

USSR-Czechoslovakia: [redacted]

Two areas south and southwest of Berlin were ordered closed from 11 to 17 May to allied liaison mission travel, possibly to screen movement of additional elements of two Soviet divisions associated with Soviet activity in southeastern East Germany. There are still no indications of any Czechoslovak military reaction to the USSR's military moves along the Czechoslovak border.

The Soviets are using the press to add to the pressure. TASS on 11 May carried without comment the Czechoslovak statement that the Soviet troop movements were "maneuvers." The TASS statement has not been repeated, indicating that Moscow is not yet ready to support Prague's effort to ease tensions. The Soviets were also responsible for stories of a possible armed intervention by the Warsaw Pact powers which have appeared in the Dutch and American press.

The Soviet sabre rattling under the guise of Warsaw Pact maneuvers is designed to force the Czechoslovak leadership soon to disavow party liberals and non-Communist reformers who have insisted on radical reforms going beyond those already approved by the central committee. Czechoslovak leaders and most journalists are in fact beginning to show sensitivity to the Soviet pressures in their speeches and articles. Nevertheless, Czechoslovak leaders do not seem ready to cave in.

Communist leaders of southeastern Europe have taken differing tacks on Czechoslovak developments. There are unconfirmed reports that Hungary's Kadar intends to "mediate" between Prague and Moscow. Bulgaria's Zhivkov is said to have recommended that his

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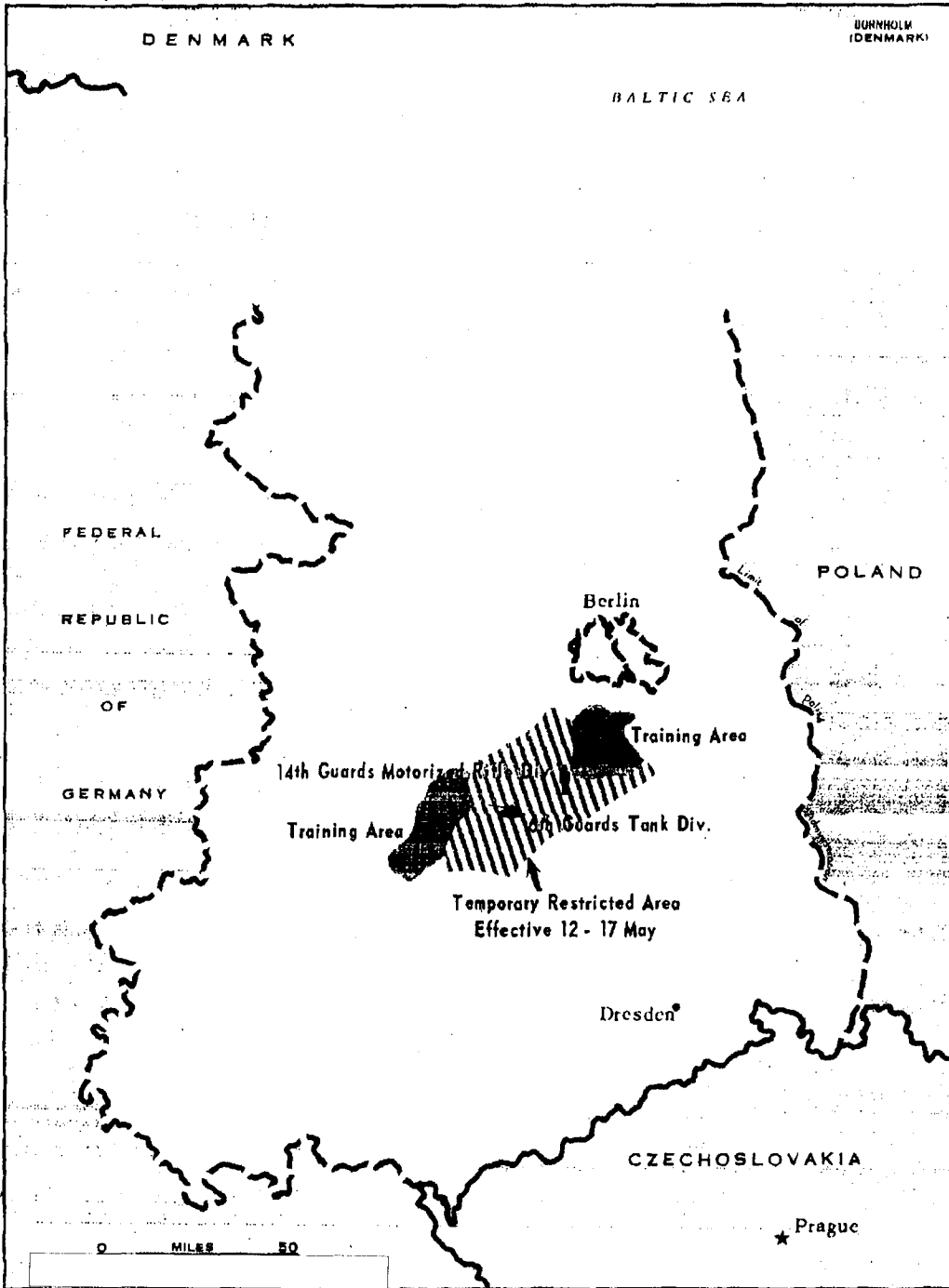
party support the Dubcek regime, but presumably not the radical liberals in it. Yugoslavia intends to show its support by dispatching its foreign minister to Prague [redacted]

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### New Temporary Restricted Area in East Germany



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