

# How the Central Committee of Soviet CP Blocked Molotov Move

Following is an account by the London Daily Worker correspondent in Moscow on how the recent changes took place in the Soviet Communist Party.

By SAM RUSSELL

Here is an account of the events which led to the showdown inside the Soviet leadership and the removal of the Molotov, Kaganovich and Malenkov group.

For some time in the middle of June, after the return of Premier Bulganin and Mr. Khrushchev from Finland, Molotov, Kaganovich and Malenkov had been asking Mr. Khrushchev for a special meeting of the Communist Party Presidium to decide who was going to Leningrad for the 250th anniversary celebrations.

Mr. Khrushchev said that such a special meeting was not necessary as all the arrangements had been made but eventually agreed to have such a meeting on June 19.

When the meeting was coming together, three of the 11 members of the Presidium were absent as they were out of Moscow.

## OUT OF CHAIR

Mr. Khrushchev was going to take his usual place in the chair when one of the members of the group said that they considered that he should not take the chair at that meeting.

When Mr. Khrushchev asked why, he was told that although the group had asked for the meeting ostensibly to discuss the Leningrad arrangements, in fact they wanted to discuss Mr. Khrushchev himself,

and to press their demands that he should be removed from the position of First Secretary of the Party.

Mr. Khrushchev replied that the Presidium had no power to do this as he had been elected to his position as First Secretary by the central committee.

Nevertheless he was voted out of the chair and a debate then took place.

## ATTACK OPENS

In the end, the meeting was adjourned until the following day, when the three remaining members of the Presidium arrived. Messrs. Malenkov, Kaganovich and Molotov then launched an attack on Mr. Khrushchev and his policy, accusing him of Right Wing opportunism.

The debate continued all day and the following morning, but during the morning of June 21 a group of about 20 members of the central committee arrived at the building where the meeting of the Presidium was taking place.

They sent in a letter to the technical secretariat demanding to be received by the Presidium as they understood that matters were being discussed which should be discussed by a full meeting of the central committee.

In the end a commission of four was elected to go out and discuss matters with the central committee delegation.

## SIXTY SPOKE

Central committee members kept coming, and when the commission of four finally came out, there were over 70 members of the central committee present.

It was on their demand that a full meeting of the central committee was summoned for the following day.

There are 133 members of the

central committee and together with candidate members, who have a voice but no vote; the members of the control commission and the members of the central auditing commission, there were in all 305 people present at the central committee meeting.

At the central committee during the seven days it met 260 of those present asked to speak. Sixty in fact spoke and the others submitted written statements condemning the actions of the Malenkov-Kaganovich-Molotov group.

## Girard

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representative as an official observer at the trial. This observer is required to report to U.S. authorities on all aspects of the trial and the fairness of the court proceedings . . .

"There is every reason to believe that his trial in the Japanese court will be conducted with utmost fairness."

Girard will remain under American Army jurisdiction until the Japanese trial is called in the latter part of August.

The case arose out of an incident last Jan. 30, when Girard and another soldier were guarding a machine gun and some field jackets on a firing range used alternately by U.S. and Japanese troops near Camp Whitting, north of Tokyo. The firing had been suspended, and Japanese villagers were out on the range, picking up expended shells and other scrap metal, as they had done in the past.

Testimony conflicts on exactly what happened next. Girard's soldier companion said he and Girard enticed one group of Japanese vil-

Alan Max is on vacation. His column will resume shortly.