Czechoslovakia-USSR: Czechoslovak leaders have re-endorsed Dubček's liberal reform program, but appear ready to legislate the restrictions demanded by the Soviets in Moscow.

The government issued a proclamation on 10 September couched in terms of the Action Program, but warned the people that they must obey Czechoslovak laws, including the restrictive measures about to be introduced. Most parliamentary committees met yesterday to prepare the new legislation, which, according to a press report, will be ratified by the National Assembly on 13 September.

Premier Cerník has said that in Moscow he made several "efficacious" proposals to the Soviets which will be publicly announced in the "next few days."

There are said to be differences of opinion among Czechoslovak leaders on dealing with the Soviets. Dubček and Smrkovsky appear to favor a tough line, while Svoboda, Cerník, and Husák presumably prefer to make concessions in order to speed the withdrawal of occupation troops.

Pravda yesterday characterized events in Czechoslovakia since January as a "quiet counterrevolution" and argued that it was every bit as dangerous as the more blatant counterrevolution in Hungary in 1956. Carrying the Hungarian precedent further, the paper said that Soviet intervention in 1956 "did not stunt the healthy development of socialist democracy," and "this process will also take place in Czechoslovakia."

How harshly Moscow intends to impose its will on Czechoslovakia is still unclear. One of the tasks assigned to Soviet troubleshooter Kuznetsov may have been to encourage some personnel changes.

(continued)
The US military attache in Czechoslovakia reported on 10 September that the disposition of occupation troops was unchanged. The estimated 7,500 Soviet troops which gathered at Prague's Ruzyne airport last week were still encamped there on the morning of 10 September.

Alert measures are continuing in the Yugoslav Army, according to the US military attache in Belgrade. The callup of individuals with special skills continues, and plans are under way to disperse television and radio facilities to permit clandestine operations in the event of an occupation.