Deutschland, resumed personal attacks on Czechoslovak party chief Dubcek, alleging that he was not really a Communist but a "Social Democrat in the West German sense." The Polish press had for some days been printing charges of duplicity on the part of Czechoslovak leaders.

From their point of view, the Soviets have good reason for concern. The Dubcek regime has been daily trying to hold the Soviets to their promise of non-interference in domestic affairs, while at the same time it has been proceeding on a number of courses unacceptable to Moscow. Thus, while some liberals, such as former foreign minister Hajek, have resigned, the announcement of their departure has been coupled with news of the ouster of pro-Soviet officials.

Moreover, Prague has yet to accede to Soviet special envoy Kuznetsov's urgings to revamp the government. Indeed, President Svoboda is said to have threatened to resign, along with the entire leadership, if Moscow insists on such changes. The party presidium has instead recommended the resignation of all those—even at lower levels—who no longer enjoy the confidence of the people. Many such individuals are old friends of Moscow.

Prague has temporarily postponed some economic reforms, but in a manner clearly designed to put the onus on the Soviets.
Czechoslovak economists are stoutly defending the government's decision to proceed with other aspects of the economic reforms--including the controversial workers' councils--in the face of attacks from Moscow. As planned before the invasion, non-Communists are to share in the management of social, economic, and "other processes," despite insistent demands from the occupiers for restoration of the Communist Party's control. Revised party statutes, which emphasize "democratization"--now synonymous to counterrevolution in the Soviet lexicon--will remain largely valid.

Censorship is ineffective and Premier Cernik has even defended the news media, adding that the government will not punish anyone for his political views. In addition, the Czechoslovak population seems intent on erecting a growing shield of acclaim to protect Dubcek from Soviet ire. Towns are being renamed in his honor, "Dubcek fan clubs" are springing up, and Dubcek pins are prominently worn.

Nevertheless, the Soviets have withdrawn one of the three division's that moved into Czechoslovakia from Hungary.