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NOR331  
CHECK 1200

NOR332 EPD719  
1204 : URGENT \*\*\*\*\* LEAD CZECH - SIK:  
BY MIODRAG KLUN

BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA, AUG. 24, REUTER--CZECHOSLOVAK  
DEPUTY PREMIER OTAK SIK CONFIRMED TODAY THAT PARTY  
SECRETARY ALEXANDER DUBCEK WAS IN MOSCOW, AND SAID,  
"HE WAS TAKEN THERE BY THE RUSSIANS -- AND THAT IS AN ACT  
OF VIOLENCE."

SIK ALSO SAID THE RUSSIANS FAILED IN THE OBJECT OF THEIR  
OCCUPATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THEY FAILED TO X X X X PICKING UP SECOND PARA (NOR 330)  
OF (NOR 329).

DM

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NOR333 EPD720  
1208 : 2ND ADD BELGRADE CZECH-SIK (NOR 330):  
X X X SAID.

SIK CONFIRMED THAT PARTY SECRETARY ALEXANDER DUBCEK WAS  
IN MOSCOW AND HAS BEEN TAKING PART IN TALKS BETWEEN  
CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT LUDVIK SVOBODA AND SOVIET LEADERS.

ASKED HOW DUBCEK GOT TO MOSCOW, SIK  
SAID, "HE WAS TAKEN THERE BY THE RUSSIANS - AND THAT  
IS AN ACT OF VIOLENCE."

SIK SAID IT WAS A HOPEFUL SIGN THAT DUBCEK WAS ALLOWED  
TO TAKE PART IN THE TALKS.

ASKED IF HE HAD ANY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION WITH SVOBODA  
SIK SAID "NOT NOW."

HE HAD A LINK WITH THE PRESIDENT BUT THIS WAS SEVERED  
BY THE OCCUPYING FORCES, HE SAID.

(MORE) JF/DM

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NOR334 EPD721  
1210 : 3RD ADD BELGRADE CZECH-SIK.:  
X X X SAID.

SIK AGREED THAT THE DISPUTE WAS NOT BETWEEN THE SOVIET  
UNION AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA BUT BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW FORCES  
OF COMMUNISM.

STATEMENTS THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WERE A THREAT  
TO SOCIALISM AND TO THE SECURITY OF THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES  
WERE MERE CAMOUFLAGE, HE SAID.

THE ONLY PERSONS EXPRESSING SUCH IDEAS WERE INCOMPETENT  
OFFICIALS OF THE FORMER REGIME WHO WERE ONLY CONCERNED ABOUT  
THEIR OWN POSITION AND NOT ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALISM  
IN A DEMOCRATIC AND RESPONSIBLE MANNER, HE SAID.

(MORE) DM

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*Rostow*

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NOR335 EPD722

1212 : 4TH ADD BELGADE CZECH-SIK:

X X X SAID.

SIK DENIED CZECHOSLOVAKIA GAVE ANY CAUSE FOR OCCUPATION BY WARSAW PACT FORCES.

ASKED IF CZECHOSLOVAKIA COULD EVER TRUST THE RUSSIANS AGAIN, SIK GAVE NO DIRECT REPLY -- BUT MERELY SHRUGGED HIS SHOULDERS.

ON THE QUESTION OF A GOVERNMENT IN EXILE, SIK SAID THIS WAS ONLY ONE OF MANY POSSIBILITIES THAT COULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE LIGHT OF DEVELOPMENTS.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTER JIRI HAJEK WOULD FLY BACK TO BELGADE AT THE END OF HIS MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS, HE SAID.

HAJEK FLEW TO THE U.N. TO PUT HIS COUNTRY'S CASE FOLLOWING THE SOVIET INVASION.

REUTER DE/DM

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