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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The Situation In Czechoslovakia
(As of 1130 hours EDT)

1. The communique issued this morning following the Moscow meeting contained general pledges of loyalty to Marxism-Leninism on the Czechoslovak side and non-interference on the Soviet side similar to those made at Cerna and Bratislava. What the agreement and certain other new pledges will mean in practice may be clearer later today when Czechoslovak leaders spell out for their people the "planned, immediate measures" referred to in the communique.

Among the key points in the communique:

- Soviet troops which "temporarily" entered Czechoslovakia will not interfere in Czechoslovak affairs and they will be withdrawn "as the situation normalizes."
- The Czechoslovaks agreed that all media would serve the party and the cause of friendship among Communist nations.

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--Both sides agreed to strengthen the solidarity of the socialist community, fulfill bilateral and multilateral agreements, and "administer a resolute rebuff" to those who would encroach on the existing borders in Europe.

--The Czechoslovak side said it had not asked that the "so-called" Czechoslovak question be brought to the UN and now demanded its removal from the agenda.

The communique was signed by 13 Soviet leaders including nine of 11 full members of the Politburo and 19 Czechoslovak leaders also including nine of 11 Presidium members.

2. Tass also announced that party-government delegations from East Germany, Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria returned home on 27 August following their participation in the Czechoslovak-Soviet talks in Moscow.

3. In Prague, the government and National Assembly convened today to hear reports on the negotiations from Premier Cernik and Assembly Chairman Smrkovsky respectively. Dubcek, Svoboda, and Cernik reportedly are to address the nation sometime this afternoon (Prague time). First reports on a nationwide radio speech by Svoboda today quote the Czechoslovak leader as saying the Soviet troop withdrawal will be "gradual and complete." He cautioned, however, that until they are gone "their presence is a political reality."

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4. Some Czechoslovak officials in London stated yesterday that not "even Dubcek" could get away with any arrangement which would permit Soviet troops to remain for any appreciable length of time. They also said the Czechoslovaks would not accept the re-introduction of censorship or the return to power of potential collaborators-- Kolder, Indra, and Bilak.

5. A Radio Czechoslovak^{ia}/broadcast today reported that the regional party organization in Brno resolved this morning, inter alia, that all troops must be withdrawn immediately, that unnamed "botrayers" of Czechoslovakia not be permitted to remain in office, and that the results of the 14th Party Congress be recognized as valid and legal. Reuters reports that other radio broadcasts have repeatedly stated that the Moscow agreement must be ratified by the parliament, the party central committee, and the congresses still officially in session in Prague and Slovakia. These broadcasts suggest that the Dubcek leadership will have some difficulty in gaining popular acceptance of the agreement if it requires Prague to accept Soviet troops and to impose censorship.

6. There has been no substantial change in the Soviet military posture since the 0600 Sitrep when troops were reported pulling out of major Czechoslovak cities.

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