

YUGOSLAVIA: Unrest in Kosovo Continues

Ethnic Albanians are wasting no time in testing the Serbian government's new commitment to a multiparty system. About 15,000 ethnic Albanians in Kosovo yesterday demanded free elections, the resignation of Serbian-installed leaders, and a rescinding of security measures imposed during riots last March. Before being dispersed by police using stern measures, the demonstrators threatened a general strike if their demands were not met. [REDACTED] the ethnic Albanians are rapidly organizing a Democratic Alliance of Kosovo—its leader claims it is already 100,000 strong—and have applied for registration as a legal opposition party [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Serbian authorities probably will use the Albanians' agitation to justify retaining the security measures imposed in March. The success of the security forces in handling unrest last year indicates they probably can handle any local demonstration. Serbian authorities may ban the DAK to try to prevent it from becoming a significant political force in opposition to their control of Kosovo. Such suppression, however, almost certainly will provoke renewed debate between Serbia and advocates of a multiparty system in Slovenia and Croatia. [REDACTED]