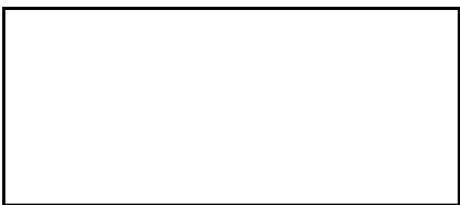


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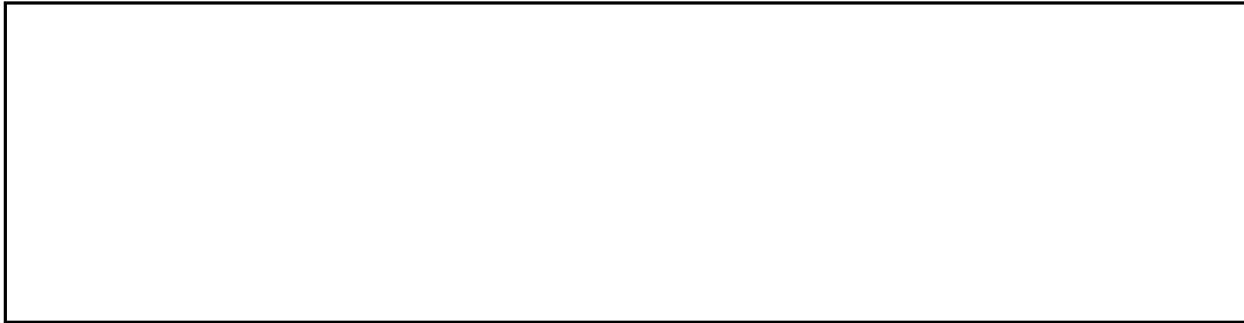
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1. BERIA SUPPORTERS EXECUTED

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The execution of M. D. Bagirov and three former secret police subordinates, following a public trial in Baku from 12 to 26 April, is another step in the long-drawn-out process of liquidating former protégés of L. P. Beria.

In July 1953, shortly after Beria's ouster, Bagirov was criticized for serious infringement of the principle of collective leadership and removed from all his positions.

The indictment against Bagirov and his accomplices, drawn up almost three years after their removal from office, charges them with treason, the use of improper methods of police investigation, and setting the state security organs against the government and party. These accusations serve, as did those in the earlier trials of Beria's protégés, to emphasize the regime's public position that "illegality and arbitrary action" by the secret police will no longer be tolerated.

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THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700, 30 May)

Syrian president Quwatli, accompanied by a Syrian military delegation under Chief of Staff Shuqayr, has arrived in Jordan to conduct military talks. The Syrian

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[redacted] According to public announcements, this agreement involved co-ordination of war plans against Israel and exchange of information. It appears, however, that Egypt did make a conditional offer to Jordan of military equipment and financial aid. It is possible, therefore, that the current Syrian-Jordanian talks involve another offer of Soviet bloc arms to Jordan if the Jordanians will agree to further curtail British influence. According to the Cyprus radio on 26 May, Egypt's Premier Nasr will visit Jordan in the next few days to join the Jordanian and Syrian leaders in military and political discussions.

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[redacted] the American army attaché in Damascus reports that Syria's total order of MIG-15 jet fighters may have been raised from 20 or 25 aircraft to 60.

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