

X/13- WORLD - PHILOSOPHERS CONGRESS

VIENNA, SEPT 5 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) -- THE CZECHOSLOVAK CRISIS CAME ON WEDNESDAY AGAIN INTO THE FOREGROUND OF THE 14TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PHILOSOPHY CONVENING AT PRESENT IN VIENNA.

SOME 20 PARTICIPANTS IN THE PLENARY SESSION, DISCUSSING "FREEDOM, RESPONSIBILITY AND DECISION" AGREED THAT "MAN MUST BE FREE BUT THAT THERE IS NO ABSOLUTE FREEDOM". ON THE OTHER HAND, DIFFERENT VIEWS WERE EXPRESSED ABOUT THE LIMITS AND THE MEANING OF HUMAN FREEDOM.

JOINING THE DISCUSSION, THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM BIAFRA, E. EKESIOBI STRESSED THAT IT MAKES NO SENSE WHEN PHILOSOPHERS DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF FREEDOM WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS FREELY. TO SUPPORT HIS THESIS, EKESIOBI QUOTED THE EXAMPLE OF PHILOSOPHERS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND SAID THAT PROGRESS IS TO BE ACHIEVED ONLY "IF ALL PHILOSOPHERS IN ALL COUNTRIES ENJOY THE FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND ARE NOT EXPOSED TO BRUTAL FORCE".

POLISH PHILOSOPHER R. INGARDEN MAINTAINED THAT SOCIAL STRUCTURE MUST OFFER TO MANKIND THE POSSIBILITY OF FREE ACTION. ON THE OTHER HAND, ALL HUMAN ACTIONS AND DEEDS MUST BE JUDGED ACCORDING TO THEIR FACTUAL VALUES AND EVIL ACTIVITIES MUST BE ENCOUNTERED BY APPROPRIATE COUNTER-MEASURES, INGARDEN SAID.

(MORE) PRW/E 2227/68/ALB/MS