

THE FIRST DECREES OF "SOVIET POWER"

The purpose of this article is to review in a general way the main historical events that could be considered as the basis for the "Soviet Power" horoscope. The Russian words here translated as "Soviet Power" are the same as the Russian words for "Soviet Authority". The Soviets celebrate the anniversary of "The Great October Socialist Revolution" officially on November 7 although it is usually taken as a two day holiday including November 6 and 7.

Type of Time in Use:

First a few notes on the time used during the revolution. One hour "Daylight Savings Time" was in effect. It had been put into effect by decree of the Provisional Government on July 14, 1917 (Gregorian calendar) and remained in effect until January 5, 1918 at which time it was repealed by a decree of the Council of the Peoples Commissars. In this article all dates are given in the Gregorian calendar (new style) except where noted. The Soviets switched to the new calendar in February of 1918. There is a 13 day difference in the two calendars in the 20th century.

The type of time in use was Local Mean Time of Petrograd, (called Petrograd Civil Time) which at 30E1'19" is very close to the 30° time zone mark. Zone time (using international time zones) was not introduced until May 1, 1919. The clocks in Petrograd were then set back only 1 minute and 19 seconds. See references last page.

The Main Contenders:

The first acts of the new Soviet Authority during and after the overthrow were decrees. These decrees were backed first by the authority of the Military Revolutionary Committee, then by the All Russian Congress of Soviets, and finally by the Council of Peoples Commissars. All three bodies had Bolshevik party majorities in the big city soviets by the time of the October takeover. The decrees that gave each of these organs authority to govern are given in full, as they are the documents that are most often cited as the basis of the Soviet horoscope. The only other events during the critical first days of the

takeover that have been put forward as a possible birth-time was the vote-by the Central Committee of the Bolshevik Party to make preparations for an armed insurrection and also the capture of the Provisional Government cabinet in the Winter Palace. So we have five events that stand out at least in the minds of mundane astrologers. We will go over them in the order of their occurrence.

The Bolsheviks Central Committee vote for an armed insurrection:

The Central Committee of the Bolshevik Party voted on October 23, 1917 (14 days before the actual coup) to "make armed insurrection the order of the day".

Partial Text:

"The Central Committee acknowledges that the international situation as it affects the Russian revolution... as well as the military situation... and the fact that the proletarian party has gained majorities in the soviets - all this coupled with the peasant insurrection and the swing of popular confidence to our party, and finally the obvious preparations for another Kornilovshchina (right wing coup)... makes armed insurrection the order of the day.

Recognizing that an armed insurrection is inevitable and the time fully ripe, the Central Committee instructs all party organizations to be guided accordingly and to consider and decide all practical questions from this standpoint".

This call to arms was adopted by a vote of ten to two, around 6:00 A.M. on October 23, 1917. At this point the Bolsheviks were split over tactics rather than the final objective of seizing power. Most members wanted to align the takeover with the opening of the All Russian Congress of Soviets, which is the way events unfolded. Lenin wanted the uprising immediately, and independent of the All Russian Congress of Soviets. He did not care what political event or organization served as the vehicle of the coup as long as the Bolsheviks controlled it. He was suspicious of the democratic nature of the All Russian Congress of Soviets because it would have inevitably led to a coalition government with a probable Bolshevik minority role. As it turned out the Bolsheviks did not have the military resources, preparedness, or the will to seize power independently. The Bolsheviks had to

work through the Petrograd Soviet and its Military Revolutionary Committee and finally through the All Russia Congress of Soviets. Lenin did eventually get his way of one party rule after the coup had been consolidated.

Decree # 1

The first decree is the proclamation by the MRC (Military Revolutionary Committee) of the Petrograd Soviet that proclaims (for the first time) the demise of the Provisional Government and the ascendancy of the Soviet authority. The proclamation was drafted by Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov (Nikolai Lenin), chairman of the Bolshevik Party. The Bolshevik Party was not the only party involved in the revolution but it had become the majority party of the Petrograd, Moscow and other big city Soviets. The word soviet means council. The big cities, especially Petrograd (the Capitol) and Moscow were traditionally the political power centers of Russia. The Bolshevik majority, which extended to the Military Revolutionary Committee of the Petrograd Soviet gave the Bolshevik's control over those organs. However in the only general election ever held in Russia after the takeover (the vote for delegates to the Constituent Assembly on November 23, 1917) the Bolsheviks only received 25% of 41 million ballots, which was about half of the potential electorate, due to the chaos that prevailed throughout Russia at that time. The convening of the Constituent Assembly was prevented by Red Guard soldiers, loyal to the Bolsheviks, after the first session and within six months all political opposition was outlawed. The following is the proclamation of November 7, announcing that power has passed from the Provisional Government into the hands of the Military Revolutionary Committee of the Petrograd Soviet.

