

KOSTOV INNOCENT, PARTY ANNOUNCES

**Bulgarians Confirm Reports
Executed Red Is Cleared—
Living Defendants Freed**

VIENNA, April 14 (AP)—The Bulgarian Communist party officially admitted today the innocence of Traicho Kostov, former Deputy Premier and party secretary, who was executed in 1949 for alleged treason.

The announcement said Mr. Kostov and his co-defendants all had been convicted on faked evidence.

Defendants who survived the purge trials in Bulgaria have now been released from prison and declared rehabilitated, the announcement said.

This confirmation of reports from Bulgaria two weeks ago that Mr. Kostov had been exonerated was contained in a statement by Todor Zhikov, First Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist party. The statement was published today in the official party newspaper and broadcast by the Sofia radio.

In his announcement Mr. Zhikov sharply attacked Bulgarian Premier Vulko Chervenkov, the man primarily responsible for Mr. Kostov's execution.

A special session of the Bulgarian Parliament has been summoned for Monday. It is expected to receive Mr. Chervenkov's resignation or at least to hear of his downgrading in a reshuffle of the Government.

The Premier's successor is expected to be Gen. Ivan Mikhailov, a favorite of the Soviet Communist party chief, Nikita S. Khrushchev.

Albanian Scores Party

LONDON, April 14 (Reuters)
—The Albanian Communist par-



The New York Times

EXONERATED BY REDS:
Traicho Kostov, former Deputy Premier of Bulgaria, who was put to death in 1949 for treason. Bulgarian Communist party now has admitted that he was innocent.

ty's First Secretary, Enver Hoxha, today denounced the party for the liquidation of wealthy farmers during the first years of its rule.

Mr. Hoxha made his attack in an article in the party newspaper Zeri I Populit, according to the Albanian News Agency.

Noting that state security had been placed under party control, he declared that although democracy had been established in the party, "it must be further consolidated because in many cases it is violated."

Mr. Hoxha announced a coming party congress to approve a second five-year plan and party status raising collective leadership to the dominant principle of party life.

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