Useful Info #13
Post-Soviet Russia I: Collapse, 1991-1999

Terms, Concepts, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boris Yeltsin (1931-2007)</th>
<th>Yegor Gaidar</th>
<th>Ruslan Khasbulatov</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gennadii Ziuganov</td>
<td>Privatization</td>
<td>Vouchers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans for shares</td>
<td>Anatolii Chubais</td>
<td>Constitution of 1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Duma (lower house)</td>
<td>Federal Council (upper house)</td>
<td>Vladimir Putin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Excellent Timeline

1991  Dec  Formal termination of the USSR

1992  Jan  Russian gov't introduces economic "shock therapy" (under Yegor Gaidar)
        Feb  Declaration of Russia and US on end of the Cold War
        March  Conclusion of new Federation Treaty in Russia.¹
        Oct  Privatization, part I: vouchers given out to the citizenry
        Dec  Yegor Gaidar forced out of office as prime minister

1993  April  Referendum calls for drafting of new constitution
        Sept  Yeltsin dismisses parliament (Supreme Soviet of RF) & announces new elections
        Oct  Parliament resists, and Yeltsin storms the building (the "White House") forcefully
        Dec  Referendum on new Russian constitution passes
             Elections to new parliament (State Duma)
             Constitution makes all "subjects" (provinces/republics) of Federation equal

1994  Jan  Yelstin's initial core group of reformers resigns
        Feb  Treaty between Russia and Tatarstan.²
        Aug  Completion of withdrawal of Soviet forces from Europe
        Oct  "Black Tuesday": sharp drop in value of Russian ruble
        Dec  Beginning of (first) war with Chechnya

1995  March  Assassination of TV journalist Vlad Listev
        Fall  Privatization, part II: "loans for shares" (massive giveaway of state assets)
        Dec  Elections to Duma, with Communists emerging as largest party

1996  April  Leader of Chechen separatists Djokhar Dudaev is killed in rocket attack
        July  Yelstin defeats Communist G. Ziuganov in presidential run-off elections with 54%
        Aug  Moscow & Chechnya sign Khasaviurt Accords ending war.³

¹ Not signed by Chechnia (+Ingushetiia) and Tatarstan.
² Tatarstan was able to achieve a "special" relationship with this treaty, though many Tatar nationalists felt that the treaty did not get enough.
1996 Nov  Yeltsin signs order for withdrawal of last Russian forces from Chechnya
Quintuple bypass surgery for Yeltsin

1997 Jan  Aslan Maskhadov elected president of factually independent Chechnya

1998 March  Yeltsin dismisses entire cabinet (including Victor Chernomyrdin)
Sergei Kirienko becomes prime minister

Aug  Default of Russian govt on its debts; major financial crisis ensues
Kirienko sacked; Yeltsin attempts to replace him with Chernomyrdin

Sept  Russian parliament rejects Chernomyrdin; Yeltsin offers Yevgenii Primakov
Nov  Assassination of human rights activist Galina Starovoitova

1999 April  NATO begins campaign against Yugoslavia in Kosovo

May  Primakov replaced as prime minister by Sergei Stepashin

summer  Bombing of Moscow apartment building, blamed on Chechen terrorists
Incursions of Chechen separatist forces into Russian territories

Sept  Resumption of full-scale Russian military actions against Chechnya (second war)
Stepashin replaced as prime minister by Vladimir Putin

Dec  Elections to Russian Parliament (Duma)
Communists (25.9%) remain the largest party in Duma
Pro-govt party "Unity" also does well (16.6%)
President Yeltsin resigns; Putin becomes acting President (formally elected in 2000)

Some Statistics on Post-Soviet Russia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Inflation</th>
<th>Life Expectancy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>2591%</td>
<td>1990 (men): 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>840%</td>
<td>1995 (men): 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>215%</td>
<td>1990 (women): 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>131%</td>
<td>1995 (women): 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of enterprises privatized by 1997: 120,000 (responsible for 70% of GDP)
Portion of Russia's food products that is imported (ca. 2004): 35% (50% of meat)
Per capita income in Russia as % of US per capita income:
  1989: 43%
  1995: 10%
Percentage of new elites from the old nomenklatura: 75% (politics), 61% (economics)

---

3 This agreement ended military action, but instead of defining Chechnya's political status stated that this issue would be resolved by 31 December 2001. An engineered referendum was finally held in March, 2003.