

*Recd Mail to Mr Powell No 10*UNCLASSIFIED  
FM MOSCOW  
TO DESKBY 071100Z FCO  
TELNO 206  
OF 071020Z FEBRUARY 90*DS*  
*7/11*

SOVIET UNION: CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM: SPEECH BY MEDVEDEV

1. MEDVEDEV SPOKE AT THE PLENUM MIDWAY THROUGH THE SECOND DAY. WE DO NOT YET HAVE THE TEXT OF HIS SPEECH: THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT (WITH A FEW GRAMMATICAL IMPROVEMENTS) OF A SHORT SUMMARY WHICH HAS APPEARED IN TASS IN ENGLISH BEGINS

- MEDVEDEV DECLARED FOR THE REVISION OF ARTICLE 6 OF THE CONSTITUTION WHICH REGISTERED THE PARTY'S LEADING ROLE IN SOCIETY. HE HOLDS THAT IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE RADICALNESS AND AT THE SAME TIME CONSISTENCY AND CONTROLLABILITY OF REFORMS THERE IS A NEED FOR A FIRM AUTHORITATIVE POWER WHICH IS AT THE SAME TIME DEMOCRATIC AND RESPONSIBLE TO THE PEOPLE. IN THIS CONNECTION HE ATTCHES FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE TO THE PROVISION OF THE DRAFT PLATFORM FOR THE WIDENING POWERS OF THE POWERS OF THE STATE AND INTRODUCTION OF A PRESIDENTIAL FORM OF RULE.

2. MEDVEDEV ALSO GAVE AN INTERVIEW TO REUTERS LATE LAST NIGHT. IN CASE YOU DO NOT HAVE A REPORT OF THIS, THE FOLLOWING ARE THE MAIN POINTS THAT HE MADE.

- THE PLENUM MUST MARK A SHARP TURN IN THE WAY THE PARTY WORKS  
 - HE HAD HEARD ''ALARMIST AS WELL AS SOOTHING'' VIEWS AT THE PLENUM  
 - I BELIEVE A FAR REACHING DOCUMENT WILL BE WORKED OUT THAT WILL PROVIDE FOR RADICAL AND CONSISTENT MEASURES FURTHERING PERESTROIKA  
 - HE DISAGREED WITH THE VIEW EXPRESSED BY SOME SPEAKERS THAT MANY OF THE SOVIET UNION'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WERE THE FAULT OF PERESTROIKA. THIS, HE SAID, WAS A BACKWARD LOOKING VIEW. PERESTROIKA WAS JUST UNCOVERING DIFFICULTIES INHERITED FROM THE PAST  
 - THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST FEW YEARS WAS ALWAYS ABSOLUTLEY RIGHT, OR THAT THERE HAS NOT BEEN MISTAKES. BUT THE MAIN THING WAS TO SOLVE THE UNDERLYING PROBLEMS. ''OUR FUTURE DEPENDS ON THAT.''

LOGAN

YYYY