

# TROOPS SET TO CRUSH REBELS



From DAVID WILLIAMS, Chief Reporter, in Ljubljana

DAILY MAIL 1/7/91

**A MOBILISATION of troops was ordered in Yugoslavia last night as the desperate search for peace went on.**

With growing fears that the federal army is preparing to crush the resistance of Slovenia, Federal

Prime Minister Ante Markovic flew to the breakaway republic's capital Ljubljana for emergency talks with its President Milan Kucan.

Later it was reported that agreement had been reached for the army to withdraw from Slovenia and return to barracks today.

However Western diplomats in Belgrade were sceptical that the deal, reported by Slovenian television, would be implemented or bring an end to the confrontation.

Europe's would-be peacemakers also flew back to Yugoslavia last night to try to repair the collapsed European Community peace deal. However many believe time is running out for the politicians, with claims by the Slovene Prime Minister Lojze Peterle that the federal forces are now acting beyond the control of Mr Markovic and that they have been seizing civilian homes.

Fears of a military coup intensified early yesterday when an emergency meeting of the Slovene parliament voted to defy an ultimatum from a member of the army high command to end its battle for control of the borders.

Lieutenant Colonel Marco Negovanovic Stam had warned in a broadcast that the army was ready to take 'decisive military action' if Slovenia continued its independence drive.

In response, all Mr Kucan would promise was a ceasefire but stressed there was no turning back on independence.

The people of Ljubljana did not have to wait long for the military's apparent reply. Within a minute of the 9am