

CN 157  
X/13 C/S - SHORTER ITEMS

CZECHOSLOVAK REFUGEES, TOURISTS IN AUSTRIA (W/ CN 137)

VIENNA, SEPT 9 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA)- SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE MILITARY INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 956 CZECHOSLOVAKS HAVE APPLIED FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM IN AUSTRIA, THE AUSTRIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY ANNOUNCED MONDAY.

IN ADDITION TO THE APPLICANTS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM, THERE ARE NUMEROUS CZECHS AND SLOVAKS IN AUSTRIA WHO STILL HAVE NOT DECIDED WHETHER TO RETURN HOME. IN ORDER TO ENABLE THESE STRANDED CZECHOSLOVAKS TO MAKE UP THEIR MINDS, THE AUSTRIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY HAS ISSUED A GENERAL RESIDENCE PERMIT VALID UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30 FOR ALL CZECHOSLOVAK NATIONALS WHO WERE IN AUSTRIAN WHEN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS INVADED.

2,015 HOLDERS OF CZECHOSLOVAK PASSPORTS ARRIVED IN AUSTRIA FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND 2,108 CZECHOSLOVAKS LEFT AUSTRIA FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS.

ON MONDAY MORNING 3,024 CZECHOSLOVAKS WERE REGISTERED IN AUSTRIAN RESCUE CAMPS AND ADDITIONAL 499 IN HOTELS AND PRIVATE QUARTERS.

AIR TRAFFIC TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA GRADUALLY IMPROVING  
VIENNA, SEPT 9 (RFE SPECIAL/KOSTRBA)- THE BAN ON ENTERING CZECHOSLOVAK AIR SPACE AND OVERFLYING CZECHOSLOVAK TERRITORY WAS LIFTED FOR FOREIGN AIRCRAFT ON SUNDAY AT 0700 HOURS, AUSTRIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED.

CZECHOSLOVAK AIRPORTS HAVE BEEN OPEN FOR LANDINGS OF CHARTER PLANES SINCE MONDAY MORNING.

CZECHOSLOVAK AIRPORTS WILL BE OPEN FOR NORMAL AIRLINE TRAFFIC STATING 0000 HOURS ON TUESDAY, AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED.

CS RED CROSS THANKS SWISS GROUP FOR AID

GENEVA, SEPT 9 (RFE SPECIAL/MAHONEY)- TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK RED CROSS TODAY EXPRESSED THEIR ORGANIZATION'S THANKS TO THE SWISS RED CROSS FOR ITS TWO SHIPMENTS OF FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIED DURING THE POST-OCCUPATION PERIOD.

THE TWO DELEGATES -- DOCTORS KUCHAR AND BLAHA - MET IN BERN WITH THE HEAD OF THE SWISS RED CROSS, PROF. DR. HANS HAUG. A RED CROSS SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THEY DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITIES OF CLOSER FUTURE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONAL SOCIETIES.

THE TWO CZECHOSLOVAK REPRESENTATIVES WERE IN SWITZERLAND TO ATTEND THE GENEVA MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES. THEY WILL RETURN TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA TOMORROW.

SWISS GYMNASTS HIRE CZECHOSLOVAK COACH  
GENEVA, SEPT 9 (RFE SPECIAL/MAHONEY)- THE SWISS GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAD CONTRACTED WITH CZECHOSLOVAK COACH LUDWIG MARTSINI TO DIRECT THE SWISS FEMININE GYMNASTIC TEAM.

EH/E 2132/68