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TELEGRAM

Norway

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO RSR 01, SR 01, SCI 05, IO 13, ACDA 16, SAL 01, SAH 02, SA 01, GPM 04,

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CIA 04, DOD 01, NEA 13, NIC 01, OPR 02, /153 W

R 221410Z AUG 6J

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TORUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1905

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

USUN NEW YORK 91

UNCLAS OSLO 6176

SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAKIA

REF: OSLO 6163

1. REACTION HIGH-LEVEL NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO NEWS WARSAW PACT (WP) INTERVENTION CZECHOSLOVAKIA IMMEDIATE AND CONDEMNATORY. FONMIN LYNG TOLD PRESS AUG 21: (QUOTE WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA MUST BE REGARDED AS A SERIOUS SETBACK FOR THE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE EAST-WEST DETENTE. AND THERE CAN SURELY BE NO DOUBT THAT WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH A CLEAR VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. THE EVENTS DEMONSTRATE THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR MEMBERSHIP IN NATO AND STRESS THE NECESSITY OF A MUTUALLY BINDING COOPERATION WITH THE STATES WITH WHOM WE ARE ALLIED. I AM CONVINCED THAT THE WHOLE NORWEGIAN NATION FEELS THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY WITH THE CZECH PEOPLE IN THIS FATEFUL HOUR. UNQTE

2. HE EXPANDED ON NATO THEME ON TV LATER IN DAY: QTE THE REACTION TO WHAT HAS HAPPENED SHOWS A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT THAT

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THE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE RELAXATION OF TENSIONS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, EFFORTS IN WHICH NATO COUNTRIES HAVE SINCERELY PARTICIPATED, HAVE NOW COLLAPSED. I BELIEVE THERE WERE REALISTIC POSSIBILITIES FOR A CERTAIN RELAXATION, BUT THESE POSSIBILITIES WILL PRESUMABLY NEVER RETURN AGAIN. WHEN THE RETURN TO COUNTRIES, AMONG OTHERS, HAVE WORKED TO RELAXATION OF TENSIONS THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY THOUGHT OF A RELAXATION OF SECURITY POLICY. WE HAVE ALWAYS STOOD FIRMLY WITH THE GUARANTEES THE NATO ALLIANCE HAS GIVEN US. TODAY ONE CAN WELL SEE THE IMPORTANCE THE COOPERATION WITH OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES HAS HAD FOR US AND OUR POSITION. UNQTE HE ALSO EXPRESSED BELIEF SOME WP COUNTRIES MUST HAVE PARTICIPATED IN INTERVENTION WITH QTE RELUCTANCE. UNQTE

3. PRIMIN BORTEN, AFTER SPECIAL CABINET SESSION AUG 21, SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS QTE APPALLED UNQTE BY THE INTERVENTION, THAT GOVERNMENT MEMBERS FELT CASE MUST BE BROUGHT BEFORE UN IN SOME MANNER. FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT TO BE SUMMONED TO DISCUSS SITUATION.

4. SPOKESMEN FOR ALL POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE SIMILARLY EXPRESSED SHOCK AND DISMAY AT DEVELOPMENTS. COMMUNIST PARTY SECRETARIAT PUBLISHED RESOLUTION DEMANDING WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS AND QTE CONDEMNING ALL ATTEMPTS TO INTERFERE BY FORCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER NATIONS. UNQTE RESOLUTION TO BE SENT ALL WP COUNTRIES AND ALL CPS. LABOR PARTY SCHEDULING MASS RALLY EVENING AUG 22. CONSERVATIVE PARTY HOLDING DEMONSTRATION MEETING SAME EVENING, AND SOVIET EMBASSY HAS BEEN OBJECT OF MASSIVE DEMONSTRATIONS IN ADDITION THOSE REFTEL. BOVEY

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