

CN 121

X/13 CS - CARDINAL KOENIG ON CHURCH IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

VIENNA, SEPT 6 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA)-- ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE VIENNA ARCHBISHOP, NO RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN IMPOSED ON THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA SINCE THE MILITARY INTERVENTION ON AUGUST 21, FRANZ CARDINAL KOENIG DECLARED ON FRIDAY IN VIENNA.

THE VIENNA CARDINAL MADE THE STATEMENT WHEN INTRODUCING TO CATHOLIC ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTATIVES THE SLOVAK BISHOP PAVEL HNILICA.

HNILICA, AN EXILED SLOVAK BISHOP LIVING IN ROME, CAME TO VIENNA RECENTLY TO ORGANIZE RESCUE WORK FOR CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS AND REFUGEES.

SPEAKING ON FRIDAY IN THE VIENNA "APOSTOLIC CENTER", HNILICA APPEALED TO WESTERN CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS AND UNIVERSITIES TO HELP CZECHOSLOVAK INTELLECTUALS WHO HAD TO LEAVE THEIR COUNTRY AFTER THE MILITARY OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

HNILICA APPEALED ESPECIALLY TO ALL WESTERN CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS AND UNIVERSITIES TO FACILITATE WHAT HE CALLED "THE INTEGRATION OF CZECHOSLOVAK INTELLECTUALS INTO WESTERN CULTURAL LIFE".

IN HIS APPEAL THE SLOVAK BISHOP STRESSED ESPECIALLY THE DIFFICULT SITUATION TO BE FACED BY CZECHOSLOVAK INTELLECTUALS AND HE APPEALED TO WESTERN UNIVERSITIES AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTES TO PROVIDE STIPENDS AND APPROPRIATE JOBS FOR THOSE WHO DECIDED NOT TO RETURN TO THEIR HOME COUNTRY.

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