



Department of State

COSTA RICA  
211  
TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12,  
NSA 02, CIA 04, DOD 01, IO 13, ACDA 16, NIC 01, SCI 05, EUR 15, RSR 01,  
/139 W

R 211748Z AUG 68  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3912

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 3621

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: CURRENT REACTION INVASION CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. SIRENS SOUNDED TUESDAY NIGHT AT OFFICES MORNING DAILY LA REPUBLICA, CUSTOM EMPLOYED TO ANNOUNCE EXTRAORDINARY NEWS BREAKS. CROWDS GATHERED OUTSIDE NEWSPAPER TO READ NEWS BULLETINS POSTED ALONGSIDE HAND-LETTERED SIGN READING "CZECHOSLOVAKIA INVADED".
2. FRONT PAGES NEXT MORNING'S DAILIES CARRIED BIG HEADLINES AND AMPLE COVERAGE INSIDE PAGES. NO EDITORIAL REACTION YET, BUT LA REPUBLICA FRONT PAGE COMMENT SAID REPORTS OF RUSSIAN TANKS IN PRAGUE STREETS "RECALLS THOSE UNHAPPY, INFAMOUS, AND BLOODY ACTS IN HUNGARY IN 1956". BOONSTRA

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