

Full text of First Resolution

State Committee bans demonstrations, strikes

MOSCOW, Aug 20: Following is the full text of the first decree issued on Monday by the State Committee which announced it had taken power in the Soviet Union.

In order to protect the vital interests of people and individuals of the union of SSR, independence and territorial integrity of the country, to restate legality, law and order, achieve stabilization of the situation, overcome the ultimate crisis, prevent chaos, anarchy and fratricidal civil war.

The State Committee for the State of Emergency in the USSR hereby resolves:

1. All bodies of power and administration of the USSR, union and Autonomous Republics, territories, cities, districts, settlements and villages shall ensure strict abidance by the State of Emergency in accordance with the law of the USSR "on the legal regime of the state of emergency" and resolutions of the State Committee for the State of Emergency in the USSR. Should they find it impossible to comply with the

regime, the terms of reference of these bodies of power and administration shall be suspended, and these functions shall be performed by officials specially authorized by the State Committee for the State of Emergency in the USSR.

2. All structures of power and administration and paramilitary units acting counter to the USSR Constitution and USSR laws shall be immediately dissolved.

3. Laws and decisions of the bodies of power and administration, that run counter to the USSR Constitution and USSR laws shall be regarded null and void.

4. The activities of political parties, public organizations and mass movements hindering normalization shall be suspended.

5. Since the State Committee for the State of Emergency in the USSR is temporarily taking over the functions of the USSR Security Council, the activities of the latter shall be suspended.

6. Individuals and institutions must immediately hand in all illegally held firearms, ammunition, explosives, and military equipment. The Interior Ministry, the KGB,

and the Ministry of Defence of the USSR shall ensure unflinching compliance with this demand. Refusal to comply will entail forcible confiscation followed by criminal proceedings and administrative responsibility.

7. The Office of Public Prosecutions, the Interior Ministry, the KGB, and the Ministry of Defence of the USSR shall organize effective cooperation between law-enforcement agencies and the Armed Forces to guarantee public order and the security of the state, society and citizens in accordance with the USSR law on the legal aspects of the State of Emergency and the resolutions of the State Committee for the State of Emergency in the USSR.

Public meetings, street marches, demonstrations, and strikes are banned.

If considered necessary, a curfew may be imposed, patrolling of territory organised, searches made, and measures taken to improve border and customs controls.

The major government buildings and economic facilities, and systems of vital importance must be taken under control, and guarded, if neces-

sary. Strong action shall be taken to stop rumours and actions provoking law-breaking, ethnic strife, and disobedience to the authorities enforcing the State of Emergency.

8. The press and broadcasting media shall be

put under the control of a special body being set up at the State Committee for the State of Emergency in the USSR.

9. The bodies of power and administration, and heads of industrial and other organisations shall take measures to

improve efficiency and discipline in all areas of life. Steps must be taken to ensure that all industries perform normally, that measures to preserve and restore, for the period of stabilisation, the vertical and horizontal links between economic entities

throughout the USSR are carried through, and that the fixed production and supply targets are met unflinchingly.

An austerity regime in the use of materials, equipment, and hard currency shall be established and maintained, and concrete measures shall be planned and pursued to do away with waste and inefficiency and stop the squandering of national wealth.

Determined actions shall be taken to combat the shadow economy, and court and disciplinary action shall be taken on facts of corruption, embezzlement, profiteering, hoarding of goods by retailers, mismanagement, and other malpractices in the economic sphere.

Favourable conditions shall be provided to boost the meaningful contribution by all types of business activities pursued in keeping with USSR laws toward the country's economic capabilities and to meet the vital needs of the people.

10. Permanent employment by government bodies shall be incompatible with private business activities.

11. In a week's time, the Cabinet of Ministers of the USSR shall take the inventory of all food and consumer goods

resources available, report to the people and impose strict control over their safe keeping and distribution.

All restrictions of shipments of foodstuffs and consumer goods on the territory of the USSR, as well as of material resources essential for their production shall be annulled, and this order shall be strictly maintained.

Special attention shall be paid to the priority supplies to pre-school centres, orphanages, schools, secondary specialized and higher educational institutions, hospitals, as well as to pensioners and the disabled.

In a week's term, it shall submit proposals on streamlining, freezing and reducing prices for individual types of consumer goods and foodstuffs children's goods, consumer services and public catering in the first place, and also the raise in wages and salaries, pensions, benefits and compensations to various categories of individuals.

