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VISITS -- MORNING INTRO -- STEWART VISIT

MUNICH, SEPT. 8 (CNR) -- BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER MICHAEL STEWART GOES TO RUMANIA TODAY FOLLOWING AN ATTACK BY RADIO MOSCOW ON THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

THE VISIT WILL BE THE FIRST BY A WESTERN MINISTER TO EASTERN EUROPE SINCE THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA. STEWART HAD ORIGINALLY ALSO BEEN SCHEDULED TO VISIT SOFIA AND BUDAPEST BUT THOSE VISITS WERE CANCELED WHEN BULGARIAN AND HUNGARIAN TROOPS MARCHED INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

STEWART WILL MEET RUMANIAN PRESIDENT AND COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER NICOLAE CEAUSESCU, PREMIER ION GHEORGHE MARUER AND FOREIGN MINISTER CORNELIU MANESCU DURING HIS FOUR-DAY VISTI.

RADIO MOSCOW HERALDED THE VISIT SATURDAY IN AN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE BROADCAST WITH A COMMENTARY ATTACKING THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT FOR RETURNING TO THE COLD WAR ATTITUDES OF THE EARLY FIFTIES.

THE RADIO SAID IT WAS QUOTING FROM A COMMENTARY IN THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY DAILY, PRAVDA. HOWEVER, NO RPT NO SUCH COMMENTARY APPEARED IN PRAVDA SATURDAY. A PRAVDA SPOKESMAN IN MOSCOW CONFIRMED THAT THE ARTICLE HAD NOT RPT NOT APPEARED, AND OFFICIALS OF RADIO MOSCOW'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE SERVICE WERE NOT RPT NOT AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT.

THE RADIO QUOTED THE COMMENTARY AS SAYING BRITISH LEADERS WERE MOUNTING A HOBBY-HORSE OF ANTI-SOVIETISM AND WERE PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT.

BRITAIN HAS STRONGLY CONDEMNED THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA. RUMANIA HAS ALSO BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE OCCUPATION'S CRITICS.

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