



Sgt. Eugene List, pianist, whose playing at the President's state dinner on Thursday night won him two toasts from Premier Stalin and a warm handshake from the Prime Minister.

## ***Truman in Piano Command Performance; Plays Beethoven for Stalin and Churchill***

BERLIN, July 20 (AP)—President Truman played Beethoven's Minuet in G on the piano at the joint request of Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill as a musical climax to his state dinner last night.

The President sat down at the keyboard after an American pianist, Sgt. Eugene List, had scored a strange triumph in winning two toasts from Premier Stalin and a warm handshake from Mr. Churchill.

Sergeant List, well known on the American concert stage, played a Tchaikovsky selection, Chopin's A Flat polonaise and three preludes by the Leningrad composer, Dmitri Shostakovich.

Premier Stalin was delighted. He sprang from his chair, walked to the beaming pianist, shook his hands, drank a toast to his health and asked him to play more.

Which number the Soviet leader requested was not identified. He

is known to be fond of a number of Russian drinking songs as well as many songs of the Volga, the Caucasus and the steppes.

Sergeant List apparently knew Premier Stalin's selection well, for as soon as he concluded the generalissimo again came to the piano, clasped his hands and proposed another toast.

Through the interpreter, V. M. Pavloff, Generalissimo Stalin and President Truman engaged in an animated discussion of their respective preferences in folk music. Then Mr. Churchill called for the "Missouri Waltz," the favorite of Mr. Truman's native State. Sergeant List complied with easy grace. The Prime Minister came to his side, shook hands and thanked him for the performance.

Pvt. Stuart Canin of 1006 Gerard Avenue, the Bronx, New York, a violinist, also played for the Big Three last night.