IN AN INTERVIEW IN THE INDEPENDENT LEFT-WING WEEKLY, LASTROLABIO, DATED SEPT. 8, BUT AVAILABLE TODAY TO THE ROME PRESS.

ONLY IN NOVEMBER, AFTER REPEATED REFUSALS, HAD LONGO, SPEAKING FOR HIS PARTY, ACCEPTED UNCONDITIONALLY THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR A WORLD COMMUNIST CONFERENCE.

IN THE INTERVIEW HE SAID IT WAS "NOT RPT NOT EASY" TO EVALUATE THE SOVIET-CZECHOSLOVAK AGREEMENT REACHED IN MOSCOW FOLLOWING THE OCCUPATION SINCE IT WAS REACHED WHILE FOREIGN TROOPS WERE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THOUGH HE TURNED ASIDE THE WORLD CONFERENCE, LONGO SAID IT WOULD BE WELL TO HAVE EXCHANGES OF IDEAS WITH REGARD TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK EVENTS WITH OTHER COMMUNIST PARTIES.

HE SAID PROPOSALS FOR SUCH EXCHANGES WERE BEING STUDIED, ESPECIALLY EXCHANGES OF IDEAS AMONG THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF WESTERN EUROPE.

THE 4,400 WORD INTERVIEW ALSO CONTAINED LONGO'S REITERATION OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY'S "DISSENSION AND REPROVAL" WITH RESPECT TO THE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

(MORE)

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