

RETYPE: AS EDITED

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27 MAY

NSC BRIEFING

~~26 March~~ 1954

THE RECENT RISE OF KHRUSHCHEV

I. Khrushchev's rising prestige noted in
~~two~~ ^{THREE} recent speeches.

(4 MAY) A. Party presidium member Kaganovich,
contrary to protocol, mentioned
Khrushchev before Malenkov in re-
ferring to their recent Supreme
Soviet speeches.

(8 MAY) B. Railroad minister Beshchev quoted
Khrushchev prominently but Malenkov
perfunctorily.

~~II. Speeches at tercentenary celebration of
Russia-Ukraine unification also con-
tained special tributes to Khrushchev.~~

~~(12 MAY) A. Ukrainian party secretary Kirichenko
included Khrushchev in same cate-
gory as Stalin, Molotov, etc., as~~

NO CHANGE IN CLASS. []
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C. On 22 May, Ukraine Party Secretary Kirichenko, in commemorating the Ukraine anniversary, conspicuously omitted any mention of Malenkov while describing Khrushchev as "one of the most outstanding leaders" sent in to assist the liberation of the Ukraine. In the same connection he listed the following as heroes of Ukrainian liberation: Stalin, Molotov, Sverdlov, Dzerzhinski, Frunze, Krushchev, Voroshilov and Kaganovich.

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~~Lenin disciple and as one of the
"most outstanding leaders" sent in
the past to help the Ukraine.~~

D. Plaudits for Khrushchev, somewhat out of context, included in speeches of Kazakh and Uzbek delegates to the celebration.

III. Significance of Khrushchev's new public prestige.

- A. A trend contrary to collectivity concept.
- B. Reflects adversely on Malenkov's status.
- C. Logical to expect move on Malenkov's part to counter this trend.
- D. Continuation of trend could only suggest that Khrushchev's role is greater than Malenkov's.