FBIS 13 (OUT OF SEQUENCE)

WEST GERMAN REPORT ON INTERVENTION

NEUMUNSTER WEST GERMAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN GERMAN 0230 GMT 21 AUG 68 L

(EXCERPT) ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM PRAGUE, THERE IS UNUSUALLY BUSY TRAFFIC AT AIRPORTS AROUND PRAGUE. SOVIET AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN LANDING WITHOUT INTERRUPTION. IT IS ASSUMED THAT AIRBORNE FORCES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

NUMEROUS MILITARY AND POLICE VEHICLES ARE DRIVING THROUGH THE STREETS OF PRAGUE. THE POPULATION IS BEGINNING TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES AND ARE DISCUSSING THE NEW SITUATION. DPA REPORTED SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT THAT TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAS BEEN PARALYZED TO A WIDE EXTENT. NO CONNECTIONS TO COUNTRIES ABROAD HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED.

THE FIRST INFORMATION ABOUT THE INVASION BY FOREIGN TROOPS WAS RECEIVED BY PRAGUE NEWSPAPERS FROM TELEPHONE CALLS BY CITIZENS IN THE PROVINCES. THEY STATED THAT SOVIET TANKS HAD CROSSED THE NORTHERN FRONTIER NEAR ZINNWALD. OTHER COMBAT VEHICLES HAVE ARRIVED IN THE SLOVAK CAPITAL OF BRATISLAVA. THUS FAR IT HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED THAT HUNGARIAN UNITS ARE ALSO PARTICIPATING IN THIS OPERATION.

21 AUG 0312Z PAK/GY

COPY LBJ LIBRARY