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	ACQ-01	CEA-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	COME-00	CTME-00	INL-01
	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-01
	EXIM-01	E-00	FBIE-00	FRB-00	H-01	TEDE-00	IO-00
	ITC-01	JUSE-00	L-01	MCO-01	ADS-00	M-00	NEA-01
	DCP-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OIG-04	OMB-01	OPIC-01
	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	CIO-00	SP-00	SSO-00
	STR-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	SA-01	SNIS-00	NISC-00	PMB-00
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SOURCE: KODAKA.230077

DRAFTED BY: INR/REA: WLIMBERG -- 05/22/97 7-5642

APPROVED BY: INR/REA:LSELL

S/NIS :JHERBST (INFO)

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-----BDF173 231544Z /38

P 231534Z MAY 97

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AMEMBASSY RIGA

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NSC FOR PIFER, PASCUAL, FRIED AND VRSBOW

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E.O. 12958: DECL: (05/22/07)
TAGS: PINR, PGOV, PREL, ECON, RS, CIS
SUBJECT: INR VIEWPOINT: EURASIAN FOREIGN POLICY UPDATE
DOE FOR BEEMAN, DOC FOR KALICKI, RELEASABLE TO NATO

1. CLASSIFIED BY LOUIS SELL, DIRECTOR, INR/REA.
REASON: 1.5(C) AND (D).

2. (U) THE FOLLOWING INR VIEWPOINT IS A REGULAR WEEKLY
ROUNDUP PRODUCED BY THE OFFICE OF RUSSIAN AND EURASIAN
ANALYSIS. IN THE INTEREST OF PROMOTING WIDER AND TIMELY
DISSEMINATION, CERTAIN CLASSIFICATIONS OF INFORMATION
CANNOT BE INCLUDED. INR/REA WELCOMES COMMENTS AND
SUGGESTIONS.

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(U) SUMMARY
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3. (C) (BEGIN SUMMARY) IN AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO SELL THE
NATO/RUSSIA AGREEMENT THIS WEEK YELTSIN MET WITH
PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS AND PROMISED TO SUBMIT THE DOCUMENT
FOR DUMA AND FEDERATION COUNCIL APPROVAL-- BUT ONLY AFTER HE
HAD SIGNED IT IN PARIS ON MAY 27. BELARUSIAN PRESIDENT

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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LUKASHENKO ARRIVED IN MOSCOW ON MAY 22 TO WORK OUT THE
FINAL DETAILS ON THE BELARUSIAN/RUSSIAN UNION CHARTER;
YELTSIN MADE CLEAR THAT HE SAW SIGNATURE OF THE CHARTER AS
A TRADE-OFF FOR THE AGREEMENT WITH NATO. RUMORS CONTINUE
TO FLY OF PRIMAKOV'S DEPARTURE AS FOREIGN MINISTER, BUT
THUS FAR IT IS RODIONOV WHO HAS BEEN SACKE-AND JUST AFTER
HIS RETURN FROM THE US AND JAPAN. JAPANESE FM IKEDA
A-RIVED IN MOSCOW ON MAY 22; UNSYG ANAN DEPARTED ON MAY 18.
SYRIAN FM AL-SHAHR MET WITH PRIMAKOV ON MAY 21. YELTSIN IS
TO VISIT KIEV ON MAY 30-31. UKRAINIAN TANK DELIVERIES TO
PAKISTAN CONTINUE. THE EU THIS WEEK WELCOMED THE
MOLDOVAN/TRANSDNIESTER AGREEMENT. T HE UKRAINIANS HAVE
WELCOMED THE RUSSIA/NATO ACCORD; THE BALTS INSIST THAT
THEIR ENTRY INTO NATO IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE AGREEMENT'S
SUCCESS. (END SUMMARY)

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(U) RUSSIA/NATO: SELL, SELL, SELL
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ate Printed: 06/16/1997

