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10. BOTH SOBCHAK'S ASSURED PERFORMANCE ON TV LAST NIGHT, THIS BRIEFING, AND THE ATMOSPHERE ON THE STREETS, ALL INSPIRE OPTIMISM ABOUT THE SITUATION, AT LEAST IN ST PETERSBURG.

TRAVEL ADVICE

11. THERE IS NO LONGER GOOD REASON TO DISCOURAGE VISITORS TO ST PETERSBURG. THEY SHOULD STILL BE ENCOURAGED TO LISTEN TO THE NEWS AND SEEK UP TO DATE ADVICE IN CASE OF DOUBT.

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RUSSIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS: GOVERNMENT POISED TO CRUSH FINAL
RESISTANCE

SUMMARY

1. GOVERNMENT FORCES ARE POISED IF NECESSARY TO LAUNCH ONE FINAL
MASSIVE ATTACK ON THE WHITE HOUSE TO SNUFF OUT ANY FINAL RESISTANCE
BEFORE DUSK. REPORTS OF HEAVY CASUALTIES. LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE
ARE NOW LEAVING THE WHITE HOUSE - IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THERE HAS
BEEN A TOTAL SURRENDER. CURFEW DECLARED IN MOSCOW.

DETAIL

2. PRESIDENTIAL AIDE VOLKOGONOV HAS SAID THAT THE OPERATION TO
END THE RESISTANCE OF KHASBULATOV/RUTSKOI SUPPORTERS AT THE WHITE
HOUSE WILL BE COMPLETED BEFORE NIGHTFALL (IE 2000 LOCAL). THE
OPERATION APPARENTLY WAS INTENDED TO BE OVER BY MID-MORNING, BUT
THE MILITARY COMMAND SLOWED THINGS DOWN TO AVOID UNNECESSARY
CASUALTIES. ABOUT 30 MINUTES AGO TWO FURTHER TANK ROUNDS WERE
FIRED INTO THE BUILDING.

3. ONE ARMY OFFICER IS QUOTED BY INTERFAX AS COMPLAINING THAT
HEAVY MILITARY HARDWARE HAD NOT BEEN USED EARLIER: 'IT WOULD TAKE
ONLY A FEW SHOTS FROM ONE 152MM HOWITZER TO END THIS AFFAIR - WITH
EVERY MINUTE OF FIGHTING THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS INCREASED, AND THE
ATTACKING FORCES ARE SUFFERING THREE TIMES AS MANY LOSSES AS THE
DEFENDERS'. THIS CLAIM LOOKS UNLIKELY - ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED
REPORTS THERE ARE 500 BODIES IN THE WHITE HOUSE (A VERY HIGH
TOTAL, BUT CERTAINLY NOT IMPOSSIBLE GIVEN THE BARRAGE THE BUILDING
TOOK EARLIER TODAY).

4. LARGE GROUPS OF PEOPLE ARE NOW LEAVING THE WHITE HOUSE - IT IS
NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER THIS IS A TOTAL SURRENDER, OR WHETHER THERE

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REMAIN TOWARDS THE TOP OF THE BUILDING A CORE OF FANATICS BENT ON DYING IN A BLAZE OF GUNFIRE.

5. A CURFEW HAS BEEN DECLARED IN MOSCOW FROM 2300 (LOCAL) - 0500 (LOCAL).

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RUSSIA'S CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS: CONFLICT IN MOSCOW: A VIEW THROUGH THE DUST

SUMMARY

1. TIME OUT: A NON-OPERATIONAL LOOK AT HOW YELTSIN GOT INTO THIS CRISIS: AND AT HOW HE MAY EMERGE FROM IT IF - AS PRESENT EVIDENCE SUGGESTS - THE FIGHTING REMAINS LOCALISED. MEANWHILE, KEEP UP THE SUPPORT FOR YELTSIN.

DETAIL

2. THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE CHANCE TO STAND BACK AND THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR POST-MORTEMS WHEN THE DUST HAS SETTLED. BUT THE FOLLOWING POINTS MAY BE HELPFUL BY WAY OF WHAT THE IRISH MIGHT CALL INTERIM PERSPECTIVE:

- (I) THE HARDLINE NATIONALIST AND COMMUNIST OPPOSITION TO YELTSIN SEEMED POLITICALLY DEAD AFTER THE AUGUST 1991 COUP. [REDACTED]
- (II) THE REST IS HISTORY. YELTSIN'S SPECIAL POWERS EXPIRED, AND THOSE OF HIS OPPONENTS REVIVED. THE REFERENDUM GAVE YELTSIN A MORAL VICTORY, BUT NO NEW WEAPONS TO DEAL WITH A SUPREME SOVIET DECLARING HIS POLICIES ILLEGAL AND A CONGRESS REPEATEDLY AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION TO HIS DISADVANTAGE.
- (III) WHEN YELTSIN TOOK DECISIVE ACTION ON 21 SEPTEMBER, HIS OPPONENTS WERE FACED WITH THE CHOICE BETWEEN FIGHTING ELECTIONS AND FIGHTING TO PREVENT THEM. A HARD CORE OF DEPUTIES UNDER RUTSKOI AND KHASBULATOV, SUPPORTED BY ARMED EXTREMISTS, CHOSE THE LATTER COURSE.

