

**NOT TO BE MICROFICHED**

MUNICH, 11 September 1968 (Communist Area Analysis Dept).

The following article appeared in the British Communist Party's daily, Morning Star, on 11 September 1968:

## Aragon replies to Soviet attacks

By the FOREIGN EDITOR

FRANCE'S leading Communist writer Louis Aragon—who is a member of the French Communist Party central committee—yesterday replied to attacks made on him by the Soviet Literary Gazette, following his remarks on the intervention in Czechoslovakia. V. DOB

He said the Gazette "spoke of the military occupation of Czechoslovakia" as "aid accorded to the Czechoslovak people in its struggle against counter-revolution."

He also recalled that during the Nazi occupation of France, the same journal "announced to its readers that I had become a collaborator of Marshal Petain, which does not qualify this journal to start giving lessons to others."

### 'NOBLE ENTERPRISE'

M. Aragon also replied to the Gazette's charges that the statement of the French National Union of Writers headed by Aragon was "hasty."

"I wish the Soviet Literary Gazette to know," Aragon added, "that I do not consider hasty the statement of the Political Bureau of my Party, made during the first hours of the invasion, condemning the invasion explicitly."

"I did not find the text of this statement in the Soviet Press which only said that 'some French Communists' disapproved what was called the 'noble' enterprise of the Warsaw Pact armies."

### NO POSSIBILITY

Ironically welcoming the solicitude expressed by the Soviet journal about his "errors" Aragon added:

"There is not the slightest possibility that I might ever disavow the declaration of the Political Bureau of the French Communist Party. . . .

"If my any chance, those who are responsible one day make a self-criticism, return the Czechoslovak their rights and so clear the name of the great Soviet people who are being deluded and kept in ignorance of the facts, I will consider that to be really 'noble.'"

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