

COMMUNISM TAKES IT ON THE CHIN

Monumental changes take place, and what used to be the Soviet Union brings a whole new look

January 1, 1992, was an extremely historic day. Not only was it the beginning of a new year, the day also marked the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

For more than seventy years, the Soviet Union had been under communist rule. Ever since the days of Lenin and Stalin did relations between the United States and the U.S.S.R. falter. Seventy years of threats to world democracy and revolution came to a sudden end. No longer would the terrifying ideas of the two communist originators be a nuisance to the world.

The breakup was a culmination of many events that took place within the past ten years. For example, the tearing down of the Berlin Wall was an indication that the fall of communism was happening faster than anyone had expected. The Soviet states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania gaining their independence was yet another example of the extreme quickness that the breakup was taking. Even the entrance of a

McDonalds signified that free enterprise was slowly creeping into the Communist system that Lenin and Stalin had built.

To many, this monumental day meant little except that a new year had arrived. But in reality, this

new year's day went down in history as the time when 74 years of communism in the Soviet Union officially came to an end. Also gone were the hammer and sickle, the symbols of Soviet communism; the Soviet Union, which was replaced by the Common-

wealth of Independent States; and Mikhail Gorbachev, the man with the birthmark on his forehead who did much to improve relations between the Soviet Union and the United States.

This change did not come easily. Things became very hectic in the latter months of '91 as an attempt to overthrow Gorbachev was thwarted, and Gorbachev regained his post. But with the economy in ruins and central Soviet powers all but crushed, the Soviet leader handed over his power to Boris Yeltsin. Yeltsin wanted to use his power towards a more democratic republic, but a free-market system led to many economic hardships within the first few months.

In the future, 1991 be remembered as the year that the Soviet Union was changed into a more peaceful, and, hopefully, a better place. An era passed before our eyes, and it may well be one of monumental proportions.

By Benjamin Tolchinsky



At a gathering to protest the coup of Gorbachev, a Russian soldier shows his people that the hammer and sickle no longer are the symbols of peace.

- Designer Apparel Fabric
- Wool
- Linens
- Silk

Fashion Fabrics

Robert A. Kuresman
(513) 791-2395

confetti's

PARTY STORE

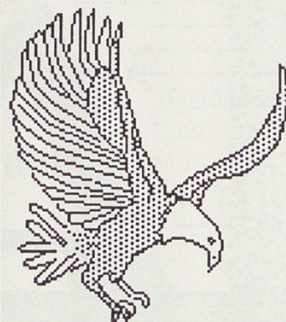
MELLISA FUSSNER

791-8590
7872 Cooper Rd.
(Corner of Cooper and Main)
Montgomery, Ohio 45242

771-FUNN
9621-Cinti. Cols. Rd.
(Rt. 42 at Dimmick)
West Chester, OH 45241

PRESTIGE TRAVEL

PETE HERSHBERGER
9859 MONTGOMERY RD.
CINTI, OH 45249
(513) 793-6586



"Our service is free but... Our advice is priceless"

