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X/13 FRANCE - DE GAULLE: TOO LATE TO SAVE THE BLOCS (RELEADS CN-94)

PARIS, SEPT 9 (RFE SPECIAL/EDWARDS)---GENERAL DE GAULLE TOLD A PARIS PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY THAT THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAD SHOWN THAT FRENCH POLICIES AIMED AT THE BREAKUP OF THE BLOCS WERE RIGHT.

THEY WOULD BE CONTINUED, HE TOLD 1000 JOURNALISTS GATHERED AT THE ELYSEES PALACE.

"FRANCE...WILL CONTINUE TO WORK EVERYWHERE, AND PARTICULARLY ON OUR CONTINENT, FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF PEOPLE AND THE FREEDOM OF MEN, FOR DETENTE, ENTENTE AND COOPERATION -- IN OTHER WORDS, FOR PEACE," HE DECLARED.

THESE WERE THE LAST WORDS OF THE GENERAL'S 75-MINUTE MEETING WITH THE PRESS, HIS SEVENTEENTH SINCE HIS RETURN TO POWER.

EARLIER, HE HAD REVIEWED PLANS FOR REFORM OF FRENCH UNIVERSITIES, FOR GREATER PARTICIPATION OF WORKERS IN THE RUNNING OF FRENCH INDUSTRY AND THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE CRISIS IN FRANCE LAST SPRING.

(MORE) JON/E 1632/68

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