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[ USSR-Czechoslovakia: (Information as of 2300 EDT)

The stalemate between Soviet tanks and Czechoslovak political forces loyal to the Dubcek regime went into its third day.

The overwhelming military forces of the Soviets and their allies remained in control of all the essential cities and the key buildings of Prague. A Soviet-imposed curfew during the night appears to have kept the citizenry, which had thronged the streets of Prague during the day, at home.

There were continuing reports of sporadic gunfire, but casualties on both sides thus far appear to be very light. There were also tenuous indications that Soviet troops have been ordered to leave areas where Czechoslovak troops are stationed, evacuate small towns, and move to parks and open spaces in the larger towns. These moves may be intended to minimize the possibility of clashes with the populace.

Operating through a series of mobile radio stations and mimeographed newspapers, political forces loyal to Dubcek have publicized statements attributed to the Czechoslovak leaders who are now under Soviet detention. Among these was a declaration by more than two thirds of the party congress which threatened a general strike unless the Soviets agreed within 24 hours to negotiate the withdrawal of Soviet troops and release Dubcek and his associates. Similar statements were issued in the name of the Czechoslovak Government and the National Assembly. The party congress also announced the election of a new central committee with Dubcek, Cernik, and Svoboda as the first men named.

Probably the most dramatic demonstration of Czechoslovak resolve to stand up to the Soviets has been Moscow's inability to form a new and "trustworthy" government. Four or five conservative ]

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### Military Intervention in Czechoslovakia



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*Movement of Soviet and East European Forces*

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[members of the Czechoslovak presidium, who presumably could form the nucleus of a new government, reportedly have held meetings at the Soviet Embassy. Moscow has not seen fit to back them openly, however, and the continuing mass support for the Dubcek leadership suggests that the Soviets realize that a narrowly based occupation regime imposed on the Czechoslovak people would provoke active resistance.

Soviet propaganda has continued to rationalize the intervention and Moscow continues to jam Western radiobroadcasts describing events in Czechoslovakia. None of the Soviet leaders has appeared in public since the intervention, however, and "man-in-the-street" reaction in Moscow has been mostly puzzled or incredulous rather than excited. [redacted] Map) ]

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