DUAL AUTHORITY AND THE RISE OF THE BOLSHEVIKS
PROLOGUE

☐ ABDICATION NICHOLAS II MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENT OF THE FEBRUARY REVOLUTION

☐ TWO NEW POLITICAL BODIES FORMED ON 28 FEBRUARY:
  ☐ PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT (OFFICIAL AUTHORITY WITH FORMAL POWER)
  ☐ PETROGRAD SOVIET (GENUINE POWER IN THE EYES OF PUBLIC)

☐ RUSSIA ENTERS A PERIOD OF DUAL GOVERNMENT
DUAL GOVERNMENT OPERATES IN TWO PHASES:

- PHASE ONE FEBRUARY–APRIL: TWO BODIES WORK TOGETHER WITH SUPPORT OF REVOLUTIONARY PARTIES.

- PHASE TWO: LENIN’S RETURN ON APRIL 3, WHEN HE LAUNCHES A RIVALRY CAMPAIGN THAT SEPARATES THE SOVIET AND BOLSHEVIK PARTY FROM THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

- LENIN’S RETURN INFUSES A MARXIST MINDSET INTO THE BOLSHEVIK PARTY.

- FAILED REVOLT IN JULY SIGNALS DESTRUCTION OF BOLSHEVIKS, BUT KORNILOV’S MARCH ON PETROGRAD REINVENTED THE BOLSHEVIKS.
PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT: AUTHORITY WITHOUT POWER

- Rodzianko forms provisional government, members were those elected to the Fourth Duma in 1912 (Prince Lvov appointed PM)

- Key policies formed on same day, implemented immediately
  - Full amnesty of political/religious prisoners
  - Freedom of speech
  - Freedom of press
  - Freedom to strike and assemble in unions
  - Abolition of class, religious and national restrictions
  - Preparations to elect a constituent assembly
  - Replace Tsarist police with People's Militia
  - Election local councils
  - Military troops who fought on side of revolution, now permanent defenders of Petrograd
PETROGRAD SOVIET: POWER WITHOUT AUTHORITY

- 28 February 600 soldiers/ workers officially form the Petrograd Soviet of workers and soldier’s deputies.
- A Menshevik was elected its first chairman
- Influence derived from control of railways, army, communications, employers/ employees
- Over 3000 deputies regularly meet to debate progress of the revolution.
SOVIET ORDER #1

A day after the formation of the Petrograd Soviet it publishes the following demands, which limited the power of the Provisional Government:

- Every military unit to elect a representative to attend the Soviet
- All political activity is subordinate to the Soviet
- Military orders given by the Provisional Government shall only be executed where they do not conflict with those given by the Soviet
FAILURES:

1. **Failure 1:** New government formed from rebellious group. They were not elected by the masses—did not have widespread support.

2. **Failure 2:** Continued involvement in WW1. Economically, nation was bankrupt. Socially people want peace. Provisional government maintains commitment to not lose potential reparations.

3. **Failure 3:** June Offensive. Kerensky (Minister of War) plans offensive to boost morale—He is supported by Petrograd Soviet. Short lived success.
FAILURE 4: FOCUS ON WAR MEANS INTERNAL PROBLEMS NOT ADDRESSED: LACK OF FOOD/ FUEL, INFLATION.

FAILURE 5: ALIENATION OF UPPER AND WORKING CLASSES. POLICIES WERE AIMED AT PLEASING UPPER CLASS, WHILE OTHERS Sought WORKING CLASS SUPPORT OF SOVIET- IN TURN BOTH WERE ALIENATED.
RISE OF THE BOLSHEVIKS


2. Provisional Government Policy of ‘Release Political Prisoners’ Allows for Return of Those Exiled

3. Germans Hope that Revolutionaries Would Inspire Revolt, Forcing Russia Out of the War

4. Lenin Returns with Help from Germany, Arrives at Finland Station 3 April.

5. Lenin Changes Bolshevik Party Direction from Supporting the Provisional Government, to Seeking Exclusive Power


7. Lenin’s Impromptu Speech at Finland Station “Thunder-Like”. His Slogans of “Peace, Land, Bread” and “Power to the Soviets” Become His Political Platform in Which to Gain Popularity.
RISE OF THE BOLSHEVIKS

- 2. JULY DAYS: LATE JUNE COUNTRY COLLAPSING SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY.
- INADEQUACY OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT MAGNIFIED- STREET DEMONSTRATIONS A DAILY OCCURRENCE SINCE FEBRUARY.
- PROTESTS IN JULY BEGIN TO DIRECTLY CHALLENGE THE FUTURE AND AUTHORITY OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT. BOLSHEVIK PARTY BLAMED FOR THESE DISTURBANCES.
- TROTSKY ARGUES THAT PROTESTS INITIATED BY SOCIAL REVOLUTIONARIES AND MENSHEVIKS. LENIN FLEES TO FINLAND. TROTSKY AND KAMENEV FACE PRISON.
- THOUGH A POINT OF SUCCESS FOR THE GOVERNMENT, THE EVENT WAS ALSO A TURNING POINT FOR THE BOLSHEVIKS.
  - 1. BOLSHEVIKS SURVIVED
  - 2. LENIN RECRUITS TROTSKY
  - 3. TROTSKY USES FAILURE OF JULY DAYS TO DEVELOP EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES- LATER IMPLEMENTED IN OCTOBER REVOLUTION.
3. Kornilov Revolt: Kerensky post July Days went on the offensive, arresting Bolshevik leaders, banning the Pravda (newspaper), however, its weak handling of the Kornilov affair enables Bolsheviks to recover.

Kornilov appointed Commander in Chief of Russian Army. Threatened by the advancing German army, Kornilov warns Kerensky of need to defend Petrograd.

Kornilov marches troops to Petrograd- Kerensky fears an overthrow by Kornilov and declares him a traitor.

Kerensky orders Bolshevik release from prison, arms them with weapons.

Trotsky forms, arms and trains the Red Guard from 40,000 radical workers- who are then credited with saving Petrograd from a Tsarist General.
RISE OF THE BOLSHEVIKS

4. GROWTH IN POLITICAL SUPPORT: FROM THE DEFEAT OF THE KORNILOV, BOLSHEVIK SUPPORT GROWS RAPIDLY.

POSSIBLE REASONS:

1. BOLSHEVIKS PROMOTE THEMSELVES AS TRUE REVOLUTIONARIES - DID NOT CO-OPERATE WITH THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

2. GAIN MAJORITY IN THE PETROGRAD AND MOSCOW SOVIETS

3. TROTSKY ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF PETROGRAD SOVIET