(decree #1)



From the Military Revolutionary Committee of the Petrograd Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies.

To The Citizens of Russia.

The Provisional government has been deposed. The power of state has passed into the hands of the organ of the Petrograd Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies, the Military Revolutionary Committee, which stands at the head of the Petrograd proletariat and garrison.

The cause for which the people have been struggling - the immediate proposing of a democratic peace, the abolition of the landed estate-owners' ownership of land, workers' control of production, the creation of a Soviet government - this cause has been secured.

LONG LIVE THE WORKERS, SOLDIERS, AND PEASANTS,
REVOLUTION!

*The Military Revolutionary Committee of
the Petrograd Soviet of Workers and Soldiers Deputies*

November 7, 1917 10 a.m.

This document is very popular among historians. Almost every account of the takeover features it to some extent. It was the do or die statement for the Bolshevik coup d'état. The takeover of government institutions (telephone, telegraphs, railway stations, etc.) began the night before the November 7, 10:00 A.M. proclamation but during that whole intervening time the Provisional Government could not mount any resistance to the takeover in a city that housed a quarter million supposedly loyal troops. From the standpoint of power the tide had turned. Lenin sensed this, came out of hiding, discarded his wig, and began openly directing the revolt from the headquarters building (the Smolny) of the Petrograd Soviet.

The proclamation was the first decree of the new regime, and the only event of the five in question that occurred on the official anniversary of the revolution. It was widely distributed as a handbill in Petrograd, published in two of the newspapers, sent out over the captured government radio, and sent out by telegraph to all the provincial Soviets. This is an unusual document from an astrological point of view because it is dated with the time of day as well as the date, making it among the earliest verifiable regime charts. It is interesting that Kerensky, the leader of the Provisional Government was fleeing the Capitol in the same hour as the decree was going out "To the Citizens of Russia". Kerensky was able to raise a force of about 700 Cossacks who unsuccessfully tried to retake the Capitol about a week later. After that he went into hiding and eventually made his way out of Russia. The revolt in Petrograd was almost bloodless, however the transfer of power in Moscow took several weeks and cost the lives of about 500 Bolsheviks. A bloody civil war that followed the takeover lasted to the end of 1920.

Eyewitness Account of Decree #1

The following is an eyewitness account of the decision by the Military Revolutionary Committee to proclaim the takeover as an accomplished fact. It is taken with permission from the book "Red October" by Robert V. Daniels.

"At about 9:00 A.M. Commissar Uralov was at the MRC (Military Revolutionary Committee) headquarters in the Smolny building waiting for instructions. In his

created in my imagination, who had to be of powerful stature, with a loud voice, etc. Under this powerful impact of such an unexpected meeting, I was practically stupefied, and froze against the wall. But then something even more surprising happened. Pulling himself away from Bonch (everything happened unbelievable fast), Lenin quickly went



Painting by I. Brodsky. Lenin in Smolny (1930)

over to a plain little table with nothing on it, and several men followed him. Among them as far as I remember, were, I believe Stalin, Kamenev, Sokolnikov, (all riding high in 1923 when Uralov wrote!), and others, in all about seven men. Some of them sat on the windowsill, somebody stood behind Lenin, another opposite rested his knee on a chair. The comrades present in the room did not realize that an historic session was going on here. Going up to the table and quickly sitting down on a plain Viennese chair, Lenin began, as fast as he could without any introduction or forward, to lay down a program of action: "To declare the Provisional Government overthrown", "To declare all power transferred to the Soviets", "To open the Congress of Soviets this evening", "To take the Winter Palace, arrest the ministers, and put them in Peter-Paul", and something else, I don't remember. I remember that these decisions were voted on. But the most important thing about this is that it all happened in the course of around ten or fifteen minutes. Unprecedented swiftness, unanimity, and decisiveness."