DOC NUMBER: 97STATE097231

CHANNEL: n/a

4. (C) YELTSIN PULLED OUT ALL THE STOPS THIS WEEK IN HIS EFFORT TO SELL THE RUSSIAN/NATO FOUNDING ACT AND ANSWER HIS DOMESTIC CRITICS. IN A MAY 19 KREMLIN MEETING WITH THE HEADS OF THE DUMA AND FEDERATION COUNCIL AND PARLIAMENTARY PARTY LEADERS, YELTSIN SAID THAT HE WAS STILL OPPOSED TO NATO ENLARGEMENT AND WOULD MAKE THAT POINT IN HIS SPEECH IN PARIS ON MAY 27. HE CLAIMED, HOWEVER, THAT FACED WITH HAVING TO CHOOSE BETWEEN INEFFECTUAL PROTESTS OR WORKING TO KEEP THE CONSEQUENCES OF NATO ENLARGEMENT FOR RUSSIA AT A MINIMUM, HE HAD CHOSEN THE LATTER. ACCORDING TO YELTSIN, THE AGREEMENT WITH NATO OPENED THE WAY FOR RUSSIA TO

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ADDRESS PRESSING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS AT HOME. YELTSIN INSTRUCTED PRIMAKOV TO MEET WITH PARLIAMENT ON MAY 23 TO REPORT ON THE FINAL ACT. YELTSIN TOLD THE KREMLIN GATHERING THAT IF NATO EVER DISREGARDED RUSSIA'S OPINION OR INTER-STS, MOSCOW WOULD RECONSIDER RELATIONS. A CASE IN POINT WOULD BE NATO'S GRANTING MEMBERSHIP TO FORMER REPUBLICS OF THE USSR. YELTSIN SAID THIS IS NOT CURRENTLY ADDRESSED IN THE FOUNDING ACT BUT SHOULD BE, AND HE PROPOSED THAT THE FEDERATION COUNCIL RAISE IT WITH PRIMAKOV ON MAY 23. PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN YASTRZHEMSKIY AND MFA SPOKESMAN NESTERUSHKIN RETURNED TO THIS THEME THROUGH THE WEEK.

5. (U) YASTRZHEMSKIY TOLD REPORTERS ON MAY 20 THAT THE TEXT OF THE FOUNDING ACT WOULD BE PUBLISHED AFTER ITS SIGNATURE IN PARIS ON MAY 27 AND THAT YELTSIN WOULD THEN SUBMIT IT TO BOTH HOUSES OF THE PARLIAMENT FOR APPROVAL. YASTRZHEMSKIY SAID THAT IN KEEPING WITH ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE PARLIAMENT WOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO RAISE "SO-CALLED RESERVATIONS" AND THAT IN ANY CASE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT WOULD BE OPEN TO INTERPRETATION BY THE SIGNATORIES. THOUGH THIS WOULD ONLY BE "NORMAL," IT COULD MEAN FUTURE "CLASHES" BETWEEN RUSSIA AND NATO IN THE FUTURE. DEPUTY FM AFANASYEVSKIY DURING A PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION OF THE ACCORD ON MAY 22 SAID THAT THE REASON PARLIAMENT DID NOT CURRENTLY HAVE A COPY OF THE FOUNDING ACT IS THAT IS IS BEING "LINGUISTICALLY" SCRUBBED IN BRUSSELS.

