Balkans - Warsaw Pact: The political and military situation in the Balkans is still quiescent.

Rumanian officials around the world are maintaining a calm outlook. In Paris, for example, a Rumanian diplomat said on 23 November that he had not noted any concern in his embassy about the rumors of invasion.

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Meanwhile,

150 officers representing the chiefs of staff of all Warsaw Pact countries arrived in Bucharest on 22 November for talks that reportedly will end today. The meeting coincides with reports that the Warsaw Pact is preparing for a top-level meeting in December of its Political Consultative Committee. Similar gatherings have been noted in the past in preparation for such committee meetings.

The Warsaw Pact staff meeting now in progress may also be discussing an exercise to be held in Rumania during 1969, but there is no firm evidence that a pact maneuver will take place in Rumania this year.

Hungary and Bulgaria report no evidence of an alert in these countries or of any build-up near the Rumanian borders.

The situation also is calm in Yugoslavia, despite rumors of growing tension. The rumors stemmed from a British correspondent's confusion over public discussion in Yugoslavia of a proposed national defense law. Discussion of this legislation has been going on since September. The draft law prescribes the rights and duties of the Yugoslav population under a general mobilization concept that would take effect in response to an enemy attack.

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