[REDACTED]

(IV)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THEIR HOPE NOW THAT THE WHITE HOUSE IS ABOUT TO FALL IS THAT THE REST OF MOSCOW WILL REMAIN CALM AND THAT THE REGIONS WILL DO LIKEWISE.

3. WHERE WOULD SUCH AN OUTCOME LEAVE YELTSIN?

4. THREE POSITIVE FACTORS STAND OUT FROM WHAT REMAINS A VERY CONFUSED PICTURE:

(I) RUTSKOI, KHASBULATOV AND THEIR EXTREMIST SUPPORTERS STARTED THE FIGHTING, WERE RUTHLESS IN PURSUING IT, BUT WERE UNABLE TO MUSTER ENOUGH SUPPORT TO ATTACK MORE THAN ONE MOSCOW TARGET AT A TIME. THEY - AND OTHERS LIKE ANPILOV AND STERLIGOV - MUST NOW FACE ARREST, AND EXCLUSION FROM THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS, AT WHICH THE 'RED-BROWN' PARTIES WILL (IF ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE AT ALL) BE IN DISARRAY:

(II) THE DANGER THEY REPRESENT FOR THE FUTURE OF RUSSIA HAS ENCOURAGED MODERATE POLITICAL OPPONENTS OF YELTSIN (EG YAVLINSKY AND TRAVKIN) OFF THEIR FENCES AND INTO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE SCALES WHEN IT REALLY MATTERED: AND

(III) THE REGIONS REMAIN QUIET, WITH PLENTY OF ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE OF WORKERS RESISTING THE CALLS TO POLITICAL STRIKES AGAINST YELTSIN WHICH THE HARDLINE POLITICIANS HAVE BEEN SEEKING TO INCITE.

5.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE RECORD IS LIKELY TO CONFIRM THAT AT LEAST SOME INTERIOR MINISTRY (MVD) TROOPS WENT OVER TO RUTSKOI'S SIDE: WE DO NOT YET KNOW THE FULL EXTENT OF EVIDENT STRAINS WITHIN THE ARMY: AND THE ORTHODOX CHURCH HIERARCHY, FOR ALL THEIR PROTESTATION OF NEUTRALITY, ARE WIDELY SEEN IN THE DEMOCRATIC CAMP AS HAVING HELPED RUTSKOI. FINALLY, YELTSIN WILL HAVE RANGED AGAINST HIM WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARS HARDLINE OPPONENTS EMBITTERED BY DEFEAT, AND READY TO MAKE MARTYRS OF THOSE KILLED AND THOSE WHO MAY BE PUT ON TRIAL FOR CRIMES OF VIOLENCE: THEY HAVE LITTLE TO LOSE BY FURTHER RESORT TO VIOLENCE (VICE-PREMIER SHUMEIKO HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT 'FASCIST' PARTIES ADVOCATING VIOLENCE WILL BE OUTLAWED).

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6. THIS IS NOT A GOOD WAY TO BEGIN AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN AND MANY PROBLEMS LIE AHEAD. BUT THESE ARE FOR TOMORROW. OUR PRESENT STRONG SUPPORT FOR YELTSIN REMAINS RIGHT AND REMAINS HELPFUL.

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LUXEMBOURG FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY

RUSSIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS: ROUND-UP, EARLY EVENING 4 OCTOBER

SUMMARY

1. STORY OF THE WHITE HOUSE ENDGAME: RUTSKOI AND KHASBULATOV UNDER ARREST. MOSCOW STATE OF EMERGENCY PROVISIONS INCLUDE CURFEW AND NEWSPAPER CLOSURES. FULL SUPPORT FOR YELTSIN FROM REGIONAL HEADS OF ADMINISTRATION: FULL FEDERATION COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW EXPECTED TO DECIDE ON ELECTION TIMETABLE. MANOEUVERINGS IN THE DIVIDED CONSTITUTIONAL COURT INCLUDE AN ATTEMPT TO LEGALISE RETROSPECTIVELY YELTSIN'S DECREE DISSOLVING PARLIAMENT. OPINION POLL SHOWS MUSCOVITES' MASSIVE SUPPORT FOR YELTSIN.

