

Munich, 17 May 1961 (Ev. & An. - r.r.g.) - Although it is understandable to think of the present trial in Tirana as a neo-Stalinist type of liquidation ritual, in fact it should be recalled that the precedents date back to the days of Lenin, whose mantle Khrushchev is doing his best to assume. In those early days the value of mass publicity as a deterrent, pour décourager les autres, was ~~no~~ less well understood, but the principles were much the same.

For a start, the nationalists and others executed in the non-Russian colonies of the USSR, who were almost invariably accused of treasonable contacts with "imperialist agents", included:

Name	Former Position	Tried
Fathali Khan-Khoiski	Prime Minister Azerbaijan	1920
General Sulkevich	Chief of Staff Azerbaijan Army	1920
Bondarenko	Prime Minister, Ukraine	1936
Faizulla Khodzhaev	Premier Uzbekistan	1938
Sharangovich (with Rykov and Bukharin)	Secretary, Byelorussian CC	1938
Grinko (same trial)	Secretary, Ukrainian CC	1938
Ryzhov	Chairman Stalinabad City Soviet	1937
Shotemor	Chairman Tadzhik Executive Committee	1937
Erbanov	Secretary, Buryat-Mongol ASSR	1937

At the Moscow level, a succession of internationally known Communists become victims of the show-trial technique on charges of espionage, fascist wrecking and similar unlikely crimes. The more prominent of them included:

Zinoviev	Member Politbureau	1936
Kamenev	Member Politbureau	1936
Rykov	Member Politbureau	1936
Bukharin	Editor, Pravda, Secretary Commintern	1937
Tukhachevsky	Marshal	1937
Yegorov	Marshal	1937
Pyatakov	Member CC	1937
Trotsky	War Commissar (until 1925)	1940 (assas- inated)
Beria	Minister Internal Affairs	1953

among others too numerous to list. - L E U