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YUGOSLAVIA: Student Unrest and Ethnic Tension

Tension stemming from the student demonstrations held earlier this month and again this week at Pristina University in the largely Albanian-inhabited province of Kosovo could eventually lead to clashes between the Albanian and Serb communities. The disturbances apparently were prompted by the high unemployment rate among university graduates and by the rising cost of living. Despite efforts by Belgrade to narrow the economic gap between Kosovo and the more prosperous northern regions, the province remains Yugoslavia's most backward area. Belgrade has kept a particularly close eye on Kosovo since serious popular disturbances there in late 1978 and would use whatever force necessary to keep Albanian nationalism isolated.

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