DETAIL

2. SOME DETAILS HAVE EMERGED ON THE AFTERNOON EVENTS AROUND THE WHITE HOUSE. AFTER THE MORNING BOMBARDMENT, RUTSKOI ASKED FOR NEGOTIATIONS. AT 1300 LOCAL CHERNOMYRDIN WAS INFORMED THAT IF GOVERNMENT FORCES CEASED FIRE, A WHITE FLAG WOULD BE SHOWN WITHIN TEN MINUTES. YELTSIN'S MILITARY ADVISER VOLKOGONOV SAID AT THIS POINT THAT COMPLETION OF THE OPERATION HAD BEEN POSTPONED TO MINIMISE CASUALTIES. AN HOUR AND HALF LATER, THERE WAS STILL NO SIGN OF RUTSKOI'S SURRENDER. THE INGUSH PRESIDENT AUSHEV MEDIATING FROM INSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE REPORTED THAT RUTSKOI AND KHASBULATOV WERE ATTACHING CONDITIONS TO THE CEASEFIRE. CHERNOMYRDIN COMMENTED THAT THIS WAS A ROUTINE DECEIT DESIGNED TO STRING OUT THE TALKS UNTIL NIGHTFALL AND THEN REPEAT SUNDAY NIGHT'S VIOLENCE. THERE COULD BE NO MORE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE WHITE HOUSE. AT 1600 LOCAL, TWO MORE TANK SHELLS WERE FIRED AT THE UPPER STOREYS OF THE BUILDING: AND AT 1630 THE SURRENDER BEGAN. YELTSIN'S FOREIGN POLICY ADVISER RYURIKOV HAS NOW CONFIRMED THAT BOTH RUTSKOI AND

[REDACTED]

KHASBULATOV ARE IN CUSTODY.

3. MEANWHILE OCCASIONAL FIRE CONTINUES TO COME FROM LAST DITCH DEFENDERS INSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE. A COMPANY OF 80 TROOPS FROM THE TULA AIRBORNE 106 DIVISION ARRIVED ON THE SCENE AT 1900 LOCAL EQUIPPED WITH ARTILLERY AND AIR DEFENCE ASSETS, AND WITH ORDERS TO 'MOP UP'.

4. [REDACTED] ONE SUCH 'TRANSDNIESTRIAN' CALLED 'IVAN' GAVE A LIVE INTERVIEW ON A MOSCOW RADIO STATION AT MIDDAY THREATENING 'UNDERGROUND RESISTANCE' IN THE COMING DAYS. THERE HAS BEEN SNIPER FIRE IN THE ARBAT AND OTHER CENTRAL DISTRICTS OF THE THE CITY. IN THE FRAMEWORK OF YELTSIN'S MOSCOW STATE OF EMERGENCY PROVISIONS, AN OVERNIGHT CURFEW HAS BEEN IMPOSED BEGINNING AT 2300 LOCAL.

5. OTHER MEASURES TAKEN UNDER THE STATE OF EMERGENCY DECREE INCLUDE THE SUSPENSION OF THE MOSCOW CITY AND CITY NEIGHBOURHOOD SOVIETS (COUNCILS), AND THE CLOSURE OF OPPOSITION PAPERS (INCLUDING 'PRAVDA') SUPPORTED AND FINANCED BY THE MOVEMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUNDAY'S UPRISING.

6. (MOSCOW TELNO 1711) THE PRO-SOVIET 'COUNCIL OF FEDERATION PARTS' MEETING IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT BUILDING HAS CONTINUED TO TAKE A STRONG ANTI-YELTSIN LINE DURING THE DAY, CALLING FOR AN END TO THE ASSAULT ON THE WHITE HOUSE, AND CONDEMNING THE VARIOUS STATE OF EMERGENCY MEASURES AS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. IN CONTRAST, CHERNOMYRDIN'S MEETING WITH THE REGIONAL HEADS OF ADMINISTRATION PRODUCED A STATEMENT OF FULL SUPPORT FOR YELTSIN'S RESPONSE TO THE 3 OCTOBER 'REBELLION', FOR YELTSIN'S DECREE OF 21 SEPTEMBER, AND FOR THE ELECTORAL PROGRAMME. CHERNOMYRDIN SAID AFTERWARDS THAT A MEETING OF THE FULL FEDERATION COUNCIL WOULD BE HELD IN THE KREMLIN TOMORROW AFTERNOON TO DECIDE ALL QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ELECTIONS - 'WHO WOULD BE ELECTED WHEN'.

7. THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT MET THIS MORNING TO CONSIDER THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF RECENT DECISIONS OF THE PRESIDENT AND (RUMP) CONGRESS. THIS DREW AN UNCHARACTERISTIC OUTBURST FROM FILATOV (HEAD OF YELTSIN'S APPARAT), WHO SAID THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT IN BECOMING A PURELY POLITICAL BODY HAD DONE UNTOLD HARM TO RUSSIA. THERE ARE RUMOURS OF AN IMPENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE TO PUT A STOP TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COURT'S CHAIRMAN ZORKIN. IN AN ATTEMPT TO RESCUE THE COURT'S REPUTATION, ONE OF THE 'DEMOCRAT' JUDGES

MORSHCHAKOVA HAS PROPOSED THAT THE COURT REVIEW ITS APRIL RULING UPHOLDING THE CONGRESS' DECISION THAT A BINDING ANSWER TO THE FOURTH REFERENDUM QUESTION ON EARLY PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS WOULD REQUIRE AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF ALL ELIGIBLE VOTERS. (COMMENT: 67% OF THOSE VOTING ANSWERED 'YES' TO THIS QUESTION: IF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT WERE TO REVERSE ITS DISASTROUS RULING, THIS WOULD RETROSPECTIVELY LEGALISE YELTSIN'S DECREE OF 21 SEPTEMBER DISSOLVING PARLIAMENT.)

8. AN INSTANT SURVEY OF 1600 MUSCOVITES CARRIED OUT THIS MORNING BY A MOSCOW POLLING ORGANISATION SHOWED 72% SUPORT FOR YELTSIN, AND 9% STILL SYMPATHETIC TO THE SUPREME SOVIET.

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RUSSIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS: ROUND-UP

SUMMARY

1. REBEL LEADERS IN GAOL. HARDLINE OPPOSITION PARTIES AND NEWSPAPERS BANNED. CURFEW GENERALLY OBSERVED BUT LOCALISED GUNFIGHTS IN MOSCOW. YELTSIN EXPECTED TO ADDRESS THE NATION TODAY.

DETAIL

2. RUTSKOI, KHASBULATOV, ALTERNATIVE POWER MINISTERS AND OPPOSITION LEADERS (MAKASHOV, ACHALOV, BARANNIKOV AND DUNAYEV) AND SOME 30 SUPPORTERS ARE NOW BEING HELD IN MOSCOW'S LEFORTOVO PRISON (IN STALIN'S TIME A FAVOURED PLACE FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS). THEY HAVE NOT BEEN CHARGED: BUT EARLY CRIMINAL CHARGES ARE LIKELY. WARRANTS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR ANPILOV AND KONSTANTINOV, HARDLINE OPPOSITION LEADERS (OF THE RUSSIAN COMMUNIST WORKERS PARTY AND THE NATIONAL SALVATION FRONT RESPECTIVELY). THEIR PARTIES AND OTHERS OF A SIMILAR POLITICAL HUE (THE OFFICERS UNION, THE UNITED FRONT OF RUSSIAN WORKING PEOPLE, THE SERVICEMEN'S SOCIAL-LEGAL DEFENCE UNION 'SHIELD', THE RUSSIAN COMMUNIST YOUTH ALLIANCE AND THE WORKING RUSSIA MOVEMENT) HAVE BEEN BANNED, AS HAVE NEWSPAPERS SYMPATHETIC TO THEIR CAUSE (INCLUDING PRAVDA, SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA, DYEN, RABOCHNAYA TRIBUNA, GLASNOST, NARODNAYA GAZETA, RUSSKY PORYADOK, RUSSKY VESTNIK).

3. LAST NIGHT THE CURFEW (FROM 11 PM TO 5 AM) WAS GENERALLY OBSERVED. THE SECURITY MINISTER REPORTED THAT 70 ARMED DEFENDERS OF THE WHITE HOUSE WERE ON THE LOOSE IN THE CAPITAL. THERE WERE INCIDENTS OF SHOOTING THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT. THE MOST SERIOUS WERE AT THE TASS BUILDING IN THE CENTRE, (WHERE ONE ATTACKER WAS KILLED AND EIGHT ARRESTED), AT OSTANKINO TELEVISION CENTRE IN NORTHERN MOSCOW (WHERE ONE PERSON WAS SHOT DEAD AFTER HE RAMMED APCS WITH A TRACTOR), AROUND THE WHITE HOUSE AND ALONG THE 'NEW ARBAT' (WHERE SNIPERS HINDERED WHITE HOUSE FIRE-FIGHTING - THE TOP OF THE

BUILDING IS STILL BURNING). THERE WAS ALSO AN ATTACK ON THE MASS-CIRCULATION MOSCOW TABLOID NEWSPAPER 'MOSKOVSKY KOMSOMOLETS, WHICH HAS BEEN RUDELY LAMPOONING THE DEPUTIES AND THEIR LEADERS.

