Useful Information and Data #12
on Perestroika & the Collapse of the USSR

Terms, People, Institutions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iurii Andropov</td>
<td>Konstantin Chernenko</td>
<td>Mikhail Gorbachev</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Perestroika</em> (Restructuring)</td>
<td><em>Glasnost</em> (Openness)</td>
<td>Democratization</td>
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<td>KGB</td>
<td>Yegor Ligachev</td>
<td>Boris Yeltsin</td>
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<td>Supreme Soviet</td>
<td>Congress of People's Deputies</td>
<td>Nagorno-Karabagh</td>
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<td>August coup (<em>putsch</em>) of 1991</td>
<td>Novo-Ogarevo accords</td>
<td>Belovezhskii meeting</td>
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<td>Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)</td>
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A Basic Chronology:

1985
- March: Gorbachev becomes General Secretary of the Communist Party (CPSU)

1986
- April: Nuclear disaster at Chernobyl (Ukraine)

1987
- Nov: Boris Yeltsin dismissed as Moscow party chief

1988
- June: Televised 19th Party Conference shows divisions within CPSU

1989
- Feb: Ethnic conflict erupts in Nagorno-Karabagh (in Caucasus)
- March: Congress of People's Deputies elected in partly democratic elections
- April: Gorbachev announces plan to withdraw from Afghanistan
- Soviet troops brutally crush Georgian demonstration for independence
- June: Formation of first non-communist government in Poland
- Nov: *Sajudis*, first national movement, forms in Lithuania
- Fall of Berlin Wall

1990
- June: Formation of Communist Party of the Russian Federation
- March: Lithuania declares independence
- June: Russia declares its sovereignty (now Russian "independence day")
- Sept: Yeltsin and his supporters leave the Communist Party
- Oct: Formal reunification of Germany (FRG & GDR)

1991
- Jan: Soviet troops attack TV center in Vilnius, killing 14
- March: Referendum on future structure of USSR (76.4% vote for the union)
- June: Yeltsin elected President of the Russian Federation
- Aug: Completion of negotiations on new union structure (Novo-Ogarevo accord)
- Aug: Attempted coup by conservative communists
- Aug-Sep: Declarations of independence by Estonia, Latvia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, and Azerbaijan
- Nov: Yeltsin ends financing for all-union (Soviet) government institutions
- Nov: Chechnya declares independence as "Ichkeria"; separates from Ingushetia
- Dec: Belovezhskii meeting: Russia, Ukraine & Belarus agree to form CIS
- Eight other former union republics join the new CIS
- Resignation of Gorbachev; formal dissolution of USSR

* Thus of the 15 union republics of the USSR, eleven joined the CIS. Four—the Baltic republics & Georgia—did not.