

CN 88

CS - AUSTRIAN COMMUNISTS FAVOR CZECHOSLOVAK INDEPENDENCE

VIENNA, SEPT 7 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA/CNR)- THE AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER VOLKSSTIMME SAID TODAY THAT NORMALIZATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA MUST INCLUDE THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS AND THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENCE.

THE NEWSPAPER SAID NORMALIZATION SHOULD NOT BE A PRE-CONDITION FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS.

AFTER QUOTING PRAVDA AND IZVESTIA ARTICLES, VOLKSSTIMME SAID THE SOVIET NEWSPAPERS' VIEWS INDICATED NO WILLINGNESS BY THE SOVIETS TO WITHDRAW THEIR TROOPS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

IN ITS WEEK-END SUPPLEMENT, VOLKSSTIMME DEVOTES A FULL PAGE TO A PREVIEW OF THE BOOK "CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN TRANSITION," PUBLISHED IN VIENNA BY THE PAPER'S EDITOR, LEOPOLD GRUENWALD. IN A REVIEW OF THE CAUSE OF CZECHOSLOVAK EVOLUTION SINCE JANUARY, THE NEWSPAPER CALLS DUBCEK'S REGIME "THE EXECUTOR OF PALMIRO TOGLIATTI'S WILL."

ELSEWHERE IN THE ISSUE, VOLKSSTIMME CARRIES AN EXTENSIVE REPORT BASED ON CETEKA AGENCY, TASS AND CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS REPORTS, ON THE ARRIVAL IN PRAGUE OF SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER VASIL KUZNETSOV, THE MEETING OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE, THE RESOLUTION OF THE SLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM AND THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE NEW CZECHOSLOVAK INTERIOR MINISTER JAN PELNAR.

RH/JON/L 1540/68 AB

