

CN 12

CS -- EUROPEAN WRITERS CUT EASTERN TIES

ROME , SEPT. 8 (UPI)-- THE EUROPEAN WRITERS' COMMUNITY (COMES) SAID SATURDAY NIGHT IT WAS DISCONTINUING CULTURAL COLLABORATION WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER COUNTRIES THAT INVADED CZECHOSLOVAKIA. THE COMMUNITY, HEADED BY ITALIAN POET GIUSEPPE UNGARETTI, SAID IN A MANIFESTO IT WAS "STILL PROUD" OF ITS 10 YEARS OF WORK TO OVERCOME POLITICAL BLOCS.

BUT IT SAID "IT IS NOT POSSIBLE, FOR THE TIME BEING, TO REESTABLISH CULTURAL COLLABORATION WITH THE COUNTRIES THAT OCCUPIED CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ALTHOUGH RESPONSIBILITY FOR THAT ACTION CERTAINLY CANNOT FALL ON THE WRITERS AND INTELLECTUALS OF THOSE COUNTRIES."

COMES SUGGESTED THAT ITS MEMBERS MAINTAIN "PARTIAL REPATIONS" WITH THOSE WRITERS FROM THE INVADING COUNTRIES WHOSE "MORAL DIGNITY IS NOT QUESTIONABLE."

IT RECOMMENDED INTENSIFIED RELATIONS WITH THE WRITERS OF YUGOSLAVIA AND ROMANIA, "ESPECIALLY IN THE FACE OF THE DANGER OF FURTHER AGRESSIONS."

THE MANIFESTO URGED WESTERN GOVERNMENTS TO GRANT ASYLUM TO CZECHOSLOVAK REFUGEES, BUT NOT SEND THEM TO REFUGEE CAMPS.

THE MANIFESTO BORE THE SIGNATURES OF 90 WRITERS, MOSTLY ITALIANS, BUT COMES SECRETARY GIANCARLO VIGORELLI SAID MANY MORE WERE EXPECTED TO SIGN IN COMING DAYS.

MBW/HI

0305/68 +,