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University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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DONALD GRANT SAYS
PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE BY
COMMUNISM IS POSSIBLE

MISSOULA, Mont.--

Donald Grant, Highland Scot who has traveled worldwide for 30 years, told an audience at the University of Montana last night that it is possible for communism, without invasion tactics, to accept peaceful co-existence

with
the non-communist world.

His lecture, entitled "Showdown, Russia and Czechoslovakia," was presented in the University Center at 8:15 p.m. Grant, was the fifth and final speaker in the summer session lecture series.

"Kruschev did a lot for the development of competitive co-existence and the United States has been working for it for several years, but it has been temporarily set back by by U.S.S.R.'s invasion of Prague, Czechoslovakia, Aug. 21, 1968," Grant said.

Grant said such an invasion may mean "that the U.S.S.R. is developing a policy of power with expansionist features in Europe, Middle East, Asia and the Oceans."

Grant said, "Czechoslovakia is not an anti-Communist country but it wants to give communism a human face." He pointed to the history of that country under the "democratic and liberal" leadership of Jan Masaryk and Edward Benes. "Both held the idea of the 'self-determination of peoples' proclaimed by Woodrow Wilson," he said.

Grant examined the Communist system built by Stalin and confirmed by Brezhnev in 1968 which justifies an invasion by U.S.S.R. in any Communist country which is "not towing the Russian centralization policy." He commented, "Rumania and Yugoslavia object to Communist expansion. This is evidenced by the welcome President Nixon got recently in Rumania."

"There is a cleavage within the Communist party," Grant added. "There are those who profess harsh and repressive expansionist tactics and there are those who believe in the rights of individuals, of nations, to be themselves."

Grant admitted, "Czechoslovakia is more afraid of Germany than Soviet Russia" but, the Red armies are not welcome in Czechoslovakia."

Grant said it is fortunate that Czechoslovakia was spared a war with Soviet Russia in August, 1968. He added, however, that the young people in Czechoslovakia today are keeping alive the hope of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." He added, "The Czechoslovak people are frustrated but they are not cowed."

During his travels, Grant has been reporting and interpreting European foreign policy to Americans, and U. S. policy to people of Europe. In recognition of his work throughout Europe, the Universities of Vienna and of Innsbruck conferred "honoris causa," their gold medals, upon him.

After WWI Grant pioneered the student relief work which grew into the World University Service in the Russian famine. He was Einstein's interpreter during the World Disarmament Conference in Geneva in 1933.

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