In two weeks' term, the Council of Ministers shall develop arrangements to streamline salaries of managers at all levels employed by state-run, public, cooperative and other institutions, organizations and enterprises.

12. Taking account of the critical situation with harvest and the threat of famine, urgent measures shall be taken to organize procurements, storage and processing of agricultural produce. Village workers shall be granted maximum assistance available in equipment, spare parts, fuel and lubricants, etc.

It is essential to immediately organize sending the requisite number of industrial and office workers, students and military men to the countryside in order to save the crops.

13. The USSR Cabinet of Ministers shall, within a week's term, develop a resolution to envisage the allocation in 1991-1992 of up to 0.15-hectare land plots to all urban dwellers wishing to receive them for vegetable-growing and gardening.



MOSCOW, Boris Pugo (L) former Soviet Interior Minister with Gennady Yanayev (c) Soviet Vice President and Oleg Baklanov 1st Vice President of the Soviet Defence Council, leaders of the coup against President Gorbachev speak at a press conference in Moscow August 19. —AFP/UNB photo

Armed Forces urged to support Gorbachev

It's a coup to install Stalinist dictatorship: Russian VP

MOSCOW, Aug 20: Russian Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi a professional soldier and Afghan war Hero, appealed to the Soviet Armed Forces on Monday to oppose the overthrow of President Mikhail Gorbachev, Reports Reuter.

In an emotional message issued by the Russian Information Agency, he described it as attempted military coup aimed at installing a Stalinist dictatorship.

"Comrades I, an officer of the Soviet Army, a Colonel, a Hero of the Soviet Union, who has walked the battle-torn roads of Afghanistan and known the horrors of war, call on you my brother officers, soldiers and sailors, I said.

Today the fate of the nation, the fate of its free, democratic development is in your hands," Rutskoi, Deputy to Russian

President Boris Yeltsin who leads the opposition to the takeover, called on servicemen to switch sides and join them.

He appealed to them not to support the Emergency Committee, which announced on Monday morning it was taking power, sent tanks into central Moscow and banned strikes and political parties.

Ten tank crews and some parachute units switched sides on Monday evening, taking up positions outside the barricaded Russian Parliament building to defend it against attack.

Yeltsin has claimed jurisdiction over all Soviet bodies in Russia and called on troops to obey his orders a suggestion, a Defence Ministry spokesman said was out of the question.

Rutskoi, Commander of an Air Force regiment, was shot down twice during the

Kremlin's nine-year war against Mujahideen Guerrillas in Afghanistan. The second time he was captured by the guerrillas and had to be ransomed.

He and Yeltsin won an overwhelming victory in Russian elections on June 12, with nearly 60 per cent of the vote.

Last month he headed an attempt to form a breakaway reformist faction inside the Soviet Communist Party, but was immediately expelled from the party.

Rutskoi issued a second appeal to the youth of Russia. I appeal to you - think how we will live tomorrow in this country, he said.

A journalist from the independent Nezavisimaya Gazeta said Izvestia, an evening newspaper, had been about to publish a full-page appeal from Yeltsin when the edition was

postponed until Tuesday morning.

The newspapers which will still appear include Sovetskaya Rossiya, official organ of the hardline Russian Communist Party, which has published increasingly virulent attacks on Gorbachev's reforms over the last few months.

Officials in the separatist Baltic republics of Lithuania and Latvia said their national television stations had been shut down by police and troops.

Latvian radio said the republic's television went off the air just after Omon special police occupied the ground floor of the television building.

A Lithuanian parliamentary spokeswoman said troops had seized the republic's only remaining television tower in the city of Kaunas, the television studios and the international telephone exchange.

"We are now broadcasting only from our mast in parliament," she said from the republic's capital Vilnius.

The explosion of radical and liberal publications was one of the most noticeable changes wrought by Gorbachev's policy of glasnost, or openness.

The Communist Party strictly controlled the media until 1985, when Gorbachev took power and encouraged journalists to be braver in their reporting.

The resultant challenging of Communist Party tenets and probing into blank spots of official Soviet history - notably the excesses of dictator Josef Stalin - amazed many people but irritated hardliners, who felt the country's past was being blackened.

A decree issued by the Emergency Committee said only nine newspapers, all of them conservative except for the liberal Izvestia, could be published until further notice.