Lenin's proclamation was published as a leaflet, "To the Citizens of Russia", at ten o'clock in the morning. It was also sent out over the captured government radio station and telegraphed to all the provincial soviets. Another account has Lenin drafting the proclamation at Bonch-Bruevich's apartment earlier in the morning. Perhaps both are true. He could have worked on a rough draft at the apartment and completed the final draft at the Smolny among his comrades.

Capture of the Provisional Government Cabinet

The capture of cabinet members in the Winter Palace at 2:10 A.M. on November 8th had

more symbolic meaning than military significance. The cabinet ministers had been unable to do anything but send out appeals for help and hope that Kerensky would return with reinforcements. The Palace was defended by a mixed force of about 2000 which included many young cadets and women. Lenin had been extremely anxious to capture the palace which had been surrounded since the morning of November 7th, but preparations for the attack had gone slow and the attack had been delayed several times. There was a reluctance to use force at this point in the revolution and the attempts at persuading the defenders to surrender were very successful with only six reported deaths. Moral and supplies were very low in the Palace and in the end the Bolshevik troops moved in slowly and cautiously captured pockets of resistance until they reached the room where the Provisional Government cabinet was gathered. The cabinet decided to surrender in order to prevent further bloodshed. The ministers were arrested and taken to the Peter and Paul fortress from which they were released several days later.

Decree #6 -The All Russian Congress votes to take Control.

After the fall of the Winter Palace the Second All Russian Congress of Soviets voted to assume the power of government. The decree (#6) was passed almost unanimously by the delegates to the Congress which had convened at 9:00 P.M. on November 7. The vote was taken at 5:00 A.M. on November 8 according to the officially authoritative book "Decrees of the Soviet Authority". See references. The following is the decree (#6) announcing that the All Russian Congress of Soviets had voted to take power into its own hands.

To All Workers, Soldiers and Peasants:

The Second All-Russian Congress of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies has opened. It represents the great majority of the Soviets, including a number of deputies of peasant soviets. The prerogatives of the Central Executive Committee of the compromisers are ended.

Supported by the overwhelming majority of the workers and peasants and basing

itself on the victorious insurrection of the workers and garrison of Petrograd the congress hereby resolves to take governmental power into its own hands.

The Provisional Government is deposed and most of its members are under arrest. The Soviet Authority will at once propose a democratic peace to all nations and an immediate armistice on all fronts. It will safeguard the transfer without compensation of all land - landlord, imperial, and monastery - to the peasants committees; it will defend the soldiers rights, introducing the complete democratization of the army; it will establish workers control over industry; it will insure the convocation of a Constituent Assembly on the date set; it will supply the cities with bread and the villages with articles of first necessity; and it will secure to all nationalities inhabiting Russia the right of self - determination.

The congress resolves that all local authority shall be transferred to the soviets of workers', soldiers', and peasants' deputies which are charged with the task of enforcing revolutionary order.

The congress calls upon the soldiers in the trenches to be watchful and steadfast. The Congress of Soviets is confident that the revolutionary army will know how to defend the revolution against all imperialistic attempts until the new government has concluded a democratic peace which it is proposing directly to all nations.

The new government will take every measure to provide the revolutionary army with all necessities, by means of a determined policy of requisition from and taxation of the propertied classes. Care will be taken to improve the position of the soldiers' families.

The Kornilovites - Kerensky, Kaledin, and others - are endeavoring to lead troops against Petrograd. Several regiments, deceived by Kerensky, have already joined the insurgents.

Soldiers! Resist Kerensky, who is a Kornilovite! Be on guard!

Railwaymen! Stop all echelons sent by Kerensky against Petrograd!

Soldiers, Workers, Employees! The fate of the revolution and democratic peace is in your hands! Long live the Revolution!

The All-Russian Congress of Soviets of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies and Delegates from the Peasants Soviets

The above proclamation #6 was on the front page of Pravda Friday 27, October (O.S.) (N.S. 9, November) 1917. No statement of the hour of its adoption immediately accompanies it. It states that the meeting at which it was adopted began at 10 p.m. Wednesday and lasted until about 6 a.m. (Thursday). Rabinowitch's The Bolsheviks Come to Power. says that this proclamation was adopted at 5 a.m., shortly before the close of that session. See references.

