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SOVIET INTERNAL:
UKRAINIAN PARTY CONGRESS

SUMMARY

1. FORMER UKRAINIAN PARTY 2ND SECRETARY GURENKO REPLACES IVASHKO AS UKRAINIAN PARTY BOSS. UKRAINIAN PARTY CONGRESS BACKS REPUBLICAN SUPREME SOVIET'S PLAN FOR SOVEREIGNTY DECLARATION AND PASSES RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF DONBASS MINERS.

DETAIL

2. THE CONGRESS OF THE UKRAINIAN COMMUNIST PARTY ON 22 JUNE ELECTED A NEW FIRST SECRETARY, STANISLAV GURENKO, FORMERLY THE PARTY SECOND SECRETARY, TO REPLACE IVASHKO. IVASHKO HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE DID NOT INTEND TO COMBINE THE POST OF UKRAINIAN SOVIET CHAIRMAN, TO WHICH HE WAS ELECTED IN EARLY JUNE WITH RUNNING THE PARTY. IVASHKO'S NAME WAS AMONGST THE NINE PUT FORWARD FOR THE PARTY LEADERSHIP, BUT LIKE MOST OF THE NOMINEES IVASHKO DECLINED TO STAND. ONLY TWO CANDIDATES WENT INTO THE BALLOT: GURENKO AND IVAN SALY, A LOCAL PARTY OFFICIAL IN KIEV (CHAIRMAN OF THEPODOLSK RAIKOM) AND SUPPORTER OF THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM IN THE CPSU. GURENKO GOT 80PERCENT OF THE VOTE. GURENKO A MECHANICAL ENGINEER, WHO HAS WORKED IN BOTH DONETSK INDUSTRY AND PARTY TOLD THE CONGRESS THAT HE WAS IN FAVOUR OF PERESTROIKA - BUT AT A PACE ACCEPTABLE TO SOCIETY.

3. THE UKRAINIAN PARTY CONGRESS ADOPTED A RESOLUTION AUTHORISING PARTY MEMBERS TO WORK IN SUPPORT OF A SOEVERIGNTY DECLARATION BY THE REPUBLIC'S SUPREME SOVIET (SUCH A DECLARATION IS EXPECTED SHORTLY). ANOTHER RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE OCNGRESS INSTIGATED BY MINING DELEGATES CRITICISED THE CENTRAL COMMITTEES OF THE CPSU AND THE UKRAINIAN COMMUNIST PARTY FOR INDIFFERENCE OVER THE GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT SATISFACTORILY THE MEASURES AGREED AFTER THE 1989 MINER'S STRIKE.

MOOD OF THE CONGRESS

4. DESPITE SOME PRESS CLAIMS THAT THE RUSSIAN AND UKRAINIAN PARTY CONGRESSES WERE BARELY DISTINGUISHABLE, DEBATE AT THE LATTER SEEMS TO

HAVE BEEN RATHER MORE STORMY. AS AT THE RUSSIAN PARTY CONGRESS THE CPSU LEADERSHIP AND THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT CAME IN FOR A GREAT DEAL OF CRITICISM OVER THE 'CRISIS IN SOCIETY.' THERE WAS ALSO SOME CRITICISM OF THE UKRAINIAN PARTY ITSELF - FOR EXAMPLE OVER ITS RELATIONS WITH THE INFORMAL AND WORKERS MOVEMENTS BUT AN IZVESTIA CORRESPONDENT COMMENTED ON THE FIALURE OF ANY SPEAKER TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY OF THE FAILURES. THE TENSE ATMOSPHERE OF THE MEETING LED TO A LOT OF HECKLING AND UKRAINIAN PARTY SECRETARY GRINTSOV WAS SHOUTED DOWN BEFORE COMPLETING HIS REPORT TO THE CONGRESS. THERE WREE PROPOSALS FOR A SEPARATE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM CONGRESS TO BE HELD AND IT SEEMS THAT THE RADICALS MANAGED TO MAKE THEIR PRESENCE FELT MORE THAN THEIR RUSSIAN COUNTERPARTS DID.

5. LIKE THE RUSSIANS, THE UKRAINIAN PARTY WILL CONTINUE ITS CONGRESS IN JULY AFTER THE CPSU CONGRESS. PRESUMABLY FUNDAMENTAL QUESITONS SUCH AS THE CHANGING ROLE OF THE PARTY AND ITS FUTURE POLICY WILL BE ADDRESSED MORE FULLY

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