

U.S. Widens Net to Impose Sanctions on More Russians

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U.S. President Barack Obama announced Thursday that Washington is imposing sanctions on an additional <u>20 Russians</u> over the part played by Moscow in the Ukraine crisis.

The new list includes President Vladimir Putin's chief of staff, Sergei Ivanov, State Duma Speaker Sergei Naryshkin, and a number of other prominent Russian politicians.

Russian Railways chief Vladimir Yakunin and tycoon brothers Arkady and Boris Rotenberg were also on the list, as was Bank Rossiya.

Obama concluded by reminding Russia that there is still time to pursue a diplomatic solution to the situation in Ukraine and urged Putin to respect the territorial integrity of Ukraine.

On Monday, the U.S. placed sanctions on seven Russian officials and four Ukrainian officials, though it was widely felt that the measures would have little impact on Putin's calculations.

Russia's Foreign Ministry retaliated almost immediately by levying sanctions on Senator John

McCain, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reed, House Speaker John Boehner, and Chairman of Senate Foreign Relations Committee Robert Menendez.
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