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Czechoslovakia: The Czechoslovak party conservatives have been strengthened by the signing of the status-of-forces agreement with Moscow.

According to press reports, they have held a number of secret meetings throughout the country over the weekend. One in Kladno, at which 400 party "veterans" were said to be present, passed a resolution requesting that the regional party committee cooperate fully with the occupation command.

Other press reports suggest that another new "leader" has emerged. He is Miroslav Jodas, an Interior Ministry official during the Stalinist era, who reportedly has been heading a group trying to mobilize pro-Soviet elements in the party.

The resistance of Czechoslovak mass media appears to be fading in the face of Czechoslovak capitulation to Soviet pressures. Even the more outspoken Czechoslovak publications seem subdued, and so far have confined their criticism to the resurgence of conservative activity. All newspapers carried reports of the ratification of the status-of-forces agreement and a full text of the treaty, without comment.

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