

Stalin Dies, Reds Hint Malenkov In

Hint Malenkov In Soviet Radio Tells of End

Heir to Stalin—! Georgi M. Malenkov

(Speculation about the successor to Josef Stalin centers mostly on three men—Malenkov, Molotov and Beria. The following is the first of a series of detailed biographical profiles of these top contenders for the post of dictator of all the Russians.)

There is good reason to believe the next ruler of Soviet Russia may hate, distrust and misunderstand the Western world even more than Stalin did. Especially if the new Russian boss is Georgi Maximilianovich Malenkov, the chubby, soft-faced, beetle-browed man regarded as one of the likeliest to succeed to power in the Kremlin.



GEORGI M. MALENKOV Trained by Stalin

Unlike Stalin, who was the great molder of the Soviet dictatorship Lenin created, Malenkov is one of its products. Stalin made the die. Malenkov was shaped by it.

Stalin's years bridged well into the pre-Communist world. But Malenkov, who is only 51, has known nothing else since early adolescence.

All his adult life, Malenkov has been a Communist surrounded by other Communists. From Soviet diplomats, agents and the Communist press, Malenkov has perforce formed his picture of Western civilization, of democracy and freedom and mankind's forward step and backward steps outside of Russia.

Stalin's manhood spanned a number of years before Russian communism began to rewrite the Russian history books. Malenkov was only a boy when this began. For all of his mature years, his vision has been narrowed by ideological blinders.

Formed in Rigid Mold Since he was a boy, Malenkov has been formed by the rigid Red mold of materialism, class struggle and the notion that the end justifies the means.

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His only trip away from the U.S.S.R. was a visit to Warsaw in 1947 to help organize the Cominform. Ideologically, that was a short walk to a Moscow suburb.

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The few foreign diplomats who have talked with him, have come away with one overriding impression: Malenkov hates the western world.

They also received impressions of a dark, sinister personal quality. "I would hate to meet Malenkov in a dark alley at night," one former diplomat has said. "His voice has the toneless quality of one who lives underground."

As a secretary of the Communist Party Central Committee, a member of the Politburo and the Orgburo (the Party's organizational bureau), Malenkov is rated as the top contender for Stalin's mantle. Only Stalin also sat in on all three groups. Malenkov also is one of the 14 deputy premiers of the Council of Ministers, the supreme state body normally presided over by Stalin.

If Malenkov has any individual will, it is in control but that there is a genuine feeling of fear at the top levels.

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This in itself seems significant. The Communist Party runs the government, and as far as Westerners have been able to make out, the Party is ruled by Georgi Malenkov, Stalin's ambitious shadow.

The public was urged to ponder the full significance of the fact that the grave illness of Comrade Stalin will involve his more or less prolonged non-participation in leading activity.

No 'Little Father' What does this mean? It means that the Soviet people face these facts: 1. The Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party is without its chairman.

2. The Council of Ministers is without its prime minister. 3. The army is without its generalissimo. 4. The Russian people are without the "little father" they seem to need in the Kremlin.

Whether Stalin was actually dead when these statements were made becomes a more or less academic question. The point is that the Soviet people suddenly became aware that they were without a supreme, infallible head of state.

Pravda Quote An Indication Of Successor

By W. A. RYSER Of the United Press

London, March 6 (Friday) (UP).—There were strong indications today that the successor to Josef Stalin as leader of the 800,000,000 persons under Communist domination would be Georgi Malenkov.

The hint that Malenkov, 51-year-old secretary of the Communist Party—the post once held by Stalin himself—came in the Soviet Party's first political statement on Stalin's illness. It was published as a front page editorial in the official organ, Pravda, yesterday.

Blueprints which determine "the prospects and ways of our progress," it said, "are based on the laws of the national economy, on the science of the Communist society structure, which have been evolved by Comrade Stalin."

One of Three The pronouncement was attributed to Malenkov, bracketing him with Stalin and Lenin, the father of communism, as the only three men mentioned by name.