6. (C) KOMMERSANT ON MAY 20 CLAIMED THAT YELTSIN HAD SUCCEEDED ON MAY 19 IN CONVINCING THE PARLIAMENTARY

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 LEADERSHIP OF THE WISDOM OF SIGNING THE AGREEMENT WITH I-ATO. THOUGH THE COMMUNISTS REMAIN CRITICAL, THE HEADS OF THE DUMA AND FEDERATION COUNCIL AS WELL AS THE CHAIRMEN OF THE DUMA'S INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE COMMITTEES- LUKIN AND ROKHLIN- - WERE POSITIVE ABOUT THEIR MEETING WITH YELTSIN AND THE AGREEMENT WITH NATO. BOTH LUKIN AND ROKHLIN SUBSEQUENTLY SAID THE AGREEMENT SHOULD BE SIGNED. YELTSIN APPARENTLY EXPECTS PARLIAMENT TO RAISE SOME RESERVATIONS; INDEED HE SEEMS TO BE ENCOURAGING THEM, PERHAPS AS PART OF AN ELEVENTH HOUR BARGAINING STRATEGY OR AT LEAST A REMINDER TO THE WEST THAT EVERYTHING HAS ITS PRICE. HE AND OTHERS HAVE HINTED THAT NOW THAT RUSSIA IS EXPECTING SOMETHING FOR AGREEING TO THE FOUNDING ACT. LUKIN ON MAY 19 TOLD REPORTERS THAT THE AGREEMENT WITH NATO ONLY INCREASED THE NEED TO ADVANCE START III DISCUSSIONS AND HINTED THAT THE US SHOULD SHOW SOME GIVE ON TMD. IN HIS MAY 19 MEETING WITH THE PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS, YELTSIN URGED RATIFICATION OF START II AND CWC.

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 [REDACTED] RUSSIA/BELARUS: THE SHOW MUST GO ON
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7. (C) IN HIS MEETING WITH PARLIAMENTARIANS ON MAY 19, YELTSIN LEFT LITTLE DOUBT THAT AFTER SIX WEEKS OF "PUBLIC DISCUSSION," HE INTENDED TO SIGN THE CHARTER ON RUSSIAN/BELARUSIAN UNION ON MAY 23, SEEING IT AS A GOOD

COVER FOR THE DEAL WITH NATO. LUKASHENKO ARRIVED IN MOSCOW ON MAY 22 TO WORK OUT NUMEROUS LAST MINUTE DETAILS. DESPITE HIS CLAIM LATER IN THE DAY THAT ALL DIFFERENCES HAD

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 BEEN RESOLVED, MOSCOW'S AND MINSK'S VIEWS OF INTEGRATION CONTINUE TO DIVERGE AND THE FINAL CHARTER IS LIKELY TO BE A WATERED - DOWN VERSION.

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ate Printed: 06/16/1997

DOC_NUMBFR: 97STATE097231

CHANNEL: n/a

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(U) BELARUS: MISSING THE BOAT

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(U) RODIONOV VISITS JAPAN ON EVE OF BEING FIRED

12. (U) DURING HIS VISIT TO JAPAN LAST WEEK- -A FIRST FOR A RUSSIAN DEFENSE MINISTER-RODIONOV FOCUSED ON ASIAN SECURITY ISSUES. WITH A BOW TO BOTH HIS HOST COUNTRIES- -HE VISITED JAPAN AFTER TRAVELING TO THE US- -RODIONOV SUGGESTED

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 TRILATERAL COOPERATION AMONG RUSSIA, JAPAN AND THE US TO
 GUARANTEE REGIONAL SECURITY. HE CLAIMED THAT RUSSIA IS NOT
 DISTURBED BY CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND JAPAN,
 ARGUING IN FACT THAT THE US-JAPANESE SECURITY TREATY AND
 THE RECENTLY SIGNED RUSSIAN-CHINESE AGREEMENT PROVE THAT
 COLLECTIVE SECURITY CAN BE BUILT ON THE BASIS OF BILATERAL
 ACCORDS. RODIONOV TOLD THE JAPANESE THAT RUSSIA THIS YEAR
 WOULD REDUCE ITS MILITARY FORCES BY 200,000 MEN AND THIS
 WOULD INCLUDE SERVICEMEN IN THE FAR EAST AND THE KURILES.
 VLADIMIR ZEMA, CHIEF OF THE SOUTH KURILES DISTRICT, TOLD
 JAPANESE REPORTERS MAY 21 THAT THE TWO ARMY UNITS ON
 KUNASHIRI, THE SOUTHERNMOST ISLAND- IN THE KURILE CHAIN,
 WILL BE PULLED OUT BY THE END OF JUNE. THE JAPANESE
 UNDOUBTEDLY REMAIN SKEPTICAL. YELTSIN PLEDGED IN OCTOBER
 1993 TO WITHDRAW RUSSIAN TROOPS FROM THE NORTHERN
 TERRITORIES BUT GAVE NO DEADLINE. DEPUTY FM PANOV LATER
 SAID RUSSIA WOULD EVENTUALLY WITHDRAW ALL ITS FORCES EXCEPT
 BORDER GUARDS. LAST WEEK, RODIONOV HANDED THE JAPANESE
 DOCUMENTS INDICATING THAT MOSCOW HAD REDUCED TROOPS ON THE
 ISLANDS TO 3,500 BUT DID MENTION FURTHER CUTS.

