

C/S - HUMPHREY ON CZECHOSLOVAK INVASION

MUNICH, SEPT 9 (CNR)- U.S. VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY HAS SAID THAT THE WARSAW PACT INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA REVEALS THE ENDS TO WHICH A COMMUNIST POWER WILL GO WHEN IT FEELS ITS INTERESTS ARE INVOLVED.

HUMPHREY WHO IS ALSO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, MADE THE REMARK SUNDAY ON AN AMERICAN TELEVISION PROGRAM "ISSUES AND ANSWERS."

IN REFERRING TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA, HE SAID: "THE SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS AN INTERNATIONAL TRAGEDY BECAUSE IT ONCE AGAIN REMINDS US OF THE ENDS TO WHICH A COMMUNIST POWER WILL GO WHEN IT FEELS ITS INTERESTS ARE INVOLVED.

"I THINK IT REMINDS US AGAIN OF THE DANGEROUS AND UNPREDICTABLE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE AND ALSO TELLS US HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO PREDICT WHAT WILL HAPPEN."

BUT HUMPHREY ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE U.S. HAD TO RETAIN SOME FORM OF RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION DESPITE THE EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

HE SAID: "I BELIEVE WE MUST KEEP IN MIND THAT WE HAVE A GREAT NATIONAL AND WORLD PEACE INTEREST IN TRYING TO FIND ... SOME KIND OF WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OURSELVES AND THE SOVIET UNION -- PARTICULARLY AS IT RELATES TO ARMS CONTROL.

"WE ARE THE TWO GREAT SUPER POWERS AND WE HAVE THE CAPACITY TO LITERALLY DESTROY THIS PLANET. AND THAT CAPACITY IS BEING INCREASED."

ASKED WHETHER THE U.S. SHOULD PRESS FOR RATIFICATION OF THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY, HUMPHREY REPLIED: "I SURELY WOULD. I THINK IT'S IN THE INTERESTS OF WORLD PEACE."