

sin to dissolve . . . the Duma! Thus, there is some basis for Yeltsin's wave of the hand, when he says the Duma will not stand in the way of his government's actions. During 1997, the Chubais-Nemtsov economic team implemented a budget curtailment that the Duma had refused to pass.

Overlapping the Duma, however, is an array of protest and resistance movements in Russia, of varying and difficult-to-estimate strength at the moment, but capable of becoming a weighty factor, in the setting of international motion against the financial oligarchy or, in the alternative, during a worldwide plunge into chaos.

There is the new movement to defend the military, officially founded in September by Gen. Lev Rokhlin, chairman of the Duma's Committee on Defense. Most serving officers in the Russian Armed Forces have been careful not to associate themselves with Rokhlin, in the open, but close observers of the officer corps remark that this could change, on the say-so of a handful of top commanders. Rokhlin's movement has called for Yeltsin and the government to resign.

There are the trade unions, whose official leadership has toyed with various plans for a "hot autumn" of protests, yet to materialize. On Oct. 2, RIA-Novosti reported Independent Russian Trade Unions Federation official Andrei Isayev's report, that unions in 13 areas and sectors of industry "are insisting on an indefinite strike." The IRTUF would decide on a nationwide protest action by the end of October, he said.

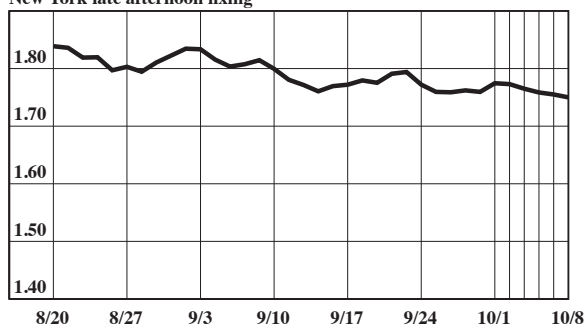
On Sept. 29, there was an effort to consolidate a bloc of 32 opposition political parties, most of which have acted disparately, or at cross-purposes, until now. Nikolai Ryzhkov (the former Soviet prime minister, now head of the People's Power group in the State Duma) chaired the conference, to plan protest actions for the weeks ahead. Present were Communist Party of the Russian Federation leader Zyuganov; Rokhlin, with his Movement in Support of the Army; Duma Deputy Speaker Sergei Baburin, who leads the Russian All-People's Union; and Viktor Anpilov of the communist Workers' Russia group. Russian TV and wires played up the presence of the latter, known as a radical communist, but failed to mention what *Kommersant-daily* did the next day, that the meeting also drew the Congress of Russian Communities (KRO) with its chairman Dmitri Rogozin, Derzhava (State Power) Movement (formerly Aleksandr Rutskoy's) with Viktor Kobelev, Spiritual Heritage with Aleksei Podberyozkin, a section of the Democratic Party of Russia with Sergei Glazyev, the Party of People's Self-Management with Svyatoslav Fyodorov, and Yuri Petrov's Alliance of Realists ("which previously supported Yeltsin," as *Kommersant* noted).

Lastly, there are many influentials in Russian scientific and foreign policy institutions, who will be closely attuned to the worldwide resistance against monetarism which reverberated at the Hongkong IMF-World Bank meeting, and who are capable of realizing that Anatoli Chubais's patrons in London and like quarters, have no clothes.

## Currency Rates

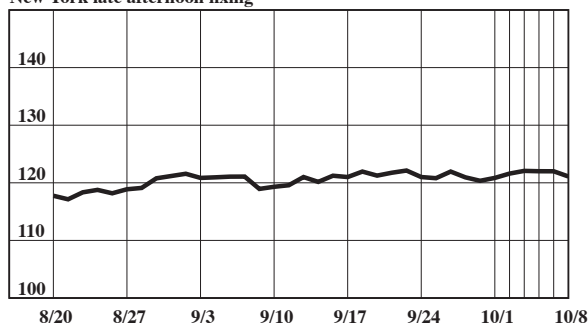
### The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



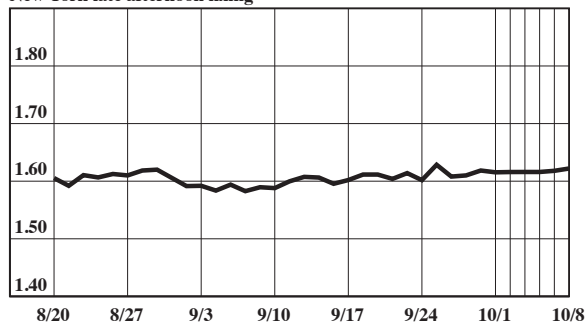
### The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



### The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



### The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