Yanayev told the news conference the press was partly to blame for the country's crisis.

Iron grip on media

MOSCOW, Aug 20: The men who deposed Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on Monday moved quickly to reimpose an iron grip on the media, which flourished during the era of glasnost, reports Reuter.

The hardline Emergency Committee took control of all national television and radio stations and banned the publication of all but a few national newspapers, most of them conservative.

Russian leader Boris Yeltsin, who has spearheaded opposition to the new leadership, was reduced to communicating through broadsheets carrying the note "read and pass on" and by fax through the Russian Information Agency, set up by

his government. "You foreigners know much more than we do about what's going on," said a disgruntled taxi driver at Moscow's Sheremetyevo International Airport.

"We have to make do with the official clap-trap," he said, pointing at his radio where state-controlled channels were playing light music.

State television and the official Tass news agency were brought under control immediately after the takeover and spent the day carrying statements by the Emergency Committee and transmissions of a news conference by Acting President Gennady Yanayev.

But the main nightly news programme Vremya showed

pictures of Yeltsin addressing crowds from a tank at the republic's parliament, and mentioned that he had called for a general strike.

Late on Monday night the state channel, the only one still broadcasting, was showing Tchaikovsky's ballet "Swan Lake".

The Russian Federation's alternative television network, which leases a channel from the state broadcasting authority Gosteleradio, was off the air.

The independent Interfax news agency which was evicted from its state-owned accommodation this year and the Russian Information Agency were still working late on Monday.

Bush refuses to recognise coup leaders

Gorbachev leaves dacha for unknown destination

MOSCOW, Aug 20: Ousted Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev left his Black Sea dacha for an unknown destination late Monday, the Russian news agency RIA reported, quoting witnesses, reports AFP.

The witnesses said Gorbachev had departed aboard an airplane, and said he appeared to be in good health.

Gorbachev had reportedly been placed under house arrest at his dacha in the Crimea after being overthrown by a conservative coup on Monday and replaced by Vice-President Gennady Yanayev under pretext of "health problems."

A source close to Russian President Boris Yeltsin said earlier that Gorbachev had been flown to Moscow overnight Saturday from the Crimea for a meeting with hardline leaders to sign away his rights to the presidency, but he refused.

In the meeting Gorbachev, faced Vice President Gennady Yanayev, Defence and Interior Ministers Dmitri Yazov and Boris Pugo, KGB chief Vladimir

Kryuchkov, Oleg Blakanov, responsible for military industry in the Communist Party Central Committee, and Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov.

The six leaders sit on the Federal State-of-Emergency Committee which led the coup.

Soviet parliament Speaker Anatoly Lukyanov also attended the meeting.

When Gorbachev refused to step down he was returned to the Crimea. Yanayev said earlier Monday that Gorbachev still was on the Black Sea peninsula.

Reuter from Washington adds: President George Bush on Monday refused to recognise leaders of a coup against President Gorbachev and called on them to restore Gorbachev to power.

In a two-page statement outlining the U S response to Soviet hardliners' overthrow of Gorbachev, Bush also said the United States would not support economic aid programmes for Moscow if adherence to extra-constitutional means continues.

Bush said the United States

supported a call made by Boris Yeltsin President of the Russian Republic, for "restoration of the legally elected organs of power and the reaffirmation of the post of U S S R President M S Gorbachev."

We are deeply disturbed by the events of the last hours in the Soviet Union and condemn the unconstitutional resort to force," he said.

He said Gorbachev's removal from power, the "subsequent declaration of a six-month State of Emergency in the Soviet Union and deployment of Soviet military forces in Moscow and other cities," raise the most serious questions about the future course of the Soviet Union.

This misguided and illegitimate effort bypasses both Soviet law and the will of the Soviet peoples, he said.

The statement emerged at the end of a day in which Bush and senior U S officials held crisis meetings to review the overthrow of Gorbachev after initially being caught off-guard by the dramatic events in the Soviet Union.

12. Taking account of the critical situation with harvest and the threat of famine, urgent measures shall be taken to organize procurements, storage and processing of agricultural produce. Village workers shall be granted maximum assistance available in equipment, spare parts, fuel and lubricants, etc.

It is essential to immediately organize sending the requisite number of industrial and office workers, students and military men to the countryside in order to save the crops.