4. IT IS NOT YET POSSIBLE TO PUT A TOTAL NUMBER ON THOSE WHO DIED THERE YESTERDAY, NOR IS IT CLEAR WHETHER ALL OF THE ANTI-YELTSIN FORCES IN FACT HAVE YET LEFT THE BUILDING. THE DEATH TOLL FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS HAS BEEN PUT AT ABOUT 150 BY THE AUTHORITIES: MEDIA SOURCES PUT IT HIGHER, PERHAPS 300. ACCORDING TO MINISTRY OF SECURITY SOURCES, SOME SNIPERS REMAIN IN THE CITY BUT THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF GUNFIRE THIS MORNING. THE STATE OF EMERGENCY IS TO RUN INITIALLY UNTIL 10 OCTOBER.

5. ELSEWHERE IN RUSSIA THE SITUATION REMAINED CALM.

6. YELTSIN IS DUE TO ADDRESS THE NATION TODAY (5 OCTOBER). IT LOOKS AS IF THE FULL FEDERATION COUNCIL WILL MEET IN THE KREMLIN THIS AFTERNOON.

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RUSSIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS: ROUND UP 5 OCTOBER

SUMMARY

1. INDICATIONS THAT YELTSIN DETERMINED TO USE VICTORY TO NEUTRALISE SOVIET POWER STRUCTURES: FEDERATION COUNCIL POSTPONED INDEFINITELY, AND FURTHER HINTS OF A MOVE AGAINST THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT. LIKELY CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST RUTSKOI AND KHASBULATOV. MOSCOW STATE OF EMERGENCY PROVISIONS TIGHTENED. ELECTION PREPARATIONS CONTINUE.

DETAIL

FEDERATION COUNCIL

2. THE MEETING OF THE FULL FEDERATION COUNCIL ANNOUNCED FOR THIS AFTERNOON HAS BEEN POSTPONED. YELTSIN'S PRESS SPOKESMAN KOSTIKOV SAID THAT THE NEW POLITICAL CONDITIONS DEMANDED A COMPLETE REVIEW OF THE FUNCTIONS AND COMPETENCE OF THIS BODY. YELTSIN HIMSELF WAS STILL CONSIDERING THESE ISSUES. KOSTIKOV HINTED AT A SETTling OF ACCOUNTS WITH THE REGIONAL SOVIETS (ESPECIALLY THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE 'COUNCIL OF FEDERATION PARTS' ESTABLISHED LAST WEEK IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT BUILDING) WHICH HAD OPPOSED YELTSIN'S 21 SEPTEMBER DECREE AND THE MOSCOW STATE OF EMERGENCY. A LOCAL AGENCY SURVEY OF REGIONAL OPINION LATE ON 4 OCTOBER SHOWED THAT 80% OF HEADS OF ADMINISTRATION AND JUST OVER HALF THE REGIONAL SOVIETS SUPPORTED THE STATE OF EMERGENCY.

3. AFTER A MEETING THIS MORNING WITH YELTSIN, THE MAYOR OF MOSCOW LUZHKOv INDICATED THAT THE STATE OF EMERGENCY SUSPENSION OF THE MOSCOW CITY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD ('RAIYON') SOVIETS WOULD BE PERMANENT. HE SAID THAT A CITY DUMA SHOULD BE ELECTED AND RESTORED

[REDACTED]

TO ITS PRE-REVOLUTIONARY BUILDING ON THE EDGE OF RED SQUARE (NOW THE LENIN MUSEUM). LUZHKOVA REPORTED THAT YELTSIN WAS IN A DECISIVE MOOD, AND DETERMINED NOT TO REPEAT THE FAILURE IN THE POST-AUGUST 1991 COUP EUPHORIA TO REMOVE THE CONDITIONS FOR A RETURN TO THE OLD REGIME. AN OUTSPOKEN COMMENTARY FROM TASS (WHICH WAS ATTACKED BY SNIPERS LAST NIGHT) CALLED ON YELTSIN TO LEARN FROM THE MISTAKES OF TWO YEARS AGO AND 'STRIP THE FORMER COMMUNIST NOMENCLATURA OF POWER FOR EVER'.

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT

4. THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT JUDGES MET THIS MORNING TO CONSIDER THE RESIGNATION OF THE COURT'S CHAIRMAN ZORKIN ON THE GROUNDS THAT HIS OPEN PRO-SOVIET STANCE HAD ABETTED THE SUNDAY'S INSURRECTION. ZORKIN HIMSELF HAS CRITICISED YESTERDAY'S STORMING OF THE WHITE HOUSE AS A DISPROPORTIONATE RESPONSE TO SUNDAY'S EVENTS, AND SAID THAT THE SUPPRESSION OF THE COURT BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE WOULD HERALD A 'TERRIBLE PERIOD' FOR RUSSIA.