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 (U) RUSSIA/JAPAN: FM IKEDA VISITS MOSCOW
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13. (U) FM IKEDA ARRIVED IN MOSCOW ON MAY 22 AND TO LAY
 THE GROUNDWORK FOR AN EXCHANGE OF PRIME MINISTER VISITS
 BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR AND FOR THE BILATERAL MEETING
 BETWEEN YELTSIN AND PM HASHIMOTO NEXT MONTH IN DENVER. HE
 ALSO INTENDS TO ASK FOR SPECIFICS ON MOSCOW'S "JOINT
 ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES" PROPOSAL FOR THE KURILES WHICH WAS

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 ANNOUNCED DURING PRIMAKOV'S VISIT TO JAPAN LAST NOVEMBER.

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15. (U) THE JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY TOLD ITAR-TASS MAY 17 THAT DESPITE SOME PROGRESS, THE RECENT RUSSO-JAPANESE FISHING TALKS FAILED TO RESOLVE "MAJOR ISSUES." THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT ALLOW JAPANESE FISHERMEN TO APPLY TO RUSSIAN AUTHORITIES FOR PERMISSION TO FISH NEAR ISLANDS TOKYO CONSIDERS JAPANESE TERRITORY WHILE THE RUSSIANS CONTINUE TO INSIST ON THEIR RIGHT TO INSPECT JAPANESE TRAWLERS. A RUSSIAN PATROL BOAT DIRECTED FOUR JAPANESE TRAWLERS TO LEAVE RUSSIAN WATERS ON MAY 22. ANOTHER ROUND OF RUSSIAN/JAPANESE TALKS ARE SCHEDULED FOR JUNE.

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(U) UNSYG VISIT TO MOSCOW

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16. (U) DURING KOFI ANAN'S MAY 14-18 VISIT TO MOSCOW, YELTSIN ENDORSED THE NEW UNSYG'S "ENERGETIC EFFORTS" AT REFORM, BUT STRESSED THAT THE QUESTION OF WHAT AND HOW TO REFORM REMAINS OPEN. ANAN FAVORS CHANGING THE UNSC TO MAKE IT MORE REPRESENTATIVE. MOSCOW HAS ARGUED THAT "DRASTIC CHANGES ARE NOT NEEDED IN THIS DIRECTION." IN A MAY 15 MEETING, CHERNOMYRDIN, PLEDGED THAT MOSCOW WILL MAKE ITS PAYMENTS TO THE UN BUDGET REGARDLESS OF ANY ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES IT EXPERIENCES. THE PREVIOUS WEEK, RUSSIA PAID IN FULL ITS REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION OF \$45 MILLION TO THE UN'S 1997 BUDGET.

