

*USSR: Moscow has again revealed its preoccupation with divisiveness among the Warsaw Pact states and a growing concern that "liberalization" in Eastern Europe will encourage domestic dissent.

The statement issued yesterday by the Party Central Committee at the end of a two-day meeting makes clear that these problems still have priority with the Politburo, as they have for the past few months. The center piece of the meeting was a report by General Secretary Brezhnev entitled "On Topical Problems of the International Situation and the CPSU's Struggle to Rally the World Communist Movement."

Brezhnev's report has not been made public and may not be. The Central Committee statement, however, doubtless echoed him when it dwelt on the theme that the West is intent on rupturing Communist unity and "undermining socialist society from inside."

The meeting heard reports on other current international problems including Vietnam. On this, the Central Committee statement was terse. It pledged further military assistance to Hanoi but said also that the USSR was acting "in the name of the earliest peace in Vietnam."

As it has at lower-level meetings in recent months, the leadership stressed that the party must do more to combat "alien" ideas. The call for expanded party vigilance in the cultural field is clearly a reaction to changes in Czechoslovakia and to continuing intellectual protest in the Soviet Union.

Little, if anything, seems to have been said about other outstanding domestic problems, although a number of these have accumulated. Brezhnev's statement in February that the Central Committee meeting would deal with agricultural matters evidently was overtaken by more pressing events.

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The only high-level political appointment was the addition of Konstantin Katushev to the Central Committee Secretariat. Katushev has been brought in from a provincial party post. At 40, he is the youngest member in the party's top rank by almost a decade and he may have been elevated to show that the ruling circle is not closed to new faces. [REDACTED]

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