Czechoslovakia—USSR: Czechoslovak party leader Dubcek has restated his commitment to the new course he began in January and has appealed for domestic calm as well as international Communist support.

In a nationwide television address yesterday, Dubcek said, "We do not wish to yield anything at all of the principles which we have already expressed." He explained the party leadership's decision to reject pressures for a retreat, but said Czechoslovakia had no intention of leaving the Communist camp. Dubcek reiterated that despite attacks from the extreme left and right wings of the Czechoslovak political spectrum, the party retained the allegiance of the majority. He asked the Soviets and others for understanding, implying that abandonment of his course was impossible in the present situation.

Against the advice of many liberals, Dubcek has called a meeting of the Czechoslovak party central committee for today to ratify the leadership's stand. In order to ensure that conservative committee members do not dominate the proceedings, Dubcek has packed the meeting by inviting as participants the predominantly liberal or moderate people who were recently elected delegates to the party congress in September. The autonomous Slovak party central committee met yesterday to consider whether to convene a special party congress immediately. The aim of such a congress might be to oust conservatives and to elect a new liberal-moderate central committee.

Even before Dubcek's speech, messages of support were pouring into Prague from around the country, expressing approval of the party presidium's reply to the Soviets, East Germans, Poles, Bulgarians, and Hungarians.
The leadership is receiving support from other European parties. According to the Czechoslovak Press Agency, Yugoslav President Tito, Rumanian party chief Ceausescu, and representatives of the French and Italian parties will arrive in Prague today.

There may have been some discussion on the subject yesterday in Moscow between the Czechoslovak ambassador and the Soviet party's secretary for relations with foreign parties. A hint of possible economic pressure was contained in a TASS announcement that on the same day Soviet Premier Kosygin had a "friendly" talk on economic cooperation with Czechoslovak deputy Premier Hamouz, who is in Moscow attending an executive committee meeting of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.