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(U) POTPOURRI

17. (C) ARGUMENTY I FAKTY ON MAY 21 REPORTED THE DEFECTION TO THE US OF A HIGH-RANKING RUSSIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, LT. COL. OLEG MOROZOV ... PM CHERNOMYRDIN WILL BE IN UKRAINE ON MAY 28-29 TO PREPARE FOR YELTSIN'S MAY 30-31

VISIT TO KIEV.. ACCORDING TO THE RUSSIAN MFA YELTSIN AND KUCHMA WILL SIGN A POLITICAL STATEMENT AND A LONG-DELAYED FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION TREATY ... CHERNOMYRDIN WILL VISIT CHINA THE SECOND HALF OF JUNE; HE WILL MEET WITH LI

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ate Printed: 06/16/1997

DOC_NUMBER: 97STATE037231

CHANNEL: n/a

PENG, HIS CHINESE COUNTERPART, AND PRESIDENT JIANG ZEMIN. BORIS NEMTSOV, CO-CHAIR OF THE BILATERAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION, WILL ALSO BE IN CHINA IN JUNE ... THEN DEFENSE MINISTER RODIONOV MET ON MAY 19

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WITH VISITING CHINESE MILITARY DELEGATION HEADED BY GENERAL YU YONGBO, MEMBER OF THE PRC MILITARY COMMISSION AND DIRECTOR OF THE PLA'S GENERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT ... ON THE HEELS OF THE RECENT VISIT OF IRAQI DEPUTY FM TARIQ 'AZIZ, KUWAITI DEPUTY FM AL-SHANIN ARRIVED IN MOSCOW ON MAY 20 AND MET WITH PRIMAKOV AND DEPUTY FM POSUVALYUK. ACCORDING TO THE MFA PRESS SPOKESMAN, POSUVALYUK HEWED TO THE STANDARD MOSCOW LINE-URGING THE NEED "TO CLARIFY THE FATE OF MISSING KUWAITI CITIZENS" WHILE POINTING TO "POSITIVE STEPS BY IRAQ TO FULFILL UN RESOLUTIONS; KUWAIT HAS SIGNED A LARGE ARMS DEAL WITH MOSCOW AND HAS OFFERED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MODERNIZATION OF THE PORT OF MURMANSK ... SYRIAN FM AL-SHAHR' ARRIVED IN MOSCOW ON MAY 20 FOR A TWO-DAY VISIT; HE MET WITH PRIMAKOV AND ON MAY 21 TALKED WITH YELTSIN ON THE TELEPHONE; AT A MAY 21 PRESS CONFERENCE, AL-SHAHR' SAID HE HAD RAISED SYRIA'S CONCERN ABOUT TURKISH-ISRAELI MILITARY COOPERATION IN HIS TALKS WITH PRIMAKOV; PRIMAKOV SAID THE TWO SIDES' VIEWS ON THE MEPP WERE "IDENTICAL" ... PRIMAKOV MET WITH EU MIDDLE EAST REPRESENTATIVE MORATINOS ON MAY 20 AND ENDORSED EU EFFORTS TO REACH A SETTLEMENT ... RUSSIAN MINISTER OF INTERIOR KULIKOV WAS IN ISRAEL ON MAY 21-22 DISCUSSING BILATERAL ANTI-CRIME AND TERRORIST AGREEMENTS ... RUSSIA AND ISRAEL REPORTEDLY HAVE AGREED TO COOPERATE ON DEVELOPING AND DELIVERING AN AWACS SYSTEM TO CHINA ... ACCORDING TO ISRAELI MEDIA, RUSSIAN MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OFFICIALS ARE AGAIN THREATENING TO CLOSE THE JEWISH AGENCY IN RUSSIA ... ITALIAN FM DINI ARRIVED IN MOSCOW ON MAY 22 AND IS DUE TO SIGN A \$260 MILLION LINE OF CREDIT TO SUPPORT ITALIAN INVESTMENTS IN RUSSIA ... RUSSIA AND NORTH KOREA SIGNED A CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT ON MAY 21 ... THE CAPTAIN OF THE

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RUSSIAN TRAW

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LER, KAPITAN MAN, DENIED USING A LASER AGAINST
A CANADIAN HELICOPTER ON APRIL 4 . . .

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