[REDACTED]

RUTSKOI/KHASBULATOV

5. FIRST VICE-PREMIER SHUMEIKO HAS SAID THAT RUTSKOI AND KHASBULATOV'S SUNDAY EVENING ORDERS FOR THE STORMING OF THE KREMLIN AND ARREST/EXECUTION OF YELTSIN COULD RESULT IN THEIR BEING CHARGED IMMEDIATELY WITH THE CRIMINAL OFFENCE OF 'INFRINGEMENT ON THE PRESIDENT'S IMMUNITY'. DEPUTY SECURITY MINISTER STEPASHIN HAS SAID THAT THE FORMER DEPUTIES WHO CAME OUT OF THE WHITE HOUSE YESTERDAY EVENING HAVE BEEN RELEASED AFTER QUESTIONING.

SECURITY SITUATION

6. THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF SHOOTING AROUND THE CITY SINCE DAYBREAK. BUT THE EXTINCTION OF THE WHITE HOUSE FIRE WAS HAMPERED BY CONTINUED SNIPER FIRE INSIDE THE BUILDING. ONE 'DEFENDER' WAS SURPRISED IN THE BASEMENT AND SHOT HIMSELF. A YELTSIN DECREE THIS MORNING IMPOSED A SECOND CURFEW TONIGHT AND VARIOUS OTHER MEASURES UNDER THE STATE OF EMERGENCY TO HASTEN 'THE LIQUIDATION OF THE REMAINING BANDIT GROUPS INVOLVED IN THE ATTEMPTED PUTSCH OF 3-4 OCTOBER'.

7. MOST REGULAR ARMY UNITS HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM THE CITY CENTRE AND HEADED TO THE CENTRAL AIRFIELD FOR A VICTORY PARADE/'TEAM PHOTO' WHICH GRACHEV IS EXPECTED TO ATTEND.

8. LATEST CASUALTY FIGURES ARE, EXCLUDING THE WHITE HOUSE, 533 (OF WHOM 66 DEAD), AND FOR THE WHITE HOUSE, 87 WOUNDED AND 32 BODIES BROUGHT OUT SO FAR.

ELECTIONS

9. VICE-PREMIER SHAKHRAI SAID ON TELEVISION YESTERDAY EVENING THAT YELTSIN WOULD CONTINUE TO INSIST ON A GAP BETWEEN THE PARLIAMENTARY AND PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. SHAKHRAI PREDICTED THAT IN THE LIGHT OF THE LAST TWO DAYS' EVENTS, MANY REGIONAL LEADERS WOULD BE HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT THEIR PREVIOUS INSISTENCE ON SIMULTANEOUS ELECTIONS. HE ADDED THAT THE REGIONAL SOVIET LEADERS COULD BE EXPECTED TO BE MORE SENSIBLE IN GENERAL WHEN MEETING ALONGSIDE THEIR COUNTERPARTS FROM THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVES.

10. THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION IS CONTINUING ITS INTENSIVE AND WELL-PUBLICISED WORK PROGRAMME. IT TOOK ADVANTAGE OF TODAY'S PRESENCE IN MOSCOW OF REGIONAL LEADERS TO HOLD A KEY MEETING ON CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES.

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RUSSIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS: OVERNIGHT ROUND-UP, 5-6 OCTOBER

SUMMARY

1. CURFEW STILL IN PLACE: ARMED OPPONENTS AND CRIMINALS BEING ROUNDED UP. MORE SACKINGS, INCLUDING MOST POWERFUL REGIONAL OPPONENT AND THE PROCURATOR-GENERAL. SHUMEIKO TO BE NEW PRESS AND INFORMATION MINISTER. YELTSIN TO ADDRESS THE NATION LATER TODAY.

DETAIL

2. THE SECOND NIGHTTIME CURFEW PASSED WITH NO REPORTS OF SERIOUS INCIDENTS. 1,700 PEOPLE WERE DETAINED FOR CURFEW VIOLATIONS, 900 ALLEGED CRIMINALS ARRESTED, AND 11 UNREGISTERED FIREARMS SEIZED. INTERIOR MINISTRY GENERAL KULIKOV (COMMANDANT OF MOSCOW FOR THE STATE OF EMERGENCY) HAS GIVEN CONFIDENT TELEVISION PERFORMANCES DESCRIBING THE ROADBLOCKS AND OTHER MEASURES DESIGNED TO CATCH 'BANDITS' STILL AT LARGE. KULIKOV SAID THAT 4-5000 MORE OMON HAD BEEN DRAFTED IN FROM THE REGIONS TO HELP COMPLETE THE OPERATION TO RESTORE ORDER.

