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YUGOSLAVIA: More Disturbances in Kosovo

[REDACTED] ethnic tensions are still simmering in the southern province of Kosovo despite recent federal measures to promote calm. The federal leadership last month complained that local officials are obstructing a series of legal and administrative steps it ordered this spring to protect the rights of Kosovo's Serb minority and dissuade Serbs from emigrating. [REDACTED] more than 1,000 Kosovo Serbs reportedly protested the slow handling of a rape case by the region's ethnic Albanian authorities. Kosovo leaders allege the Republic of Serbia is inciting such demonstrations.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The latest federal measures to protect the Kosovo Serbs' civil rights are the strongest national intervention in a region in recent years and show unusual resolve by the weak, collective central leadership. Yet the measures will probably have only limited effect, and demands for greater national involvement probably will grow. Last week's demonstration is the first to arise over a relatively routine incident and suggests Kosovo Serbs may grow even more assertive.

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