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# Senior Executive Intelligence Brief

The SEIB must be returned to CIA within 5 working days



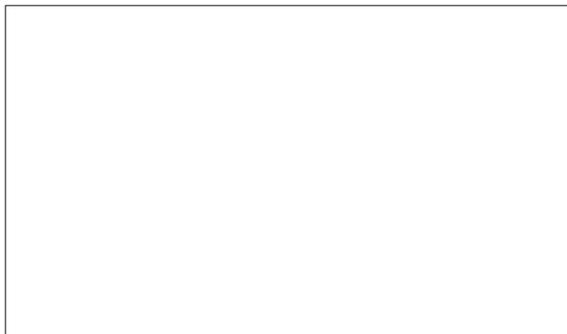
**Tuesday, 26 September 2000**

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## Leading Development

**FRY:**  
*Analytic Perspective*

### Milosevic Facing Tough Choices

President Milosevic has no good options for staying in power, and the scheduled announcement today of the official results will indicate what path he intends to take. In previous political crises, such as in 1996-97, he has played for time without a clear plan of action and has been reluctant to use force.

— This crisis is different because his political, and possibly personal, survival is at stake.

### Tough It Out

Milosevic might claim victory and try to ride out the consequences.

— By claiming victory, however, Milosevic would spark large, possibly violent, demonstrations, and the loyalty of the security forces is uncertain.

### Go to Second Round

Under this option—already hinted at by some official statements—the electoral commission would announce that Milosevic led with a plurality but that no candidate got a majority. This would require a runoff in two weeks.

— From Milosevic's point of view, the advantages of this approach are that it buys him some time to engineer the result he wants.

The problem with a second round is that, as a result of the voting on Sunday, most of the main political forces in the FRY are coalescing behind opposition leader Kostunica.

— Serbian Renewal Movement leader Draskovic is urging supporters to back Kostunica, according to press reports

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- Serbian Radical Party leader Seseelj, a member of the ruling coalition who sees himself as a kingmaker, has been signaling that he will switch sides, and even Milosevic's own party is riven with divisions. [redacted]

**Strike a Deal** [redacted]

Milosevic might come to an agreement with Kostunica, recognizing the latter's victory on condition that Milosevic be allowed to serve out the remainder of his term, which runs until next July. Milosevic would use the time to undermine Kostunica and to prepare for a bid to return to power, perhaps by running for the presidency of Serbia in 2002.

- Because Milosevic's aura of invincibility has been shattered and he has few political allies, he might not succeed in rigging Serbia's presidential election.
- Kostunica, who seems unwilling to consider such a deal, yesterday declared that Milosevic would have to give up the presidency 15 days after the announcement of the official results. [redacted]

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