

CN 218

X/4 C/S -- 1ST ADD - HUSAK FOR RETURN (CN 205) XXX SAID

(UPI) -- HUSAK DENIED RUMORS THAT SLOVAKIA WAS TO BE ANNEXED BY THE NEIGHBORING SOVIET UNION, AND THAT THERE HAD BEEN MASS ARRESTS.

"TWO DAYS AGO, I WAS PERSONALLY ASSURED BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOVIET TROOPS IN SLOVAKIA THAT NOT ONE SINGLE CITIZEN OF OURS IS NOW BEING DETAINED BY THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES OR IS UNDER THEIR ARREST."

(CMD) -- HUSAK SAID RECENT MEASURES CONCERNING PRESS, RADIO AND TELEVISION WERE OF A TEMPORARY NATURE.

HE SAID CENSORSHIP WOULD NOT BE APPLIED IF A DEGREE OF UNDERSTANDING WERE FOUND ^{AMONG} JOURNALISTS MAKING IT UNNECESSARY.

"OF COURSE, IF WE WILL NOT FIND IT, COMRADES, WE WILL EVEN BE FORCED TO TAKE HARD MEASURES IN THE INTEREST OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF CONDITIONS IN OUR COUNTRY, IN THE INTEREST OF THE DEPARTURE OF TROOPS...", HE SAID.

HUSAK SAID THAT THERE WILL BE NO RETURN TO THE TIMES OF ANTONIN NOVOTNY, THE DISCREDITED LEADER OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY.

HUSAK SAID THAT APART FROM THE SUPPORT WHICH THE CZECH AND SLOVAK PUBLIC HAVE SHOWN TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK AND SLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTIES "... WE CAN SEE TWO EXTREME TRENDS WHICH ARE TAKING A CRITICAL AND SOMETIMES ALSO NEGATIVE STAND ON THE BASIC LINE OF OUR PARTY IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

(MORE) LD/RGS/PRW/AWD 2354/68 SEPT 5/MS