



Department of State

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MALAYSIA
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TELEGRAM

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ACTION EUR 20

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4682

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 5422

SUBJ: INITIAL MALAYSIAN REACTION TO SOVIET INVASION OF
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. IN HURRIED COMMENT ON LEAVING MORNING SESSION OF
PARLIAMENT PRIME MINISTER TOLD REUTERS AND BALTIMORE SUN
CORRESPONDENTS THAT HE CONSIDERED SOVIET ACTION IN
CZECHOSLOVAKIA "MOST UNFORTUNATE." HE INDICATED THAT ANY
COUNTRY WHICH USED FORCE IN SUCH A MANNER WAS ALSO A
THREAT TO MALAYSIA.

2. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER RAZAK EXPRESSED REGRET THAT
SOVIET UNION HAD INVADED CZECHOSLOVAKIA. HE WAS QUOTED BY
BERNAMA NEWS AGENCY AS SAYING "IT IS A MATTER OF CONCERN
AND REGRET THAT SOVIET UNION HAS TAKEN THIS DECISION.
WE BELIEVE IN PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP. I DO HOPE THIS ACTION
WILL NOT FLARE UP AND EMBROIL THE WHOLE OF EASTERN EUROPE
IN A WAR. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE PEACE REIGN THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD AND ALL COUNTRIES REFRAIN FROM USING FORCE.
I HOPE PEACE WILL NOT BE JEOPARDIZED." RAZAK COMMENTED
THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S DECISION NOT TO OFFER RESISTANCE
WAS "A GOOD SIGN" AS SITUATION WOULD NOT BE MADE WORSE. BELL

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