3. THE AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN SHOWING PICTURES OF 'KHASBULATOV'S ARSENAL' DISCOVERED INSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE, INCLUDING HUNDREDS OF AUTOMATIC FIREARMS WHICH THE DEFENDERS DID NOT GET AROUND TO USING. THE DEPUTY MOSCOW POLICE CHIEF SAID THAT THESE WEAPONS MUST HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN BY THE 'OFFICERS' UNION' (MILITARY WING OF THE RED-BROWN NATIONAL SALVATION FRONT). GRACHEV HAS WARNED THAT WEAPONS HAD BEEN SMUGGLED OUT OF THE BUILDING AND COULD BE USED IN NEW TERRORIST ACTS.

4. THE STATE OF EMERGENCY PROVISIONS INCLUDE CENSORSHIP OF PRESS ARTICLES JUDGED LIKELY TO ASSIST ARMED BANDITS OR TO INCITE FURTHER VIOLENCE. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT SUCH CENSORSHIP IS LAWFUL UNDER

THE STATE OF EMERGENCY LAW PASSED BY THE SUPREME SOVIET LAST YEAR, THE EDITORS OF PAPERS AFFECTED (NEZAVISIMAYA, SEVODNYA) HAVE REACTED GRAPHICALLY BY LEAVING LARGE BLANK SPACES WHERE ARTICLES HAVE BEEN CENSORED.

THE REGIONS

5. YELTSIN HAS SACKED TWO MORE OF THE HANDFUL OF REGIONAL HEADS OF ADMINISTRATION (EXECUTIVES) WHO OPPOSED THE 21 SEPTEMBER DECREE. THESE ARE SURAT (AMUR OBLAST) AND MUKHA (NOVOSIBIRSK OBLAST). (COMMENT: MUKHA'S STANCE HAS BEEN THE MOST SERIOUS REGIONAL THREAT TO YELTSIN SINCE 21 SEPTEMBER: NOVOSIBIRSK IS A KEY REGION, AND MUKHA IS IN ADDITION CHAIRMAN OF THE POWERFUL 'SIBERIAN ACCORD' TERRITORIAL GROUPING. THIS MAY TURN OUT TO BE A REPEAT PERFORMANCE OF YELTSIN'S UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO REMOVE MUKHA LAST MARCH: MUKHA WAS BACKPEDALLING FAST YESTERDAY, SAYING THAT HE WAS ORGANISING POLLING STATIONS AND GENERALLY IMPLEMENTING THE 21 SEPTEMBER DECREE, AGAINST THE OPPOSITION OF THE LOCAL SOVIET.)

GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL CHANGES

6. YELTSIN ALSO SACKED YESTERDAY THE PROCURATOR-GENERAL (ATTORNEY-GENERAL EQUIVALENT) STEPANKOV, AND APPOINTED IN HIS PLACE ALEXEI KAZANNIK, A LITTLE KNOWN SIBERIAN LEGAL OFFICIAL WHO WON A PLACE IN HISTORY IN FEBRUARY 1990 BY GIVING UP HIS PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATURE FOR SVERDLOVSK (YEKATERINBURG) IN FAVOUR OF YELTSIN WHEN THE LATTER DECIDED AT THE LAST MOMENT TO QUIT THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET AND STAND IN THE RSFSR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN FEBRUARY 1990.

7. YELTSIN HAS APPOINTED FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SHUMEIKO MINISTER OF PRESS AND INFORMATION IN ADDITION TO HIS OTHER DUTIES. (COMMENT: THIS MINISTRY HAD BEN VACANT SINCE THE RESIGNATION A MONTH AGO OF FEDOTOV IN PROTEST AT THE SUPREME SOVIET DECISION TO CENSOR THE TELEVISION. SHUMEIKO IS ONE OF THE LEADING DEMOCRAT MINISTERS AND WILL BE ALIVE TO CONCERNS ABOUT PRESS FREEDOM AND FAIR USE OF TELEVISION IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN.)

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT

8. THE SAGA (MOSCOW TELNO 1732) CONTINUES WITH ZORKIN RESISTING PRESSURE FROM HIS COLLEAGUES TO RESIGN, BUT APPARENTLY WILLING TO BOW AT LAST TO THE ORDER IN YELTSIN'S 21 SEPTEMBER DECREE THAT THE

COURT SHOULD NOT MEET UNTIL THE NEW PARLIAMENT MEETS IN DECEMBER.

