Czechoslovakia-USSR: Moscow and Prague are sparring over the time and place for a high-level meeting.

The politburo of the Soviet party yesterday proposed to the presidium of the Czechoslovak party that the full memberships of the two bodies meet in the Soviet Union on 22 or 23 July. The Soviet invitation said that if the Czechoslovaks could not send the entire presidium they should at least provide broad representation. Moscow's aim evidently is to ensure that the more orthodox elements of the Czechoslovak presidium are included in the talks, as well as the reformers.

The Soviet Government newspaper <u>Izvestia</u> yesterday echoed an earlier <u>Pravda</u> editorial in attacking the Dubcek regime's policies. President Podgorny added his voice to those of other Soviet leaders who seem to have been appealing to conservative Czechoslovak leaders to take a hand in the situation.

The Czechoslovaks have not yet replied to the Soviet invitation to a meeting, but they had earlier told the Soviets they were reluctant to leave the country at this juncture. Dubcek probably will refuse to send the entire presidium to the USSR, but will find it difficult to reject out of hand the Soviet proposal that the Czechs send a smaller delegation. Instead, he may counter with a proposal that Soviet leaders come to Czechoslovakia. Party presidium member Smrkovsky has said that the meeting would take place today or tomorrow.

Dubcek's control of the situation in Czecho-slovakia appears to be very strong. Yesterday, the party central committee endorsed by acclamation the presidium's unyielding reply of 18 July to the Warsaw conferees. Nineteen central committee members did not attend the meeting. All but one of the absentees presumably were conservatives who refused

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to associate themselves with the proceedings. The Czechoslovak public, as well as government and party organizations, continues to send pledges of support to the party leadership.

Dubcek's speech before the central committee was much like his nationwide broadcast of 18 July. He again said the party is "resolved" not to depart from the path it charted in January. He asserted that if the party were to reverse its course, socialism in Czechoslovakia and the "international Communist movement" would be "discredited." As he had on earlier occasions, Dubcek called on the Czech press and TV to exercise voluntary self-restraint, but offered no essential concessions in the face of Soviet demands for a severe crackdown.

The French Communist leader Waldeck-Rochet and Czechoslovak representatives met yesterday in Prague, and the Czechoslovak News Agency reported that talks with other Communist representatives will take place today.

The list of Western European parties endorsing the French proposal for a conference of all European parties is growing. Yugoslavia and Rumania continue to give unqualified support to the Dubcek leadership.

	Soviet	Marshal	Yakubovsky	left	Czechoslovakia
last	night.				

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