

## Supreme Soviet ceases Communist Party

MOSCOW - Soviet lawmakers voted Thursday to suspend all activities of the Communist Party in what appeared to be a fatal blow to the once-powerful institution that virtually collapsed after last week's failed coup.

The Supreme Soviet's vote could be a lethal blow to the party, which had 15 million members and made its presence felt in every factory, school and city hall in the nation.

The Supreme Soviet's decision culminated a week of post-coup attacks on the Communist Party for its key role in the takeover.

President Mikhail S. Gorbachev, struggling to revive his central government, resigned as the Communist Party chief last week.

Russian Federation President Boris N. Yeltsin, who has taken the initiative in reshaping the political struc-

ture of the nation, has barred the party from his vast republic and sealed party and KGB archives. The republic's first secretaries have each quit the Politburo or resigned from the party.

Legislators voted 283-29, with 52 abstentions, to suspend the party, which had ruled the nation through fear and intimidation for more than seven decades.

The resolution urged that all evidence from the Soviet prosecutor's probe of official involvement in the coup be turned over to the national Supreme Court, which would then determine whether the party can still operate.

The vote also froze the Communist Party's bank accounts and halts all financial operations by the party.

"I frankly rejoice in that . . . the demise, the fall of the totalitarian non-democratic party," said President

Bush in Kennebunkport, Maine, where he was holding a news conference with visiting British Prime Minister John Major.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union moved closer to splintering apart.

The two richest and most populous Soviet republics, Russia and the Ukraine, Thursday announced formation of a temporary military and economic alliance that appears to leave the Kremlin out in the cold.

The two republics invited other states "of the former U.S.S.R." to join their alliance, striking a serious blow to Mikhail S. Gorbachev's efforts to regain some semblance of the power he wielded before last week's coup.

Thursday's agreement was a victory for Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin, who led the opposition to the Communist-led coup and has since forced Gorbachev into a weaker,

power-sharing role.

It also underscored the diminished stature of such institutions as the national Supreme Soviet legislature, which began Thursday's session by hearing reports on the Russian-Ukrainian accord.

"The results of these negotiations are that . . . the old union does not exist and there can be no return to it," said Leningrad Mayor Anatoly Sobchak, who was sent to Kiev by Gorbachev and the Supreme Soviet to observe the talks.

But the reformist mayor also told lawmakers that he still sees a future role for Soviet institutions such as the national parliament.

"It ought to play a coordinating, an arbitrating role to prevent a misunderstanding from growing into a conflict," he said.

The Supreme Soviet also pressed

on with Gorbachev's post-coup purge on Thursday, voting nearly unanimously to strip ousted speaker Anatoly Lukyanov of his parliamentary immunity so he can be charged in connection with the failed coup.

The chief Soviet prosecutor, Nikolai Trubin, told lawmakers he had evidence Lukyanov was involved in the coup and should be charged with treason.

Trubin then announced his own resignation, accepting responsibility for some of his office's employees who failed to oppose the coup.

Thirteen coup ringleaders, including the seven remaining members of the emergency committee that tried to seize power after interning Gorbachev, were charged Thursday with treason, which is punishable by death.

### U.S., Britain to donate food

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine - The United States and Great Britain announced plans Thursday to extend additional food credits to the disintegrating Soviet Union and to make a hurry-up "lifeline" study of possible Soviet needs for food and medical aid this winter.

For his part, Bush called again on the Soviet leadership to recognize the independence of the Baltic

states and not to "stand against the winds of the inevitable." He said he did not anticipate action on the Baltics by the Supreme Soviet before Monday.

Both Bush and British Prime Minister John Major urged the Soviet Union to press ahead with economic reform, and Major added that the Soviets should "further reduce" their defense spending.

### Larger cell cluster discovered in heterosexual males Brain variation found in homosexuals

WASHINGTON - A cluster of brain cells that may guide the sex drive of men is twice as large in heterosexual males than it is in homosexual males, suggesting that homosexuality could be a matter of biological destiny, a researcher reports.

In microscopic examinations of the brains of 41 men and women, including 19 homosexual men, Simon LeVay of the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, San Diego, Calif., found that a specific cluster of cells was always larger for heterosexual males than the other specimens.

LeVay cautioned that while the evidence demonstrates a strong link between the size of that group of cells and the sexual preference of males, researchers still aren't sure which is cause, which is effect.

But he made clear that, based on his own findings and earlier animal studies, he believes the odds are that there is a strong biological determi-

nant of homosexuality — something long argued by many within the gay community.

His research focused on a cluster in the interstitial nuclei of the anterior hypothalamus, or INAH, which has been identified in animal studies as a principal root of male sexual behavior.

LeVay said he found a difference in a cluster called INAH 3, which is one of four INAH groups of cells.

In the brains of heterosexual men, he said, the INAH 3 is "about the size of a grain of sand." In homosexual men and in women, the structure is "small to vanishing."

The study, to be published Friday in the journal Science, did not include specimens from known homosexual women.

LeVay said the INAH possibly could form normally in homosexual men and then, for some reason, shrink or die in adult life.

But he said that, based on animal studies, "I would put my money on the idea that this is causative and influences behavior."

Dr. Roger Gorski, a UCLA researcher who has specialized in studies on the influence of the brain on sexual behavior, said LeVay's findings are generally consistent with what he has found in research using laboratory rats.

Gorski said that his research has shown that sexual behavior of rats can be manipulated by the influence of hormones before birth.

LeVay and Gorski both said that science does not yet know precisely the function of the INAH that LeVay studied. Studies in monkeys, however, have shown that when the portion of the brain that includes the INAH is destroyed, male monkeys lose sexual interest in females.

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### Subway operator charged for deaths

NEW YORK - A subway operator was charged with manslaughter after his train derailed and crashed into a pillar early Wednesday, killing five passengers and injuring 133, authorities said. Forty-four rescue workers also were injured.

Motorman Robert Ray, 38, was charged with five counts of manslaughter, Police Commissioner Lee Brown said.

Tests showed Ray's blood-alcohol level was 0.21 percent, Brown said at a news conference. The New York state standard for vehicular drunken driving is 0.10 percent.

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### Vukovar fighting continues, cease-fire called elsewhere

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia - The besieged Croatian town of Vukovar was without water and power Thursday after fierce fighting, but the breakaway republic and the federal army agreed to a cease-fire in another strife-torn region.

The republic's television system dropped all regular programming Thursday and began 24-hour coverage of the fighting.

Minor skirmishes between republican forces and Serbian guerrillas were reported overnight in several areas of Croatia.

Radio Zagreb said two Croatian national guardsmen were killed and three injured in fighting around the Serbian-held village of Sunja 40 miles southeast of Zagreb, the republic's capital.

There were conflicting reports from Vukovar, a town on the Danube River border with Serbia where

Croatian forces have been able to repel the Serbs and the Yugoslav army, which has bombarded the city with tanks and warplanes.

The Croatian news agency Hina said battles continued for a fifth day, but Radio Belgrade and the national Tanjug news agency said a tense calm prevailed.

Local mayors from several central and northern towns in Croatia's Dalmatian region on the Adriatic coast signed a cease-fire agreement with local military commanders, Hina reported.

But representatives of the Serbian stronghold of Knin, whose militia controls much of the region, did not sign the agreement, Hina said.

Leaders of Croatia's Serbian minority oppose Croatia's secession.

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The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE. Monday through Friday during the academic year, weekly during summer sessions.

Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Bill Vobejda, 436-9993.

Subscription price is \$50 for one year.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, NE.

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