However, hidden behind the anonymity of the 12-man Central Committee, the Council of Ministers and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet were other contenders.

Primary among these were Lavrenti Beria, chief of the dreaded NKVD (secret police), and V. M. Molotov, senior deputy premier and one of the few remaining long-time cronies of Stalin. It was believed Molotov would sit at the head of the Council of Ministers, at least temporarily.

No 'Butcher' Beria, 53, short, squat, bald and bulletheaded, has proved himself a ruthless super police boss. His 10 security divisions are known as "Beria's Butchers" and there are at least 10,000,000 prisoners in Soviet slave labor camps who have tasted his methods.

Beria is violently anti-American. Only last October, Beria, who also directs the Soviet's atomic energy program, charged the United States is pushing the world's peoples "into the abyss of a world war."

Molotov's name was once a household word through the world, but little has been heard of him since 1949, when Stalin "released" him from his position as Soviet Foreign minister, and he apparently dropped from second to third place in the Kremlin hierarchy.

Mention Seems Significant The mention of Malenkov, secretary of the Party and a highly regarded prospect for Stalin's mantle, seemed significant to those familiar with Soviet indirection and innuendo.

The forward-looking policy of which he spoke at the 19th Congress of the Party in Moscow last October was one of peaceful co-existence with the capitalist world, on the theory that capitalism finally would fall apart on its own.

The statement dwelt throughout with the identity of interests of the Party and the Russian people. It urged the people to complete unity in a common front under the Party leadership, that they might go ahead to the triumph of communism which was the goal Stalin had set.

Intentions Indicated The passage of the statement that seemed to furnish the clearest view of Communist—and, by Party definition, Russian—intentions ran: "The new work of genius by Stalin, 'Economic Problems of Socialism in the U.S.S.R.' his historic speech at the 19th Congress, and the decisions of the congress have inspired the Soviet people to heroic deeds in the labor."

"Armed with the majestic and clear prospects of a further victorious Communist union, the political and labor upsurge grows and expands throughout the country."

"The Soviet people do not spare strength and labor for fulfilling of the great creative plans of the Communist Party."

Malenkov Report Cited "These plans determine the prospects and ways of our progress, said Comrade Malenkov in his report at the 19th congress. They are based on laws of the national economy, on the science of the Communist society structure which have been evolved by Comrade Stalin."

At the outset the statement said the power of the Party lay in "its close ties with millions of workers masses, in its inseparable unity with the people."

"That was the keynote, and the statement expressed again and again the past and hoped-for unity of the Party and the people. It quoted Lenin as saying the Bolsheviks never could have retained power "without the fullest and most selfless support by the entire mass of the working class."

Soviet Radio Tells of End

By the Associated Press

London, March 6 (Friday).—Josef Stalin died last night behind the 12-foot-thick walls of Moscow's Kremlin. He dominated a third of the world's peoples as the most powerful dictator in history.

The prime minister of the Soviet Union and the supreme chief of the Communist Party succumbed at 9:50 p. m. (12:50 p. m. CST), four days after suffering a brain hemorrhage (stroke).

He had been in coma since he was stricken Sunday night, and his condition grew progressively worse. Yesterday his 10 physicians said his heart was failing.

The announcement of his death was broadcast from Moscow at 4:07 a. m. Moscow time today—more than six hours after his doctors had given up their struggle.

There was no immediate indication from Moscow who was taking over control of the country, but the announcement was issued in the name of the Communist Party's Central Committee, the Council of Ministers and the Presidium of the Supreme Council. All these are organs which Stalin dominated, and among those next to him in power have been Georgi Malenkov, L. P. Beria, V. M. Molotov and Nicholas Bulganin.

"The Soviet people have boundless faith in and are permeated with a deep love for their Communist Party for they know that the supreme law governing all the activity of the Party is service in the interests of the people," the announcement said.

The announcement was, in effect, an order of the day, reminiscent of the floridly worded statements of triumph which were issued during World War II over Stalin's name.

