

VIENNA, SEPT 6 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA) THE AUSTRIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY ANNOUNCED FRIDAY^{had} THAT THE FLOW OF CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS FROM YUGOSLAVIA TO AUSTRIA[^] CEASED NEARLY ENTIRELY.

ACCORDING TO THE MINISTRY, SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE MILITARY INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 986 EAST EUROPEANS APPLIED FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM IN AUSTRIA OF WHOM 779 WERE CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONALS.

DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS 2,439 CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONAL PASSPORT HOLDERS ARRIVED IN AUSTRIA FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND 2,445 CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONALS LEFT AUSTRIA FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

ON FRIDAY MORNING 4,261 CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONALS WERE REGISTERED IN AUSTRIAN RESCUE CAMPS AND 488 CZECHS AND SLOVAKS IN HOTELS AND PRIVATE QUARTERS.

THE AUSTRIAN CENTRAL LABOUR EXCHANGE OFFICE REGISTERED 700 CZECHOSLOVAK APPLICANTS FOR JOBS.

BUT THE MAJORITY OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED MANPOWER AMONG THE CZECHOSLOVAK TOURISTS AND REFUGEES ARE LEAVING AUSTRIA FOR SWITZERLAND, IT WAS ANNOUNCED.

THE IN- AND OUTGOING TRAFFIC SITUATION BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA REMAINS UNCHANGED: CZECHOSLOVAK PASPORT HOLDERS ARE FREE TO LEAVE CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND ARE ADMITTED INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS. DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT HOLDERS AND WESTERN TRAVELERS WITH SPECIAL PERMITS ARE ALSO ADMITTED INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER POLICE.

HUNGARIAN BORDER CROSSING POINTS REMAIN CLOSED FOR CZECHOSLOVAK AND EAST GERMAN TOURISTS INTENDING TO LEAVE HUNGARY FOR AUSTRIA BUT OTHERWISE TRAFFIC ACROSS THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN BORDER IS NORMAL. IN SOME CASES WESTERN JOURNALISTS AND PRIESTS WERE REFUSED PERMISSION TO ENTER HUNGARY, THE AUSTRIAN MINISTRY ANNOUNCED.

ASB/L 2028/68

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