13. The USSR Cabinet of Ministers shall, within a week's term, develop a resolution to envisage the allocation in 1991-1992 of up to 0.15-hectare land plots to all urban dwellers wishing to receive them for vegetable-growing and gardening.

12. Taking account of the critical situation with harvest and the threat of famine, urgent measures shall be taken to organize procurements, storage and processing of agricultural produce. Village workers shall be granted maximum assistance available in equipment, spare parts, fuel and lubricants, etc.

It is essential to immediately organize sending the requisite number of industrial and office workers, students and military men to the countryside in order to save the crops.

13. The USSR Cabinet of Ministers shall, within a week's term, develop a resolution to envisage the allocation in 1991-1992 of up to 0.15-hectare land plots to all urban dwellers wishing to receive them for vegetable-growing and gardening.

12. Taking account of the critical situation with harvest and the threat of famine, urgent measures shall be taken to organize procurements, storage and processing of agricultural produce. Village workers shall be granted maximum assistance available in equipment, spare parts, fuel and lubricants, etc.

It is essential to immediately organize sending the requisite number of industrial and office workers, students and military men to the countryside in order to save the crops.

13. The USSR Cabinet of Ministers shall, within a week's term, develop a resolution to envisage the allocation in 1991-1992 of up to 0.15-hectare land plots to all urban dwellers wishing to receive them for vegetable-growing and gardening.

12. Taking account of the critical situation with harvest and the threat of famine, urgent measures shall be taken to organize procurements, storage and processing of agricultural produce. Village workers shall be granted maximum assistance available in equipment, spare parts, fuel and lubricants, etc.

It is essential to immediately organize sending the requisite number of industrial and office workers, students and military men to the countryside in order to save the crops.

13. The USSR Cabinet of Ministers shall, within a week's term, develop a resolution to envisage the allocation in 1991-1992 of up to 0.15-hectare land plots to all urban dwellers wishing to receive them for vegetable-growing and gardening.

12. Taking account of the critical situation with harvest and the threat of famine, urgent measures shall be taken to organize procurements, storage and processing of agricultural produce. Village workers shall be granted maximum assistance available in equipment, spare parts, fuel and lubricants, etc.

It is essential to immediately organize sending the requisite number of industrial and office workers, students and military men to the countryside in order to save the crops.

13. The USSR Cabinet of Ministers shall, within a week's term, develop a resolution to envisage the allocation in 1991-1992 of up to 0.15-hectare land plots to all urban dwellers wishing to receive them for vegetable-growing and gardening.

12. Taking account of the critical situation with harvest and the threat of famine, urgent measures shall be taken to organize procurements, storage and processing of agricultural produce. Village workers shall be granted maximum assistance available in equipment, spare parts, fuel and lubricants, etc.

It is essential to immediately organize sending the requisite number of industrial and office workers, students and military men to the countryside in order to save the crops.

13. The USSR Cabinet of Ministers shall, within a week's term, develop a resolution to envisage the allocation in 1991-1992 of up to 0.15-hectare land plots to all urban dwellers wishing to receive them for vegetable-growing and gardening.

12. Taking account of the critical situation with harvest and the threat of famine, urgent measures shall be taken to organize procurements, storage and processing of agricultural produce. Village workers shall be granted maximum assistance available in equipment, spare parts, fuel and lubricants, etc.

It is essential to immediately organize sending the requisite number of industrial and office workers, students and military men to the countryside in order to save the crops.

CPI (M) sheds no tear at Gorbachev's removal

NEW DELHI, Aug 20: India's biggest communist party, a frequent critic of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's radical perestroika reforms, shed no tears at his removal on Monday, reports Reuter.

"Significant and major political developments have taken place in the USSR", the Communist Party of India (Marxist) said in a brief statement.

The Politburo of the CPI (M) hopes the USSR will overcome the present crisis, defend the unity and integrity of the Soviet Union and continue to advance on the path of socialism."

Party officials said they expected a major beneficiary to be Cuba, which had refused to change its old-line communist ways despite cuts in Soviet aid under Gorbachev that caused major economic problems.

"Cuba is saved" said one senior official.

Shevardnadze fears civil war, bloodshed

MOSCOW, Aug 20: Former Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who resigned in December warning of a plot by hardliners against President Mikhail Gorbachev, said on Monday he feared civil war now that Gorbachev had been ousted.

Shevardnadze, one of Gorbachev's closest allies in the reform movement known as perestroika, told a news conference the takeover by a hardline emergency committee under Acting President Gennady Yanayev was a "national tragedy".

