

September 17, 1991 National Intelligence Daily for Tuesday, 17 September 1991

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Summary:

The CIA's National Intelligence Daily for 17 September 1991 describes the latest developments in the Soviet Union.

Original Language:

English

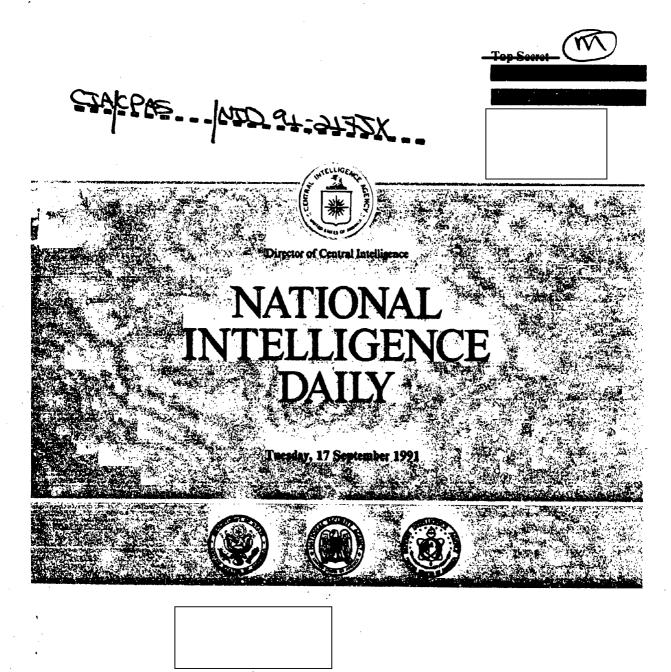
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Kazakh President Wants To Keep Nuclear Arms	On US television yesterday, republic Nazarbayev said he wants nuclear weapons based in Kazakhstan to remain there. On Sunday he said that he could not agree to Russia's having exclusive control of the union nuclear arsenal and that control of such weapons must be a joint responsibility of the republics, central institutions, and a unified military command. Kazakhstan hosts two SS-18 ICBM divisions and a base for the Bear H heavy bomber, as well as 11 storage sites for strategic and tactical nuclear weapons.
	Comment: Nazarbayev probably seeks to retain these weapons—under joint control—as a counterweight to any Russian assertion of military preeminence. The General Staff probably favors leaving at least the ICBM forces in Kazakhstan for now in order not to disrupt the structure and operations of strategic forces.
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