It declared the armed might of the Soviet Union is growing, "for a decisive rebuff to any aggressor," but insisted the U.S.S.R. policy is one of peace and international collaboration. It called for the "development of businesslike relations with all countries."

Kremlin Stresses Call for Unity Then the statement repeated, perhaps significantly, the Kremlin call for unity.

"Dear comrades and friends," the Kremlin hierarchy exhorted, "the great directing guide force of the Soviet people in the struggle for the building of communism is to be found in our Communist Party. The steel-like and monolithic unity of the ranks of the Party constitutes the main condition for its strength and might."

"Our job is to guard like the apple of our eye the unity of the Party . . ."

There was no mention at any place of any of Stalin's lieutenants—Malenkov, Beria, and so on. The signature was merely: "The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R.; the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers; the U.S.S.R. Supreme Council Presidium."

It did not even bear the name of the nominal president of Russia—Nikolai Mikhailovich Shvernik, since 1946 president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (Parliament).

The Russian regime holds sway across a sixth of the surface of the earth—from the Baltic Sea to Bering Strait. Stalin's fatal illness became known on Wednesday, more than two days after he was stricken in his Kremlin apartment. An official announcement issued from the Ministry of Health and signed by the 10 physicians said Stalin "had a sudden hemorrhage of the brain" the night of March 1. This "affected vitally important parts of the brain" and paralyzed his right leg and arm. He lost consciousness and the power to speak.

Two more bulletins were issued—early Thursday Moscow time, and again Thursday evening only an hour and a half before the announced death hour. The third bulletin told of Stalin's falling heart.

By a striking coincidence, Stalin's fatal illness came only two months after his regime had announced the uncovering of a plot by nine doctors. These doctors plotted to kill A. A. Zhdanov, once a Stalin heir-apparent, and indeed had killed him in 1948, the charges said.

The announcement of the doctors' plot contained sharp criticism of the security forces of the state, headed by Beria. Stalin ruled Russia as undisputed dictator for nearly 30 years. Through communism, he extended his sway beyond the borders of the Soviet Union and its 200,000,000 people to areas encompassing another half billion people.

Second of 'Big Three' Gone He reached the height of his power when he led the Soviet Union against the Nazis of Adolf Hitler as an ally of the United States and Great Britain. He was one of the "Big Three" of the world—with Britain's Winston Churchill and America's Franklin D. Roosevelt.

And in the end, he died of much the same sort of brain stroke that killed Roosevelt eight years ago.

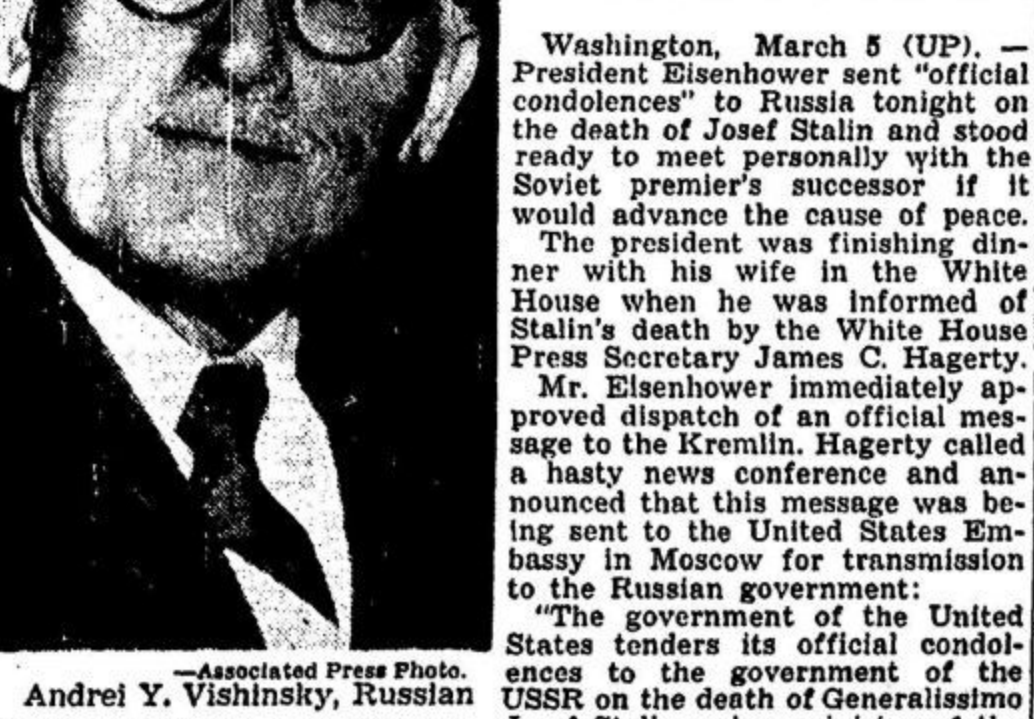
Body to Lie in State The Moscow Radio announced that Prime Minister Stalin would lie in state in Moscow's famed Hall of Columns.

The broadcast said seven Party leaders, headed by N. S. Khrushchev, a secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, will make funeral arrangements. Six others making up the funeral commission are Party big-wigs, but none has been mentioned as a possible successor to Stalin. They are: L. N. Kaganovich, a brother-in-law of the Soviet dictator and a member of the Presidium; N. N. Shvernik, president of the Soviet Union; Marshal Alexander M. Vasilievsky, Soviet War minister; N. M. Pegov, an alternate on the Presidium; P. A. Artyemiev, commander of the Moscow Military District, and M. A. Yasnov, chairman of the City of Moscow.



Josef Stalin

Needed at Once Ike Dispatches Message, Would Meet Successor



Andrei Y. Vishinsky, Russian Foreign minister, won fame as prosecutor in principal bloody purge trials of the 1930s, later loosened some of most fiery anti-West speeches in the UN.

Soviet Envoy Sailing Today

United Nations, N. Y., March 5 (UP).—Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Y. Vishinsky announced tonight that he will sail for home tomorrow.

The announcement came shortly after news of the death of Premier Josef Stalin reached the United Nations. "There was a hint that Vishinsky knew much sooner of the death."

In a statement issued through a spokesman, Vishinsky said, "Mr. Stalin's death is a blow to all humanity."

The spokesman said Vishinsky will sail aboard the French liner ship Liberté, which leaves for Le Havre tomorrow at 4 p. m.

Meanwhile, UN officials announced the UN flag will fly at half staff tomorrow and none of the flags of the member nations will be raised.

Summons Revealed Vishinsky's top UN deputies, Valerian A. Zorin and Georgi N. Zorin, had disclosed even before the announcement of Stalin's death that the foreign minister had been summoned home. At first, it was suggested he would fly, despite his heart condition.

New York police said Vishinsky's party consisting of seven cars, would leave Glen Cove on Long Island for the pier at 2 p. m. tomorrow.

As Zorin left the UN following the afternoon session, he answered "Oh, yes, definitely" to a question whether Vishinsky would be back before the Assembly quits early in April.

Mr. Vishinsky will leave tomorrow, said the Russian ambassador to Washington. "I don't know whether he will go by boat or plane. He will come back soon. In Moscow he will report to the Soviet government."

The main Political Committee held mid morning and afternoon sessions on Korea but attention was on the Vishinsky drama, which started in the Committee half an hour ago.

(See VISHINSKY on Page 2A)

Pursued Red Deserter Lands MIG on Danish Isle, Gives West Its First Model of Prize Russian Jet

Roenne, Bornholm Island, Denmark, March 5 (UP).—A Polish air force officer, fed up with communism, outdistanced a pursuing fighter plane in a hair-raising flight through the Iron Curtain today and landed his MIG-15 safely on a Danish airfield, giving the West its first complete model of the Russian-built jet.

Danish and British military authorities immediately began studying the plane that has proved its speed against American F-86 Sabrejets in air battles over Korea.

