

X/13 C/S -- ANOTHER SWEDE QUIT CP, HERMANSSON NOT ALARMED

STOCKHOLM, SEP 6 (RFE SPECIAL/HENRY)-- SWEDISH COMMUNIST PARTY CHAIRMAN CARL-HENRIK HERMANSSON SAID LAST NIGHT THAT ONLY 8 TO 10 MEMBERS HAVE RESIGNED SINCE THE ^AIN_ASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA , FOR VARYING REASONS. HE SAID THIS WAS NOT ALARMING .

HERMANSSON SAID SOME HAVE QUIT IN DISGUST OVER THE INVASION, SOME RESIGNED BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT HERMANSSON HAD CONDEMNED THE INVADING COUNTRIES TOO SHARLPY AND SOME LEFT FOR REASONS NOT RELATED DIRECTLY TO THE INVASION "ALTHOUGH PERHAPS BROUGHT TO A HEAD BY THIS DRAMATIC SITUATION", THE CP LEADER SAID.

THE LATEST DEFECTOR FROM THE PARTY, DALARNA DISTRICT TOWN COUNCILOR SIGVARD ANDERSSON, DECLARED IN HIS RESIGNATION STATEMENT YESTERDAY THAT THE SWEDISH CP WAS A "TRAITOR TO SOCIALISM." HE STATED FURTHER THAT HERMANSSON'S TALK OF ABIDING BY DEMOCRACY WAS "ONLY LIP SERVICE. IN REALITY, A LITTLE CLIQUE OF REACTIONARIES IS RUNNING EVERYTHING FOR EVERYBODY," SAID ANDERSSON.

WHILE UP TO 10 PERSONS HAVE LEFT THE CP THE PAST TWO WEEKS, HERMANSSON CLAIMS "120 NEW MEMBERS HAVE COME INTO THE PARTY IN THE SAME PERIOD, PERHAPS BECAUSE OF OUR STRONG STAND AGAINST THE INVASION DEVELOPMENT."

HERMANSSON SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HIS HOPES OF REACHING ~~8~~ 3 PER CENT IN THE ELECTION ON SEP 15, NOW HAVE DWINDLED DUE TO THE INVASION EPISODE TO "SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 5 AND 8 PER CENT. BG/U 1155/68 1701

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