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ACTION EUR-00

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 INR-07 SS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01
NSCE-00 NSAEO-00 SSO-00 HA-09 L-03 TRSE-00 PM-10
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BRUSSELS FOR USEC - AMBASSADOR NILES
DEPARTMENT PASS TO ERIKA SCHLAGER CSCE COMMISSION
USIA FOR EU (OLASON, PENDERGRAST, JORIA); INFO DD
(KN OPP), (C) (PICTOR)

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, CZ
SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAK INDEPENDENTS ESTABLISH NEW ORGANIZATION AND LIST AGENDA OF DEMANDS.

1(U)INDEPENDENT ELEMENTS OVER THE WEEKEND ESTABLISHED AN ORGANIZATION CALLED THE "CIVIC FORUM." THE FORUM HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 20 IN THE APARTMENT OF VA CLAV HA VEL (AND IN HAVEL'S PRESENCE). IT REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCED A FOUR-POINT AGENDA, DEMANDING:

-- REEVALUATION OF 1968;

-- RESIGNATION OF ALL 1968 ERA FIGURES IN THE REGIME;

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-- A COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE CHARGES OF POLICE BRUTALITY (NOT APPARENTLY LIMITED TO SUPPRESSION OF THE NOVEMBER 17 DEMONSTRATIONS);
-- FREEING OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS.

2. (U) THE FORUM CALLED FOR A GENERAL STRIKE FOR
NOVEMBER 27, BUT TOOK NO POSITION ON HOLDING THREATENED
DEMONSTRATIONS TODAY (NOVEMBER 20).

3. (LOU) ACCORDING TO OUR CONTACT, HAVEL SAID THAT THE
FORUM HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THIRTEEN SIGNATORIES,
"BUT POLITICIANS ALL OVER TOWN ARE SHOVING MEMBERSHIP
CARDS UP THEIR SLEEVES TO BE READY WHEN THE SITUATION
CHANGES." AS AN EXAMPLE, HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT
SOCIALIST PARTY HEAD JAN SKODA, THOUGH NOT A SIGNATORY,
HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE FOUNDING AND GIVEN THE GROUP
HIS VERBAL APPROVAL. IN THE SAME CATEGORY WAS BOHUMIL
SVOBODA OF THE REFORM GROUP WITHIN THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.
HAVEL ALSO REPORTEDLY INDICATED THAT THE GROUP WAS
PREPARED TO WORK WITH ANYONE, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE
REGIME, EXCEPT THOSE INVOLVED IN THE POST-1968
"NORMALIZATION."
BLACK

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