

C/S - 1930 INTRO - WESTERN REACTION TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

MUNI CH, SEPT. 7 (CNR)- FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER MICHEL DEBRE TODAY CHALLENGED THE SOVIET UNION TO SHOW THAT IT HAD NOT REJECTED THE IDEA OF AN EAST-WEST DETENTE.

DEBRE SAID AFTER TALKS IN PARIS WITH WEST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER WILLY BRANDT THAT THE CHANCES OF A RETURN TO NORMAL IN EUROPE WERE DIRECTLY LINKED TO A DETENTE.

"IT IS UP TO THE SOVIET UNION TO SHOW BY HER DECISIONS THAT SHE HAS NOT RENOUNCED SUCH A DETENTE", DEBRE ADDED.

DEBRE TOLD REPORTERS THAT HIS DAY-LONG TALKS WITH BRANDT HAD CENTRED MAINLY ON THE EUROPEAN SITUATION ARISING FROM THE WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND "GENERAL EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES SUCH AS THE COMMON MARKET."

THE WEST GERMAN MINISTER, WHO RETURNS TO BONN TONIGHT, SAID THE FRENCH AND WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENTS THOUGHT ALIKE ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA. "CZECHOSLOVAKIA MUST AND SHOULD BE FREE OF FOREIGN TROOPS", HE SAID.

A PARIS COMMITTEE OF SUPPORT FOR THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE SAID TODAY THAT NEARLY ONE AND A HALF MILLION PEOPLE HAD SIGNED ITS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION.

A GAULLIST DEPUTY DENOUNCED THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SOVIET ARMY'S CHOIR AND BALLETS IN A FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY CELEBRATION IN PARIS THIS WEEKEND. DEPUTY PIERRE MARCUS SAID THE PERFORMANCE HAD AN "INDECENT ASPECT AT THE VERY TIME WHEN THE SOVIET ARMY CRUSHES A PEOPLE WHICH IS A FRIEND OF FRANCE."

IN LONDON, 18 LEADING BRITISH AUTHORS, SCIENTISTS AND UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS PUT THEIR NAMES TO A DEMAND FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET TROOPS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA "WITH THE LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY."