

Molotov, 2 Others Lose State Posts

MOSCOW, July 4—Less than 24 hours after they were ousted from the Presidium of the Communist Party, of the Soviet Union charged with anti-party activities, Vyacheslav M. Molotov, Georgi M. Malenkov and Lazar M. Kaganovich were removed from their top government posts.

Their release from the cabinet came in a decree of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, the interim steering committee of the parliament of the USSR.

The decree made no mention of Deputy Premiers M. Z. Saburov and M. G. Pervukhin, who also were removed from membership in the party's Central Committee Presidium and the Central Committee itself, as were the others. All remained, however, as members of the party.

Molotov was ousted both from his post as first deputy premier and his assignment as minister of state control, supervising government operations.

Kaganovich, also a first deputy premier, had no departmental assignment of cabinet status.

Malenkov, a deputy premier, lost both that post and his post of minister of electric power stations, which he had held since he was removed as premier in 1955. To replace the former secretary of Joseph Stalin as electric power stations minister, the Supreme Soviet Presidium appointed Alexe Sergeevitch Pavlenko.

Pavlenko thus was back in his old post from which he had been removed when Malenkov was installed, becoming a deputy then and shortly afterward, first deputy under Malenkov in the power ministry.

Also losing his alternate membership in the presidium of the party's central committee because he "joined" the "anti-party" group was Dmitri Shepilov, who was recently replaced by Andrei Gromyko as Foreign Minister. He also was removed as one of the party secretaries.

No statement was forthcoming from Molotov, Malenkov, Kaganovich or Shepilov, nor were their immediate whereabouts known by correspondents.

Foreign observers in Moscow attributed the ousters to the resolution of a struggle within the party leadership culminating in a clear-cut victory for liberalization policies at home and abroad of Communist Party leader Nikita S. Khrushchev.

A 3,500-word Communist party

resolution accused the deposed men of attempts to restore "methods of leadership that were condemned by the Twentieth Party Congress." The three ousted Presidium members had been associated in the public mind with Stalin's leadership.

They were alleged to have tried to organize an anti-party faction to achieve their aims. The action was taken during an eight-day meeting of the Central Committee which ended June 29. The committee's resolution was released Wednesday night.

While Pervukhin lost his membership in the Presidium, he was given the status of alternate member. He had succeeded Saburov as planning chief last December.

The party resolution failed to specify any charge against Saburov, a 56-year-old first deputy premier, and while he was dropped from the Presidium, he apparently retained his Central Committee membership.

In the shakeup, Marshal Georgi Zhukov, the Soviet Union's Defense Minister, was promoted to full membership in the Presidium, becoming the first professional soldier so honored.

Other Central Committee actions:

Mrs. Ekaterina Furtseva, chairman of the Moscow District Party, also promoted to full membership, becomes the first woman to achieve such high rank.

Joining the Presidium also was N. G. Ignatov, former Interior Minister under the executed chief of the secret police, Laventi P. Beria. Ignatov was recalled from his recent duties in the Bashkirian Republic in Central Asia.

O. W. Kuusinen also becomes a full member. He headed the dissolved Karelo-Finnish Republic, and was head of the Communist International when it was dissolved in 1943.

The policies Molotov and the others were accused of opposing were:

—Resumption of friendship with Yugoslavia.

—Normalization of relations with Japan.

—Meetings between Eastern and Western leaders at Geneva.

—The disarmament negotiations.

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SOVIETS

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... and adventurists."

Radio Moscow also announced that Soviet Communist Party leader Nikita Khrushchev and Premier Nikolai Bulganin will travel to Czechoslovakia next Monday on an official visit. They will be accompanied by Gen. Ivan Serov, chief of the Soviet security forces.

Meanwhile, Anastas Mikoyan, a top member of the leadership of the Soviet Communist Party, said at a U.S. Embassy Fourth of July reception that Moscow's policy will "be the same as before only better" now that the "anti-party group" has been purged.

A newsman asked him what Soviet policy would be from now on, and he replied: "Things are going to be the same as before, only better."

The correspondent asked for clarification on whether there would be any changes.

"Why changes?" Mikoyan exclaimed. "They (Molotov, Kaganovich and Malenkov) were the ones who wanted changes. And they were in the minority and we were in the majority."