While some authors call this document the ultimate source of Soviet political authority it should be kept in mind that the document itself states that the action taken is "based on the victorious insurrection of the workers and garrison of Petrograd" The point is that while this decree legitimized the new Soviet regime at a higher level than existed before, it merely aggrandized an entity that had already come into being (namely "Soviet Power"). The real base of "Soviet Power" was then and is now the Bolshevik party (later renamed the Communist Party In 1918). Behind the bureaucratic structures of the Soviet Government (which have changed often) lies a small group of party leaders who make the big decisions of the regime that declared itself existent on November 7, 1917. Those decisions have usually been made democratically within that group (often called democratic centralism).

While this decree, legitimized the new regime it also was a political maneuver aimed at placating the opposition and buying time. Almost all of the stated goals were abandoned in response to civil war and foreign invasion and the need to concentrate and rapidly increase industrial development and agriculture production in a now isolated economy. For instance the Constituent Assembly was forcefully terminated after only one day of debate. The peasants farms would become communized. Democratization of

the Army would be a short experiment. Control of the factories became a state responsibility. Self determination of foreign nationalities was never granted. (Rees et al. 1997, Nettle JP, 1967)

A New Government Formed

The last decree considered by some to be important is decree #14 establishing a Provisional Government known as the Council of Peoples Commissars. It was adopted at the end of the second session of the Second All Russian Congress of Soviets which began at 9:00 P.M. on November 8, and ended at 5:15 A.M. on November 9.

Text:

November 8, 1917

The All-Russian Congress of Soviets of Workers', Soldiers', and Peasants' Deputies resolves:

To establish a Provisional Workers' and Peasants' Government, to be known as the Council of Peoples Commissars. to govern the country until the Constituent Assembly is convened. The management of individual branches of state activity is entrusted to commissions whose members shall ensure the fulfillment of the program announced by the Congress, and shall work in close contact with mass organizations of men and women workers, sailors, soldiers, peasants, and office employees. Governmental authority is vested in a collegium of the chairmen of those commissions, i.e. the Council of Peoples Commissars.

Control over the activity of the Peoples Commissars with the right to replace them is vested in the All Russian Congress of Soviets of Workers', Peasants', and Soldiers' Deputies and its Central Executive Committee.

At the present time the committee is constituted as follows:

Chairman of the Council - Vladimir Ulyanov (Lenin)

Peoples Commissar of the Interior - A.I. Rykov;

Agriculture - V.P. Milyutin;

Labor - A.G. Shlyapnikov;

Army and Navy Affairs - A committee consisting of V.A. Ovseyenko (Antonov), N.V. Krylenko and P.Y. Dybenko;
Commerce and Industry - V.P. Nogin;
Education - A.V. Lunacharsky;
Finance - I. Skvortsov (Stepanov);
Foreign Affairs - L.D. Bronstein (Trotsky);
Justice - G.I. Oppokov (Lomov);
Food - I. A. Teodorovich;
Post and Telegraph - N.P. Avilov (Glebov);
Nationalities Affairs - J.V. Jugashvili (Stalin)
Railways _ vacant

There is no English translation of the complete set of decrees of the Soviet Authority. Many of the histories translate the most important decrees. One book that has the main decrees reviewed here (1, 6, and 14) is "First Decrees of the Soviet Power". ^(Akhapkin 1970)

For a complete review of all the decrees of the Soviet Authority there is only one source and that is in Russian. It is the multi-volume book "Decrees of the Soviet Authority". See references.

2. Decree # 2 Titled "The Revolution Has Triumphed" This decree repeats the message of decree #1 and elaborates on the military situation. It was issued the same morning as decree #1 (Nov. 7), but was not widely circulated. It appeared in three newspapers on the 7th and 8th of November.