He appealed to all "democrats, reformers and honest and upright people to join forces against those who have taken power and said he feared civil war and bloodshed, the Independent Interfax Agency reported.

Shevardnadze, architect of the Soviet rapprochement with the West and of wide-

ranging arms cuts that ushered in the end of the cold war, said the breakdown of the entire disarmament process was now a possibility.

He demanded that his friend Gorbachev be allowed to appear on television. Gorbachev has not been seen since the takeover and the emergency committee says he is ill.

When Shevardnadze resigned, he warned that the opponents of liberalisation were waiting for their chance. "Dictatorship is gaining ground, he said then. The reformers have left the stage. No one knows what kind of dictatorship there will be and who will be the dictator."

Shevardnadze has since helped found the democratic reform movement, a centrist movement challenging the communists who drove him from their ranks.

Shevardnadze, architect of the Soviet rapprochement with the West and of wide-

He demanded that his friend Gorbachev be allowed to appear on television. Gorbachev has not been seen since the takeover and the emergency committee says he is ill.

When Shevardnadze resigned, he warned that the opponents of liberalisation were waiting for their chance. "Dictatorship is gaining ground, he said then. The reformers have left the stage. No one knows what kind of dictatorship there will be and who will be the dictator."

Shevardnadze has since helped found the democratic reform movement, a centrist movement challenging the communists who drove him from their ranks.

Gorbachev was not given chance to defend himself like Khrushchev

GENEVA, Aug 20: On a grey October morning nearly 27 years ago, the official TASS news agency in Moscow announced then Kremlin chief Nikita Khrushchev had stepped down because of ill health and advancing age, reports Reuter.

But within hours it became clear Khrushchev had been removed by leadership colleagues alarmed that his erratic but wide-ranging reforms were weakening the power of the Communist Party and government bureaucracy.

When TASS announced the equally dramatic removal of President Mikhail Gorbachev on Monday, it also cited ill health.

But the new men at the top left no doubt their motives were scarcely different to those of their predecessors in 1964 who promptly accused Khrushchev of "hare-brained" scheming and leading the country into social and economic disarray.

Gennady Yanayev, the Vice-President who has taken over as acting head of state in

Moscow, followed a career in the Soviet bureaucracy not un-



like that of Leonid Breznev, the man who took over Khrushchev's key party role.

Breznev had been figure-head head-state and had seen

his career promoted by Khrushchev - a pattern similar to Yanayev's progress under Gorbachev.

Like Gorbachev, if much less effectively and sweepingly, Khrushchev had struck at party privilege and cracked its monolithic structure by splitting it into industrial and agricultural sections.

He had reduced the power of government ministries, which under his successors mushroomed, by creating Regional Economic Councils intended to ensure central decisions were adapted to fit local needs across the vast Soviet Union.

Like Gorbachev, he had ordered a military reform in the late 1950's which had brought dramatic cuts in the Armed Forces and earned him the undying hatred of the top brass.

But above all he had won the enmity of old-style communists with his "secret speech" of 1956 denouncing

the bloody rule of his predecessor Josef Stalin - a theme that under Gorbachev developed into wholesale denunciation of much of Soviet history.

Like Gorbachev, Khrushchev was on holiday on the Black Sea Coast after a series of meetings with foreign leaders aimed at improving East-West ties when his opponents moved against him.

But there was a major difference in the handling of what in both cases was promptly and widely denounced as a coup.

The then 70-year-old Khrushchev, who held the twin roles of communist chief and Prime Minister, was summoned back to Moscow to be put through the formal constitutional procedures of appearances before his party and state peers.

Recognising he had no chance of rallying support, as he had done to head off an attempted headline coup in 1957, he accepted the

inevitable and went into retirement while his successors expunged him from the history books and the film archives.

Gorbachev, 60 appears to have been given no such opportunity to defend himself so far, even though as the country's first executive President he was responsible to its elected Parliament.

He apparently remains, at least formally for the moment, General-Secretary of the party his critics have accused him of destroying by ending its monopoly on power and opening up the system to other political forces.

Khrushchev died in official oblivion in 1971, his services in breaking the country's Stalinist mould ignored until 1987 when Gorbachev himself hailed him in a major speech for setting the Soviet Union on the path to change.

