

CN 64

X/9 P - 1545 INTRO - GOMULKA

WARSAW, SEPT 8, REUTER - POLISH COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER WLADYSLAW GOMULKA TODAY WARNED CZECHOSLOVAKIA THAT THE WAY BACK TO UNITY WITH ITS WARSAW PACT ALLIES WOULD BE DIFFICULT AND PERHAPS LONG.

THIS DEPENDED IN THE FIRST PLACE ON THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY AND ITS UNDERSTANDING OF THE "POLITICAL CONTENT" OF DEVELOPMENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA PRECEEDING LAST MONTHS FIVE-POWER WARSAW PACT ARMED INTERVENTION, HE SAID.

GOMULKA SAID THE WARSAW PACT POWERS HAD NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE AND ACTED ONLY WHEN ALL OTHER MEANS HAD BEEN EXHAUSTED AND AFTER DEEP THOUGHT.

HE WAS ADDRESSING A HARVEST FESTIVAL CELEBRATION ATTENDED BY ABOUT 80,000 PEOPLE IN A WARSAW SPORTS STADIUM.

MR. GOMULKA CLAIMED CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ALEXANDER DUBCEK HAD SPOKEN THE TRUTH WHEN HE "ADMITTED SELF-CRITICALLY" IN A RECENT SPEECH THAT THE PRAGUE PARTY LEADERSHIP HAD DISREGARDED THE STRATEGIC AND GENERAL INTERESTS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS FOUR WARSAW PACT ALLIES - POLAND, EAST GERMANY, BULGARIA, AND HUNGARY.

BUT FROM THIS STANDPOINT CZECHOSLOVAKIAS INTERESTS WERE NO DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF OTHER WARSAW PACT STATES. WEST GERMAN MILITARISTS WERE SHARPENING THEIR TEETH FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIAS SUDETENLAND AS WELL AS FOR POLANDS WESTERN TERRITORIES AND EAST GERMANY, MR. GOMULKA SAID.

(MORE) EH/L 1545/68

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