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Poland-Hungary: The Poles are attempting to prod Hungary into helping contain the contagious Czechoslovak liberalism.

Speaking at ceremonies marking the renewal of Poland's friendship treaty with Hungary on 16 May, Polish party boss Gomulka stressed the mutual obligations of the two countries to the socialist bloc. Unlike Kadar, Gomulka singled out the Warsaw Pact alliance as the major vehicle for intrabloc cooperation. He stressed the dangers to Hungary and Poland of external and internal "anti-socialist, imperialist subversion." Kadar ignored these warnings in his remarks.

Gomulka is worried about the impact of events in Prague on the rest of Eastern Europe. He shares Soviet fears over a loss of Communist control in Czechoslovakia. His predilection for national autonomy and fear of setting adverse precedents, however, probably led him to counsel the Soviets to avoid military intervention. Recent Polish support for the moderate Czechoslovak leaders, coupled with criticism of the party's extreme liberals, suggests that the Poles hope Dubcek will be able to put his house in order.

The Hungarian regime is torn between approval of Czechoslovakia's new course and concern that the reformers could go too far. Even more than Gomulka, Kadar probably fears the constraints on his own position which could result from a decision by Moscow to press for coordinated pressures against Czechoslovakia.

According to Czechoslovak Premier Cernik, Dubcek will lead a delegation to Budapest in June to renew Czechoslovakia's 20-year bilateral alliance with Hungary. Much of the visit, however, probably will be devoted to the situation facing both countries.

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18 May 68

4

SECRET