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CHINA INTERNAL: STATEMENT BY CONGRESS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES.

SUMMARY

1. AT ITS SESSION ON 6 JUNE, THE NEWLY ELECTED CONGRESS OF PEOPLES' DEPUTIES ISSUED A STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN CHINA, EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT A SOLUTION WILL BE FOUND, BUT EMPHASISING THAT IT IS AN INTERNAL AFFAIR FOR THE CHINESE TO RESOLVE.

DETAIL

2. AFTER AN INTRODUCTORY PREAMBLE, THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT (AS PUT OUT BY TASS) READ AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR UNCONSIDERED, HASTY CONCLUSIONS AND STATEMENTS, WHATEVER THE INTENSITY OF PASSIONS. IT IS OF IMPORTANCE TO LOOK FOR SUCH SOLUTIONS WHICH WOULD BE DETERMINED BY THE AIM OF CONSOLIDATING SOCIETY.

OF COURSE, THE EVENTS HAPPENING IN CHINA ARE AN INTERNAL AFFAIR OF THE COUNTRY.

ANY ATTEMPTS AT PRESSURE FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE. SUCH ATTEMPTS ONLY BLOW UP PASSIONS AND DO NOT PROMOTE STABILISATION OF THE SITUATION IN ANY WAY.

WE HOPE THAT WISDOM, SOUND REASON AND A BALANCED APPROACH WILL PREVAIL AND THAT A WAY OUT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION WILL BE FOUND, A WAY OUT WORTHY OF THE GREAT CHINESE PEOPLE.

WE SINCERELY WISH THAT THE FRIENDLY CHINESE PEOPLE WILL TURN THIS TRAGIC PAGE OF THEIR HISTORY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND GO FURTHER ALONG THE ROAD OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS, ALONG THE ROADS OF BUILDING A STRONG, PEACEFUL AND FREE SOCIALIST CHINA - A GREAT COUNTRY WHICH IS HELD IN RESPECT AND IS SYMPATHISED WITH BY ITS NEIGHBOURS AND BY THE WHOLE OF MANKIND.

COMMENT

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3. THIS IS THE FIRST STATEMENT OF ITS KIND ISSUED BY THE CONGRESS, WHICH CONSTITUTIONALLY IS THE HIGHEST BODY OF STATE IN THE USSR. IT DOES NOT REPRESENT THE FORMAL VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT IS A MEANS OF EXPRESSING THE FIRST SEMI-OFFICIAL SOVIET COMMENT. THE STATEMENT IS CAREFUL TO APPEAR REASONED AND BALANCED. CARE HAS BEEN TAKEN NOT TO APPORTION ANY BLAME, NOR TO SAY ANYTHING WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS INTERFERENCE IN CHINA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. WITH THEIR OWN CURRENT OUTBREAK OF ETHNIC VIOLENCE IN UZBEKISTAN AND THE RECENT EVENTS IN GEORGIA, THE RUSSIANS ARE UNLIKELY TO MAKE ANY COMMENT ON THE HANDLING OF MASS DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH COULD LAY THEMSELVES OPEN TO CRITICISM AND ACCUSATIONS OF DOUBLE STANDARDS. THEY WILL ALSO WISH TO PROTECT THEIR NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH THE P.R.C.

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