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FROM

FM (b)(3):10 USC 424

CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 (b)(3):10 USC 424

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SERIAL: (b)(3):10 USC 424

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) RUSSIA (RS).

SUBJ: (b)(3):10 USC 424 /CHECHNYA CONFLICT (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT
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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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DOI: (U) 950104.

REQS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(1), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d)

TEXT: ~~(S/NF/WN)~~ THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXTRACT FROM A
REPORT--

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION (b)(1), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d)
APPROVED (b)(1), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d) RUSSIAN MILITARY ACTIVITY
IN CHECHNYA THROUGH 11 JANUARY 1995. (b)(1), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d)
AIR AND ARTILLERY STRIKES, A
TOTAL BLOCKADE, AND ACTIVE PROPAGANDA.

(b)(1), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d)

REINFORCEMENT BY UNITS

(b)(1),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

DESPITE CERTAIN CONFLICTS WITHIN THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERSHIP CONCERNING THE METHOD OF RESOLVING THE **CHECHNYA** CRISIS, THE COUNTRY'S LEADERSHIP IS COMMITTED TO NOT ALLOWING THE BREAK-AWAY OF **CHECHNYA**, TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRO-RUSSIAN ADMINISTRATION THERE, AND TO USING ALL MEANS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE GOALS.

AS A RESULT OF THE INTERVENTION OF THE RUSSIAN ARMED FORCES IN **CHECHNYA**,

(b)(1),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

THEY DO NOT CONSIDER MILITARY OPERATIONS TO BE THE ROAD TO SUCCESS IN **CHECHNYA**.

(b)(1),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

SUCH ACTION COULD INTERFERE WITH THE PROCESS OF REFORM IN RUSSIA ITSELF.

(b)(1),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

ESTIMATE THAT A POTENTIAL GUERRILLA WAR IN **CHECHNYA** WOULD NECESSITATE THE DEPLOYMENT OF MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND TROOPS.

IT IS NOT OUT OF THE REALM OF POSSIBILITY THAT THE CURRENT DEMONSTRATION OF FORCE IS INTENDED TO ILLUSTRATE THE NEED FOR STRONG ARMED FORCES, AND TO BRING TO A HALT FORCE REORGANIZATIONS AND BUDGET REDUCTIONS WITHIN THE MILITARY.

(b)(1),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

THE INVOLVEMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ((SOSKOVETS)), WHO IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX.

THE METHOD OF RESOLVING THE **CHECHNYA** CRISIS HAS AGAIN BROUGHT TO LIGHT THE PROBLEM OF POWER IN MOSCOW AND YELTSIN AS THE GUARANTOR OF DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT IN RUSSIA. WESTERN ANALYSTS HAVE AGAIN RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHETHER IT IS WORTHWHILE TO RELY ONLY ON YELTSIN, WHOSE DECISIONS ARE MORE AND MORE INSCRUTABLE, AND WHO IS EVER MORE INFLUENCED BY BEHIND-THE-SCENES POLITICIANS IN HIS DECISION-MAKING.

~~SECRET~~

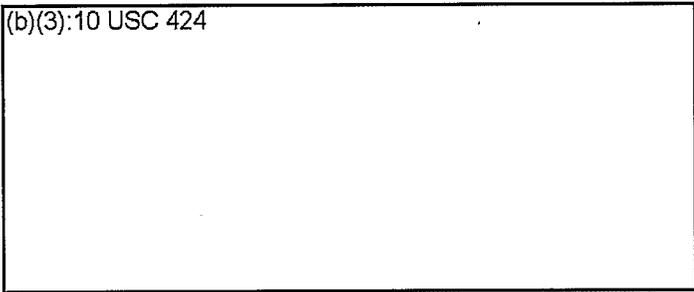
~~NOFORN, WHINTEL~~

HOWEVER, FOR THE TIME BEING, THERE IS NO ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE TO HIM. THEREFORE, WESTERN SUPPORT FOR YELTSIN WILL CLEARLY CONTINUE.

ANOTHER POLITICAL PARTY CRITICIZING RUSSIAN INTERVENTION IN CHECHENYA IS THE PRO-REFORM ((SHACHRAYOV)) PARTY OF RUSSIAN UNITY AND CONSENSUS. ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EMPHASIZED IN A DECLARATION THAT THE WAR IN CHECHENYA IS GROWING INTO A NATIONAL POLITICAL CRISIS, POTENTIALLY LEADING TO BLOODY CONFLICTS ELSEWHERE IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION. THE DECLARATION WENT ON TO STATE THAT THE CRISIS IN CHECHENYA IS CAUSING FURTHER POLARIZATION OF POLITICAL FORCES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN A NEW DIVISION OF RUSSIAN SOCIETY.

COMMENTS: (U) NONE.

(b)(3):10 USC 424



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