

# Rutskoi or Yeltsin – who's in charge?

Western leaders have given their backing to Boris Yeltsin following the dissolution of his rebellious parliament. First indications are that the three most powerful ministries – Security, Interior and Defence – will remain loyal to Yeltsin, who is thought to have alerted the military to his intended action before Tuesday's dramatic events



Alexander Rutskoi

Security Ministry



Interior Ministry

**Viktor Yerin** – loyal to Yeltsin – controls 360,000 MVD troops including the crack **Dzerzhinsky Division** and the black-bereted **OMON** riot control troops



Boris Yeltsin

Defence Ministry

**Pavel Grachev** Yeltsin appointee – reportedly not enthusiastic about Yeltsin's actions but loyal – controls armed forces including the nuclear arsenal, ground forces, navy and air force (3.4 million highly disciplined troops and 5.3 million reserves). Most top-ranking officers support Yeltsin

**Nikolai Golushko** was appointed to head the Security Ministry, the former KGB, by Yeltsin last weekend. He controls 570,000 security personnel including the elite **Alpha troops** (special forces) and **FAPSI**, the communications HQ of the electronic security service

