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Seen by Mr. Rostow

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DECLARATION

PRAGUE CTX INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH 1553 GMT 21 AUG 68 L

(TEXT) PRAGUE--CZECHOSLOVAK DEPUTIES TODAY DECLARED UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT FOR THE LEGAL AUTHORITIES IN THE COUNTRY. THE PROCLAMATION THEY UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THIS AFTERNOON RUNS AS FOLLOWS :

"DEPUTIES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WHO MET AT MIDDAY TODAY IN ANSWER TO AN APPEAL BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDIUUM, REGARD IT AS NECESSARY TO DECLARE AT THIS MOMENT, WHEN THE LEGAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES CANNOT PUT FORWARD THEIR VIEW ON THE PRESENT SITUATION AND FULFILL THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL FUNCTIONS:

"1--WE FULLY ENDORSE THE PROCLAMATION OF THE PRESIDIUUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY AND THE PRESIDIUUM OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH CALLS THE OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY THE ARMIES OF FIVE COUNTRIES OF THE WARSAW PACT A VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE WARSAW PACT, AND OF THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUAL RELATIONS BETWEEN NATIONS.

"2--WE DEMAND THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICIALS, PRIMARILY PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC LUDVIK SVOBODA, PREMIER OLDRICH CERNIK, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN JOSEF SMRKOVSKY , FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY ALEXANDER DUBCEK, CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL FRONT DR FRANTISEK KRIEGL, CHAIRMAN OF THE CZECH NATIONAL COUNCIL DR CESTMIR CISAR, AND OTHERS BE RELEASED FROM INTERNMENT AND SO BE ABLE TO PERFORM THE CONSTITUTIONAL FUNCTIONS WITH WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN ENTRUSTED BY THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY. MOREOVER , THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION WHICH WE SENT TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY THIS MORNING HAS NOT YET RETURNED.

"3--WE PROTEST AGAINST THE FACT THAT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY , THE GOVERNMENT , AND THE COMPONENTS OF THE NATIONAL FRONT AND ITS REPRESENTATIVES ARE PREVENTED FROM PERFORMING THEIR LEGAL RIGHTS , AND WE INSIST ON THEIR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND ASSEMBLY.

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"4--WE CATEGORICALLY DEMAND THE IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF THE TROOPS OF FIVE COUNTRIES OF THE WARSAW PACT AND THE FULL RESPECT OF THE STATE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC. WE APPEAL TO THE PARLIAMENTS OF ALL COUNTRIES AND TO WORLD PUBLIC OPINION TO SUPPORT OUR LEGAL DEMANDS.

"5--WE ENTRUST A DELEGATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY , CONSISTING OF MARIE MIKOVA, JOSEF MACEK , JOZEF VALO, PAVOL RAPOS, JOSEF POSPISIL, AND VACLAV KUCERA, WITH MAKING CONTACT WITH CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY JOSEF SMRKOVSKY, WITH PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA, AND WITH PREMIER OLDRICH CERNIK IN ORDER TO INFORM THEM ABOUT THIS RESOLUTION AND DECIDE WITH THEM WHAT TO DO. THE DELEGATION IS IMMEDIATELY TO REPORT TO THE CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE ON THE RESULTS OF THEIR NEGOTIATIONS.

"6--WE CALL ON ALL THE PEOPLE NOT TO REVERT TO VIOLENCE AGAINST THE OCCUPATION TROOPS AND NOT TO BE PROVOKED BY VARIOUS FORCES WHICH WANT TO OBTAIN PROOFS TO JUSTIFY INTERVENTION AND USE THE SITUATION FOR UNAUTHORIZED ACTIONS .

"WORKING PEOPLE! STAY AT YOUR PLACES OF WORK AND DEFEND YOUR ENTERPRISES .

"USE ALL DEMOCRATIC MEANS FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

"IF NECESSARY, YOU WILL CERTAINLY BE CAPABLE OF DEFENDING YOURSELVES EVEN BY A GENERAL STRIKE. A GOOD LIFE IN THIS COUNTRY CAN BE GUARANTEED ONLY BY PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN IT .

"WE ARE LIVING THROUGH DIFFICULT HOURS.

"WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHALL EMERGE WITH HEADS HELD HIGH AND WITH UNBROKEN SPIRIT."

AT THE SAME MEETING VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY JOZEF VALO INFORMED DEPUTIES ABOUT HIS TALKS WITH THE PRESIDENT WHEN PRESIDENT SVOBODA EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH THE CONVENING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PLENUM.

21 AUG 1848Z JRC/CT

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