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Czechoslovakia-USSR: Czechoslovak liberals and conservatives are heading toward a series of confrontations.

There may be street clashes between the young people and the pro-Soviet hardliners on 7 November, when Prague and other cities reluctantly commemorate the anniversary of the Russian Revolution. Hardliners are said to be planning nationwide displays of strength and of support for Moscow, even though public assemblies are banned. Czechoslovak troops allegedly have been moved nearer to downtown Prague.

There is increasing concern among the party and the public, which have remained loyal to Dubcek, that Soviet backed conservative leaders will try to oust him when the central committee plenum meets on 14 November. The plenum has been called to approve a party document which is more responsive to demands for "normalization." The draft document, proposed by the Dubcek leadership, is likely to be criticized by the conservatives in the central committee, as well as by the liberals and others who believe that it goes too far to accommodate the Soviets and the Czechoslovak conservatives. In addition, intellectuals, both inside and outside the party, appear to be forming a united front in opposition to the hardliners.

The Soviet press has again taken up the cudgels against Czechoslovak "rightists." Pravda on 4 November charged that members of the Czechoslovak party and media, supported by unnamed party leaders, were launching an offensive against Communists who are defending "genuine" party positions. Pravda's expression of "hope" that "antisocialist" elements would be rebuffed at the central committee meeting indicates that Moscow still expects the Czechoslovak party itself to turn to an acceptable course.

The East Germans, who have been consistently harsh toward the Dubcek leadership, anticipated the renewed Soviet charges by one day, publishing a

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full-page attack in their own party paper, Neues Deutschland. Pankow accused the Czechoslovak leadership of failing to carry out an effective struggle against antisocialist forces and imperialist agents. In addition, the Polish party paper, Trybuna Ludu, on 3 November criticized the "situation" in Czechoslovakia and attacked Dubcek by name.

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