YELTSIN TV ADDRESS

9. YELTSIN WILL ADDRESS THE NATION ON TELEVISION TODAY (PROBABLY AT 061200Z). HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO DWELL LARGELY ON THE EVENTS OF 3-4 OCTOBER, AND AIM TO CATCH THE SHIFT OF PUBLIC MOOD: THE EUPHORIA OF THE EARLY HOURS OF MONDAY, WHEN IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE SOVIET PUTSCH WOULD BE DEFEATED, HAS GIVEN WAY TO A SENSE OF UNAVOIDABLE BUT BITTER TRAGEDY. THERE IS OF COURSE EAGER ANTICIPATION HERE AS TO WHAT YELTSIN WILL SAY ABOUT HIS PLANS FOR ELECTIONS AND FURTHER RADICAL REFORM.

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RUSSIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS: YELTSIN TV ADDRESS

SUMMARY

1. YELTSIN INVITES ALL SOVIET POWER BODIES TO DISSOLVE THEMSELVES, AND SAYS THAT THEY WILL IN ANY CASE FACE REELECTION AT THE SAME TIME AS THE DUMA ELECTION ON 12 DECEMBER.

DETAIL

2. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MAY BE TELEPHONING YELTSIN AT 061530Z. IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO PASS ON WHAT WE UNDERSTAND WILL BE THE MAIN POINTS OF YELTSIN'S TV ADDRESS DUE TO BE BROADCAST AT 061600Z.

- PARTICIPANTS IN THE ARMED REBELLION TO BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE: THERE CAN BE NO MORE TOLERATION IN RUSSIA OF COMMUNIST-FASCIST INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE AND BLOODY DICTATORSHIP:
- HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT (NOTE: THE COURT'S CHAIRMAN, ZORKIN, FINALLY ANNOUNCED HIS RESIGNATION TODAY):
- DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MAJORITY OF SOVIET POWER STRUCTURES FOR MAKING POSSIBLE THE TRAGEDY IN MOSCOW: SOVIETS INVITED TO TAKE THE DECENT AND COURAGEOUS DECISION TO DISSOLVE THEMSELVES:
- IN ANY CASE, REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE BODIES TO BE REELECTED AT THE SAME TIME AS THE DUMA: 12 DECEMBER POLLING DAY REAFFIRMED.
- FREE AND FAIR PARTICIPATION IN THE ELECTIONS GUARANTEED FOR ALL PERSONS AND PARTIES NOT STAINED WITH DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN



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SUNDAY'S ATTEMPTED PUTSCH.

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RUSSIA/CIS: LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

MOSCOW AFTER THE SIEGE

1. PRESIDENT YELTSIN HAS MOVED QUICKLY TO IMPOSE ORDER AFTER THE STORMING OF THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING AND ARREST OF VICE PRESIDENT RUTSKOI AND PARLIAMENTARY SPEAKER KHASBULATOV. HE HAS BANNED VARIOUS COMMUNIST AND NATIONALIST/EXTREMIST POLITICAL PARTIES WHICH SUPPORTED RUTSKOI/KHASBULATOV AND ADVOCATED VIOLENCE: ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED UNDER A WEEK-LONG STATE OF EMERGENCY IN MOSCOW. A NIGHT-TIME CURFEW IS IN PLACE.
2. SEPARATELY YELTSIN HAS DISMISSED THE PROCURATOR GENERAL AND RECALCITRANT REGIONAL HEADS OF ADMINISTRATION IN NOVOSIBIRSK AND AMUR. CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT (ZORKIN) WHO TOOK ON AN OVERTLY POLITICAL, ANTI-YELTSIN STAND IN RECENT MONTHS HAS RESIGNED.
3. LAST NIGHT IN HIS FIRST MAJOR SPEECH SINCE THE WEEKEND CRISIS YELTSIN CONFIRMED THAT ELECTIONS FOR A NEW PARLIAMENT WOULD TAKE PLACE ON 12 DECEMBER. HE CALLED ON ALL LOCAL 'SOVIETS' (IE COUNCILS CREATED DURING THE COMMUNIST PERIOD) TO DISSOLVE THEMSELVES, AND DECLARED ELECTIONS FOR NEW LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES LIKEWISE IN DECEMBER. HE ALSO CALLED FOR FULL REFORM OF THE ARMY AND SECURITY SERVICES (COMMENT: THERE ARE NOW RECRIMINATIONS WITHIN GOVERNMENT/DEMOCRATIC CIRCLES AS TO HOW A RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF EXTREMISTS WERE ABLE TO PRECIPITATE SUCH A SERIOUS CRISIS).

[REDACTED]