

CN 168

X/13 CS - WESTERN MARXISTS CONDEMN SOVIET OCCUPATION (W/ CN 141)

MUNICH, SEPTEMBER 9 (GND/GAERTNER)- TWO PROMINENT WESTERN MARXISTS, AUSTRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY THEORIST ERNST FISCHER, AND WEST GERMAN PROF. ERNST BLOCH, A LEADING MARXIST PHILOSOPHER, TONIGHT CONDEMNED THE SOVIET OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

BOTH FISCHER AND BLOCH, INTERVIEWED BY THE FIRST WEST GERMAN TELEVISION NETWORK, URGED THAT MOSCOW BE STRIPPED OF ITS LEADING ROLE WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT.

FISCHER SAID THAT "IT WAS THE TASK OF THE COMMUNIST PARTIES IN THE WEST TO CALL A EUROPEAN CONFERENCE AND CONDEMN UNANIMOUSLY THE ACT OF VIOLENCE OF THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP."

THE CONFERENCE SHOULD ALSO DEMAND THE "IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF THE FOREIGN TROOPS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA, OF ALL FOREIGN POLICE AND EXPERTS," HE ADDED.

FAILING A WITHDRAWAL, "THEN I CONSIDER IT A MORAL AND POLITICAL OBLIGATION TO CUT RELATIONS WITH THE PRESENT LEADERSHIP OF THE SOVIET PARTY," FISCHER SAID.

THE CHIEF THEORIST OF THE AUSTRIAN CP PREDICTED THAT A "GREAT NEW MOVEMENT OF NOT RPT NOT ONLY DEMOCRATIC COMMUNISTS BUT ALSO OF OTHER SOCIALIST AND DEMOCRATIC FORCES - AN INDEPENDENT AND AUTONOMOUS MOVEMENT - WOULD COME INTO BEING."

"SUCH A MOVEMENT IS STRONGLY NEEDED," HE SAID.

HE ATTACKED "ORTHODOX COMMUNISTS" FOR TERMING ALL CIVIL LIBERTIES "COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY."

"IT IS THE PROGRAM OF THE WESTERN COMMUNIST PARTIES TO REJECT THIS WITH A THUNDEROUS NO," HE ADDED.

(MORE) BG/EH/E 2224/68/15