

C/S - 1800 INTRO - CZECHOSLOVAKIA

MUNICH, SEPT 7 (CNR)- SOVIET FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER VASILY KUZNETSOV TODAY CONFERRED WITH CZECHOSLOVAK PARTY LEADER ALEXANDER DUBCEK IN PRAGUE.

TASS SAID THE TWO MEN "EXCHANGED" OPINIONS ON THE CURRENT PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING" BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. IT DESCRIBED THE TALKS AS "FRANK AND COMRADELY".

TODAY'S TALKS FOLLOWED A MEETING AT PRAGUE CASTLE YESTERDAY BETWEEN KUZNETSOV AND CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA.

WHILE THE PRAGUE CASTLE TALKS WERE TAKING PLACE YESTERDAY, DUBCEK WAS PRESIDING AT A PARTY PRESIDUM SESSION. A COMMUNIQUE IN THE PARTY PAPER RUDE PRAVO TODAY SAID THE PRESIDUM WAS READY FOR NEW TALKS WITH THE SOVIET UNION ON ENDING THE 17-DAY OCCUPATION OF THE COUNTRY.

THE COMMUNIQUE ON THE PRESIDUM SESSION SAID: "CONDITIONS HAVE BEEN CREATED FOR CONCRETE AND RESPONSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS BY EMPOWERED DELEGATES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE MOSCOW AGREEMENT."

MEANWHILE CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER JIRI HAJEK, WH WAS IN YUGOSLAVIA WHEN THE WARSAW PACT FORCES OCCUPIED HIS COUNTRY, HAS RETURNED TO PRAGUE.

HAJEK, A TARGET OF BITTER CRITICISM FROM MOSCOW, CROSSED THE AUSTRIAN BORDER NEAR BRATISLAVA LAST NIGHT AND DROVE TO PRAGUE TODAY.

IN PRAGUE, OCCUPATION TROOPS CONTINUED TO WITHDRAW FROM NEWSPAPER OFFICES, AND THE PEOPLE'S PARTY PAPER LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE APPEARED FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE INVASION. THE SOCIALIST PARTY PAPER SVOBODNE SLOVO IS DUE TO RESUME PUBLICATION TOMORROW.

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