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X/13 - GENEVA - BULGARIA IGNORES CRITICISM ON CS INVASION

GENEVA, SEPTEMBER 10 (RFE SPECIAL/MAHONEY) -- THE BULGARIAN DELEGATE TO THE 93 - NATION CONFERENCE OF NON-NUCLEAR STATES -- THE FIRST OF THE INVADERS OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO SPEAK -- TODAY ALL BUT IGNORED THE SERIES OF ATTACKS THAT HAVE BEEN LEVELED AGAINST HIS COUNTRY AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE CZECHOSLOVAK OPERATION, AND CALLED FOR APPROVAL OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY AS A STEP TOWARDS PEACE.

AMBASSADOR KROUM CHRISTOV SAID HOWEVER THAT ""THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT IS A POLICY OF PEACE"" THAT DEMANDED IT ""PROMOTE ALL MEASURES LEADING TO DISARMAMENT OR TO THE REDUCTION OF INTERNATIONAL TENSION AND TO CREATING A MORE FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE.""

BUT HE COMPLETELY AVOIDED THE MAJOR CHARGE HEARD AT THIS CONFERENCE REPEATEDLY SINCE THE WARSAW PACT INVASION: THAT THE OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WOULD DELAY, IF NOT DOOM, THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY SINCE IT WAS AMPLE PROOF THAT THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT STAND BY ITS FORMAL TREATY COMMITMENTS. IN ADDITION, DELEGATES HAVE SAID THAT SINCE SECURITY GUARANTEES OFFERED BY THE NUCLEAR POWERS DEPENDED UPON ACTION BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL, THEY HAD BEEN PROVED MEANINGLESS BY THE SOVIET VETO OF A SECURITY COUNCIL CENSURE MOTION FOLLOWING THE INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

A SERIES OF WESTERN AND NON-ALLIGNED SPEAKERS HAVE USED THE PHRASE ""LOSS OF A CLIMATE OF CONFIDENCE"" TO DESCRIBE THE SITUATION THAT WOULD DELAY ACTION ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY.

(MORE) BG/A

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