Text:

"The Revolution Has Triumphed"

All the railway stations, the central telegraph office, the telephone central and the main post office have been occupied. The Winter Palace and the Garrisons Headquarters have been disconnected from the telephone system. The State Bank has been taken. The Winter Palace and Garrison Headquarters and adjacent points are surrounded. The shock

battalions have been scattered. The cadets are paralyzed. The armored cars have come over to the side of the Revolutionary Committee. The Cossacks have refused to obey the Provisional Government. The Provisional Government has been deposed. Power has passed into the hands of the Revolutionary Committee of the Petrograd Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies.

In Petrograd, power is in the hands of the Military - Revolutionary Committee of the Petrograd Soviet. The soldiers and workers who have unanimously risen up in revolt have achieved victory without any bloodshed. Kerensky's government has been deposed. The Committee appeals to those at the front lines, and to those behind the front lines not to yield to any provocation, but to support the Petrograd Soviet, and the new revolutionary authority, which will immediately propose a just peace, transfer of land to the peasants, and convoke the Constitutional Convention.* Power in the provinces has passed into the hands of the Soviets of workers', soldiers' and peasants' deputies.

The Military Revolutionary Committee
of the Petrograd Soviet

* (Translators note: The words which others have translated "Constituent Assembly" mean a constitutional convention.

3. Decree #3 Titled "To Those Behind the Front Lines and Those at the Front Lines" It contains the second paragraph of decree #2 and generally gives the same information as decree # 1 and also appeals to the soldiers to support the Petrograd Soviet and the new revolutionary authority. It was issued the same morning as decree #1 (Nov. 7). It was sent out by telegraph to the whole, country and published in four newspapers on the 7th, 8th, and 9th of November.

4. Decree #4 Titled "Resolution" The resolution was adopted at the session of the Petrograd Soviet begun Nov. 7 at 2:35 P.M. It was based on V.I. Lenin's report to the

meeting on the task facing the Soviet authority. The resolution starts out welcoming the "victorious revolution of the proletariat and the Petrograd garrison". It goes on to promise a unrelenting drive toward the victory of complete socialism. This was the first time Lenin had spoken in public since July and also the only endorsement of the takeover by the Petrograd Soviet at large.

5. Decree #5 Titled "To all Army Committees of the Army in the Field. To All Soviets of Soldiers' Deputies" It begins "The Petrograd garrison and proletariat have overthrown the Kerensky government, which had revolted against the revolution of the people. The coup removing the Provisional Government went through bloodlessly."

"The Petrograd Soviet of Workers and Soldiers Deputies grandly welcomed the coup that was accomplished, and gave recognition to (as effective the creation of a government of the Soviets) the authority of the Military Revolutionary Committee." It goes on to warn the soldiers to "watch the commanding officers vigilantly and not to allow unreliable military units to be sent from the front to Petrograd. It also states the immediate goals of the revolution. It was sent by Huges-O-Gram (a type of printing telegraph) at 8:30 P.M. on November 7 to the Army Committees and Soldiers' Soviets. It was also published in one newspaper on November 8th.

6. Decree #6 The Vote by the All Russian Congress of Soviets to take power into its own hands. Vote taken November 8, 5:00 A.M. It was published in four newspapers on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of November. (See text on page 8.)

7. Decree #7 was a decree by the All Russian Congress of Soviets to abolish the death penalty at the front. Issued early in the second session of the All-Russian congress of Soviets that opened at 9:00 P.M. on November 8.

8. Decree #8 is a resolution to arrest Kerensky and bring him to Petrograd. Issued early in the second session of the All Russian Congress of Soviets that opened at 9:00

P.M. on November 8.

9. Decree #9 was a message "To All Railway Personnel" advising them that the Revolution had won in Petrograd and asking them to continue working. Issued early in the second session of the All Russian Congress of Soviets that opened at 9:00 P.M. on November 8.

10. Decree #10 was a resolution that all power belongs to the Soviets and that the chairmen of the Soviets should communicate directly with the revolutionary Government. Adopted early in the second session of the All Russian Congress of Soviets that opened at 9:00 P.M. on November 8.

11. Decree #11 outlined the Soviets peace proposals for an armistice. It was adopted between 10 and 11 P.M. on November 8 during the second session of the All Russian Congress of Soviets.

12. Decree #12 was about measures to combat counterrevolutionary outbreaks and pogroms. It was adopted November 9 between 1 and 2 A.M. during the second session of the All Russian Congress of Soviets.

