

CN 106

VISITS - DEBRE: SOVIETS MUST SHOW THEY STILL INTERESTED IN DETENTE

(RELEADS CN-46)

PARIS, SEPT. 7, REUTER -- FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER MICHEL DEBRE SAID HERE TODAY AFTER TALKS WITH HIS WEST GERMAN COUNTERPART, HERR WILLY BRANDT, THAT IT WAS UP TO THE SOVIET UNION TO SHOW THAT SHE HAD NOT REJECTED THE IDEA OF AN EAST-WEST DETENTE.

"THE CHANCES OF A RETURN TO NORMALITY IN EUROPE ARE DIRECTLY LINKED TO A DETENTE AND IT IS UP TO THE SOVIET UNION TO SHOW BY HER DECISIONS THAT SHE HAS NOT RENOUNCED SUCH A DETENTE," M. DEBRE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER DAY-LONG TALKS WITH HERR BRANDT.

HE SAID THEIR CONVERSATIONS HAD CENTRED MAINLY ON THE EUROPEAN SITUATION FOLLOWING THE WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND "GENERAL EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES SUCH AS THE COMMON MARKET."

ASKED WHETHER HERR BRANDT HAD MADE A PLEA FOR THE RELAXATION OF FRANCES POSITION ON THE ENTRY OF BRITAIN INTO THE COMMON MARKET, M. DEBRE SAID IT WAS WELL KNOWN THAT WEST GERMANY WANTED AN ENLARGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY.

(MORE) PRW/L

1754/68

ASB 413