

Dimitrov, Bulgar Premier, Dies in Russian Sanatorium

*Famed Revolutionary, Who
Defied Nazis at Trial,
Directed Comintern*

By **HARRISON E. SALISBURY**

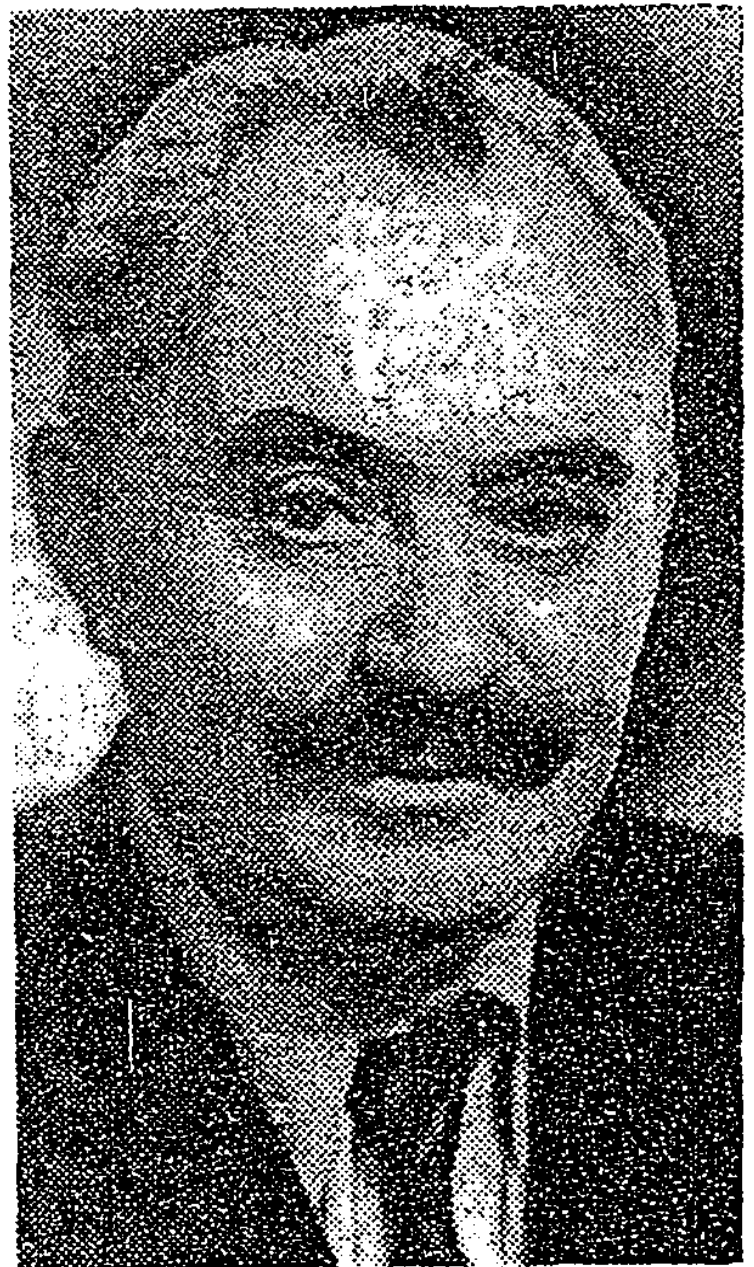
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MOSCOW, July 2—Georgi Dimitrov, Bulgarian Communist who for a quarter of a century stood in the front ranks of the Bolsheviks and who had been since 1945 Premier of Bulgaria, died at 9:35 A.M. today in a sanatorium about twenty miles outside of Moscow.

At midafternoon, the news of the veteran Communist's death was announced by the Moscow radio and the center of the city rapidly assumed a mourning aspect. Red and black mourning flags fluttered out around the Hall of Trade Unions, where the body lies in state.

Mr. Dimitrov was 67 years old and for two months before his death had been in the sanatorium under the care of the Soviet Union's best medical specialists in a vain fight against the diabetic complications that caused his death. The fight came to an end at the quiet little village of Barvikha this morning.

Possibly Mr. Dimitrov's most spectacular moment came in 1933



Georgi Dimitrov

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when he was one of those indicted for complicity in the burning of the Berlin Reichstag. At the trial he was an outstanding figure, conducting his own defense and standing up firmly under all Nazi

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attempts to break his story. He won world renown for his conduct in the trial and was acquitted.

Mr. Dimitrov then came to Moscow where he became General Secretary of the Comintern, a position he held until the dissolution of that organization in 1943. He returned to Bulgaria in 1944 with its liberation by the Soviet Army.

Mr. Dimitrov's body was brought to Moscow by a formal cortege passing through streets filled with mourners, and the news of his death spread rapidly through the capital. An honor guard took up formal positions. In the late afternoon Mr. Dimitrov's body was placed in state in the black-and-red decorated building. It rested in the Hall of Columns against a great bank of flowers decorated with the Bulgarian national flag.

Thousands of mourners, including many who came from memorial meetings at factories and offices, formed a line many blocks long and eight abreast and filed through the building to pay their last respects.

In the Hall of Columns a hundred-piece orchestra played funeral music. Two guards of honor, made up of Soviet officers including generals and marshals, flanked the bier. To the right of the bier were Bulgarian mourners, including members of the diplomatic and military missions.

The official announcement of Mr. Dimitrov's death was made in the name of the Central Committee of the Communist party and the Soviet Council of Ministers. The announcement called him "our comrade and beloved brother."

Only two weeks ago Mr. Dimitrov was visited for the last time by a small group of his countrymen, including the Bulgarian Ambassador, Naiden Nikolov, and a small group of others, including a Bulgarian student.

Mr. Dimitrov conversed with the group and gave the student what proved to be his final message—a message to Bulgarian youth to work and study and help to build a democratic Bulgaria. He said that Bulgaria also must stand firmly on the side of peace, democracy and comradely relations with the Soviet Union.

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