13. Decree #13 was the decree about the nationalization of land. It was adopted at 2:00 A.M. on November 9 during the second session of the All Russian Congress of Soviets.

14. Decree #14 was on the formation of a Workers' and Peasants' Government (The Council of Peoples Commissars). Adopted at the end of the second session of the All Russian Congress of Soviets which ended at 5:15 A.M. on November 9. (See text p. 10)

Below is documentation of time changes made before and after the Bolshevik revolution.



**CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**
Leningrad, U.S.S.R.

Dear Mr. Golay:

I believe we have at last obtained the information you requested in your letter of last September 12. It took some time, but this is in part a reflection of the time it often takes to accomplish routine tasks in another society. We had the cooperation of the director of Leningrad's Main Public Library (Saltykova-Schedrina) and the resourceful efforts of one of our Soviet national employees.

Based on documents in the library which contain the decrees of the new Soviet Government after the Revolution, we learned that Daylight Saving Time in Petrograd went into effect beginning July 1, 1917 (July 14, 1917 on the new style--current-calendar) when the clocks were moved forward one hour. It was established by a decree of the Provisional Government of June 27, 1917, "On Installation of the Daylight Saving Time of One Hour Ahead." On December 22, 1917 (January 4, 1918 on the new style calendar), the Council of People's Commissars decreed a return to standard time, "The Decree on Putting Clocks Back," and this was done on December 27, 1917 (January 9, 1918 on the new style calendar).

It was at that time that the Council of People's Commissars announced that the State Committee of the Commissariat of People's Education considered and approved in general outline the plan for shifting to the system of time zones generally accepted abroad. "The February 18, 1919 Decree on Counting Time in the RSFSR in Accordance with the International System of Time Zones" was put into effect July 1, 1919*

As for the letters around the time on the proclamation (this was the easy part of your request!), they mean the following:

r = "God" or "year" in Russian
y = "chas" or "hour" in Russian
Ytpa = "utra" or "morning" in Russian

The full translation of that portion of the inscription thus is "25 October of the year 1917, at 10 O'Clock in the morning."

If you have further questions relating to your interesting project, don't hesitate to let us know. Now that we have engaged the library director in this effort, it should be much quicker and easier to assist you.

Sincerely yours,
Charles T. Magee
Consul General
March 5, 1985

*Authors note: some dates vary slightly, depending on the source.

Consul Magee's conclusions were confirmed by research provided by Solomon Ioffe, a Russian émigré, living in Seattle, Washington, employed by the author to search the historical time-change records and newspapers at the time of the "Great October Socialist Revolution" the official name of the October or Bolshevik revolution. He reported the following.

DECREE OF A SHIFT OF THE CLOCK'S HAND

By a decree of the coalition (Provisional) government it was arranged to introduce, beginning 1 July, summer reckoning of time [=DST, Daylight Saving Time] by shifting the hour hand on. hour forward. The present decree prescribes a return to the ordinary reckoning of time.

At a certain moment, namely the 27th of this [present] December (footnote: In Collected Legislation 27th of December 1917') at 12 o'clock midnight Petrograd time as changed since 1 July, the readings of all clocks, simultaneously throughout all Russia, are to be corrected by shifting the hour hand one hour back. Thus, at that moment the clocks that are on Petrograd time should show 11 p.m. actual Petrograd civil time.

Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars V. Ulyanov (Lenin).

Manager of the Council of People's Commissars Bonch-Bruyevich.

Secretary of the Council of People's Commissars N. Gorbunov.

22 December 1917.

With these dates known, it was not too hard to find that Pravda of Saturday 5 January 1918 (New Style) (Old Style 23 December 1917)*, which is numbered "222 (153)", has on page 3 the following article* under the rubric "Actions of the Government"*:

SHIFT OF THE CLOCK'S HAND

There is published a decree to switch to the ordinary counting of time.

The readings of all clocks are to be corrected by shifting the hour hand one hour backward on 27 December at midnight, simultaneously throughout all Russia.