The Danes imposed a security blackout on the MIG. The plane was landed on this strategic Baltic island. A busy landing damaged slightly the undercarriage of the super-sonic craft.

Well-Grooved

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Ike Dispatches Message, Would Meet Successor

Washington, March 5 (UP).—President Eisenhower sent "official condolences" to Russia tonight on the death of Josef Stalin and stood ready to meet personally with the Soviet premier's successor if it would advance the cause of peace.

The president was finishing dinner with his wife in the White House when he was informed of Stalin's death by the White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty.

Mr. Eisenhower immediately approved dispatch of an official message to the Kremlin. Hagerty called a hasty news conference and announced that this message was being sent to the United States Embassy in Moscow for transmission to the Russian government.

"The government of the United States tenders its official condolences to the government of the USSR on the death of Generalissimo Josef Stalin, prime minister of the Soviet Union."

Hope for a Moderate Foremost here was the question of Stalin's successor.

"The hope was that he would be someone more moderate than Stalin—or at least no more militant in his attitude toward the free world. The greatest fear was it would be someone inclined toward reckless action that could touch off World War III."

Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said Undersecretary of State Walter Bedell Smith, who testified before them today, believes Georgi M. Malenkov is Stalin's most likely successor. Malenkov was believed to favor a tough attitude toward the West.

Mr. Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles were reported determined to avoid any "precipitant" action that would alarm the already tense Soviets.

Only a few hours before the official announcement of Stalin's death, Mr. Eisenhower told his third conference that he still stands ready to meet Russia's leaders, whoever they may be, "if there is a chance it will lead to world peace."

Congressmen Cautious Members of Congress, normally ready to talk about almost anything, were greatly restrained in their comment. Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas declined even to discuss the subject.

Others, including Chairman Leverett Saltonstall (Rep., Mass.) of the Senate Armed Services Committee, voiced hope that the Russian people and those of the satellite nations will have a greater chance for freedom and peace now that Stalin is dead.

But most added that it would be dangerous for Americans to "assume too much." They said the buildup must continue.

Before issuing the official condolences, Hagerty phoned Dulles who was dining with British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden at the British Embassy.

Jacob D. Beam, American charge d'affaires at the United States Embassy at Moscow, will deliver the message.

All for Now Hagerty did not expect the president to receive additional reports during the night nor to issue any further White House statements.

Stalin's death was certain to be the main topic at tomorrow morning's Cabinet meeting.

The president also will have a chance to explore the international possibilities with Eden and Dulles at a noon meeting at the White House followed by lunch tomorrow.

Words of Moscow Suggest Junta Holds Reins With Shaky Hands

The tenor of the announcements about Russian Prime Minister Josef Stalin's fatal illness suggests that a new ruler—or perhaps something similar to a junta—already is in control but that there is a genuine feeling of fear at the top levels.

If Stalin's stroke was sudden, it called for swift temporary measures.

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Suddenly Stalin's health, once the most secret of state secrets, became a matter of public pronouncement. The smallest details of his pulse, temperature and breathing became public.

Struggle Already On Even without the stroke Stalin suffered, the Soviet Union seemed destined within a few months for some sort of convulsion at the top. The purge of doctors, the anti-Zionist campaign, the announcements of plots galore, all had indicated a struggle for power was on. Those around Stalin may have been aware the old man's days were numbered.

In a junta of Malenkov, Police Chief Lavrenty Beria and Deputy Prime Minister Vyacheslav Molotov, Stalin's old but not much respected sidekick, ruling now?

Beria came under implied Party criticism a short time ago. Lack of "vigilance" of his security organs was supposed to have been responsible for the growth of a "doctors' plot" reportedly sponsored by Jews to kill off Soviet leaders.

The sudden appearance of a new minister of Health also suggests the purge already was in full swing in high places, since the ministry of Health would be responsible for the detentions of Soviet doctors.

Throughout all the announcements is a suggestion of fear of what might happen next.

In a situation of this sort, the army is latent power to be watched.