

to look deserted. Stores closed. A chill, gray autumn drizzle was falling. Red Guard patrols appeared on all the streets.

But the counter-revolutionary forces were not idle either. "Stolid, merchant" Moscow, the home of the "calico kings," the Ryabushinskys, Guchkovs and Konovalovs, had long been counterpoised to stormy, revolutionary Petrograd. The Provisional Government had been preparing to transfer its seat to Moscow, which was also comparatively near the Don Region, from which Cossack help was expected. Kerensky had made several attempts to bring Cossacks from the Don Region to Moscow, but with no success. Every attempt was invariably met with a wave of protest and had to be abandoned. But toward the end of October the counter-revolutionaries made more resolute attempts to reinforce Moscow.

THE FORCES OF THE COUNTER-REVOLUTION RALLY

As has now been established from the documents of General Headquarters and the Staff Headquarters of the Moscow Military Area, Ryabtsev, with the help of General Headquarters, began to rally the forces of the counter-revolution. Apparently the camp of the counter-revolution knew of Lenin's letter proposing that the uprising be begun in Moscow rather than in Petrograd, and with this in view hastened to take a number of measures. As early as October 20, that is, the day after Zinoviev and Kamenev in a letter to the bourgeois press had divulged the decision of the Bolsheviks to begin the uprising, the following telegram had been sent from the Headquarters of the Moscow Military Area to General Headquarters in Moghilev:

"The adoption by the Bolshevik Soviet of a resolution on the immediate seizure of the factories and hence an expected decree on the seizure of state and public institutions is a matter of the next few days or perhaps even this very day. We are informed that Moscow is to be the center of the uprising. I have sufficient forces at my disposal to maintain order in Moscow [several words indecipherable—I.M.] . . . for the Area, in many places of which similar risings have been scheduled. Your assistance may be necessary, chiefly in the way of cavalry and horse artillery, and I have already informed the Minister of War of this. Acting Commander, Colonel Kravchuk."

General Dukhonin, Commander-in-Chief of the Army, made the following memorandum on this telegram:

"At least a Brigade, if not a whole Division, including horse artillery, must be made ready to start out."

As was subsequently revealed, the horse artillery was to arrive in Moscow on October 28, while the entire Brigade was expected in Moscow not later than the 30th.

But events succeeded each other in Moscow at such a pace that it was impossible to wait. The news of the fall of the Winter Palace and Kerensky's flight was received from Petrograd. No more news came in from General Headquarters during these days. Moscow was already rising, and the available forces were obviously insufficient to cope with the situation. Ryabtsev could not depend on the troops: they supported the Bolsheviks, and the most Ryabtsev had managed to do was to disarm the garrison. The counter-revolutionary forces in Moscow consisted principally of Junkers and officers. There were two military schools in Moscow, six officers' training schools and a number of Cadet Corps, the senior classes of