Concerning the shift to standard Zone time:

V. A. Rossovskaya's Time and its Measurement, State Publishing House ['Standardization and Technological Improvement], Leningrad and Moscow, 1933, says the following about the introduction of standard time, on page 34 in chapter 2:

The first to go over to the new reckoning were our seafarers, starting 1 May 1919, and after them the railroads. Before the reform, railroad time was reckoned according to Leningrad time. With the introduction of standard time [worldwide time], the clocks of Leningrad were shifted only **1 minute 19 seconds**. Since the 30th meridian goes through the Gulf of Finland on the west side of Leningrad, Leningrad's clocks before the introduction of standard time must have been ahead of standard time.

References:

Akhapkin Y (1970) First Decrees of the Soviet Power (November-1917 to July-1918) published by Lawrence & Wishart, London. 186 pp.

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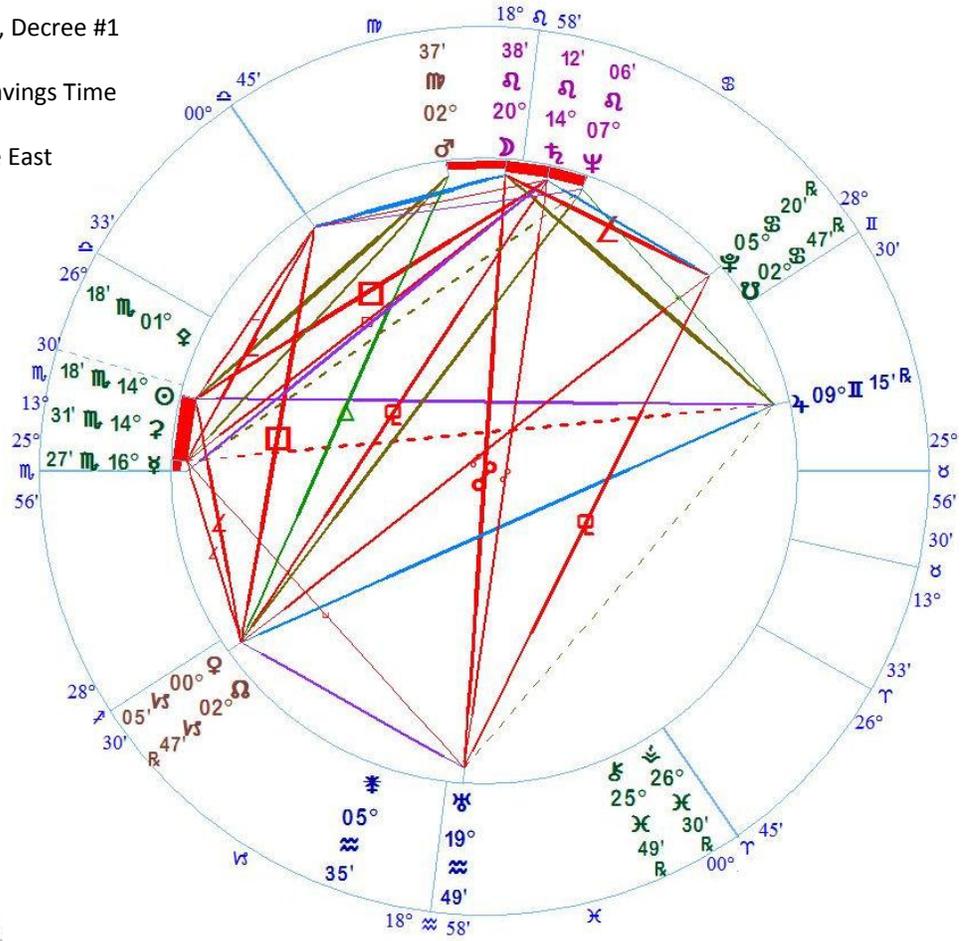
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Nettle JP (1967) *The Soviet Achievement*, Jarrold and sons, LTD Norwich, Great Britain

Rabinowitch A. (2007) *The Bolsheviks in Power: The First Year of Bolshevik Rule in Petrograd*, Indiana University Press, 494 pp.

Rees J, Service R, Farber S, Blackburn R (1997) *In Defense of October, A debate on the Russian Revolution*, Bookmarks Publications Ltd. London, England, 137 pp.

"Soviet Power" chart, Decree #1
 November 7, 1917
 10:00 AM Daylight Savings Time
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 zone 2 hours 1minute East



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