Before his death, he dic-

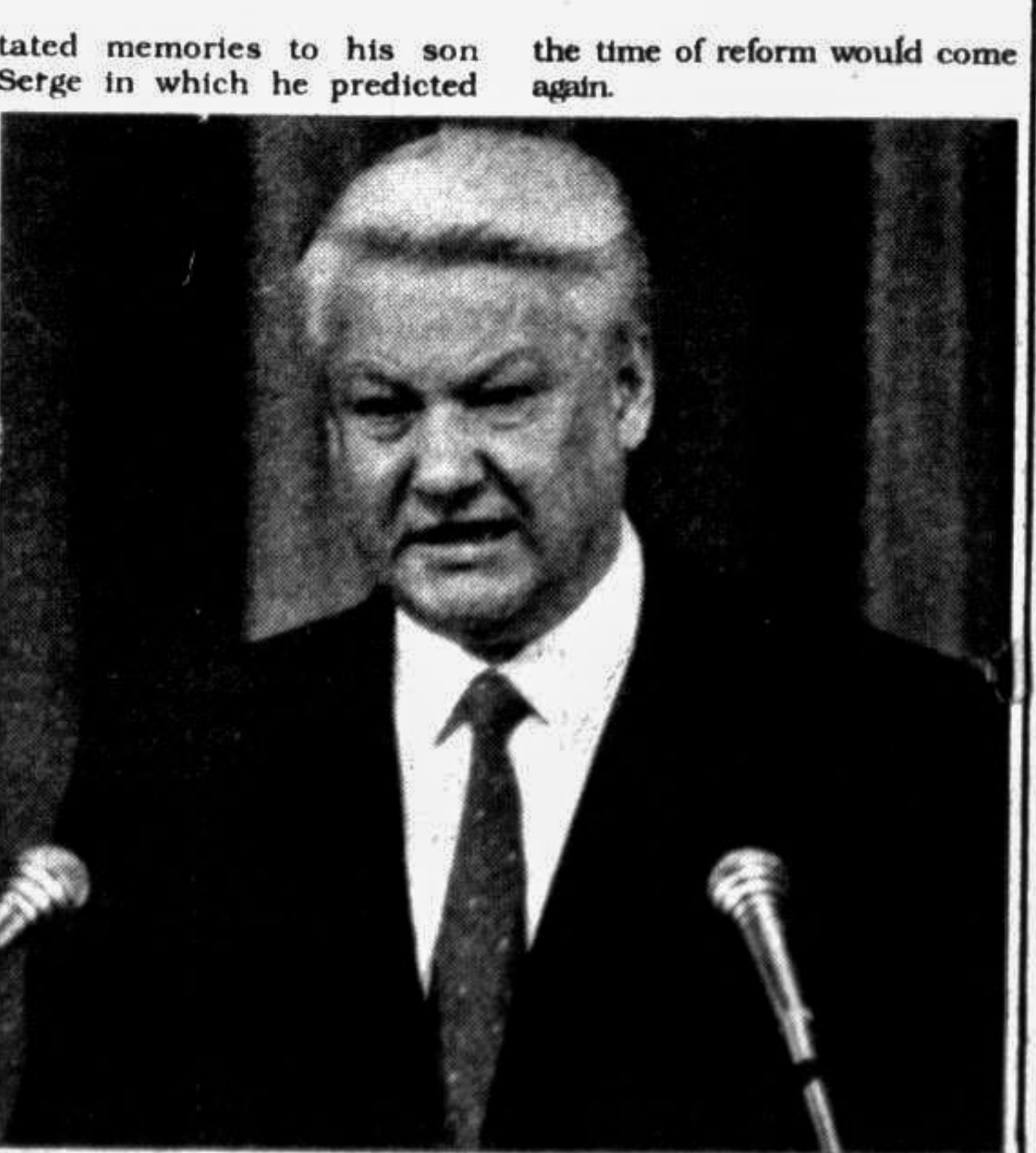
tated memories to his son Serge in which he predicted

the time of reform would come again.

He apparently remains, at least formally for the moment, General-Secretary of the party his critics have accused him of destroying by ending its monopoly on power and opening up the system to other political forces.

Khrushchev died in official oblivion in 1971, his services in breaking the country's Stalinist mould ignored until 1987 when Gorbachev himself hailed him in a major speech for setting the Soviet Union on the path to change.

Before his death, he dic-



Boris Yeltsin now a symbol of resistance