

. . . . Russia without any prejudice recognizes the self-rule and independence of the State of Lithuania with all the juridical consequences . . . and for all times renounces with good will all the sovereignty rights of Russia, which it has had in regard to the Lithuanian nation or territory.

Peace Treaty with Russia  
Moscow, July 12, 1920

President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill:

1. Their countries seek no aggrandizement, territorial or other;
2. They desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned;
3. They respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live; and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them.

Atlantic Charter  
August 14, 1941

# LITHUANIAN BULLETIN

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*This Bulletin contains information on current events in Lithuania and neighboring countries from both neutral and German controlled press.*

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## DECLARATION BY THE LITHUANIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL

The Lithuanian National Council, formed by the League of Citizens of Lithuania in the United States, convened in its General Organizing Conference in Chicago, April 8-9, 1942, makes the following unanimous declaration through its authorized District Committee delegates:

In expressing its deepest gratitude to the government and people of the United States for the hospitality and kindness shown to its members, the Lithuanian National Council particularly appreciates the opportunity given to it to express freely its opinions and aspirations;

Whereas, in the course of this war, Lithuania has been occupied twice by totalitarian powers, the second occupation being in force to this day;

The Lithuanian National Council expresses its firm conviction that the victory of the allied democracies will restore to oppressed humanity the opportunity of leading a peaceful and orderly existence, as outlined in the Atlantic Charter;

The Lithuanian National Council expresses its deepest gratitude in particular to the great president of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt, who has so solicitously protected the interests of independent Lithuania;

The Lithuanian National Council places all its hopes for the future in the victory of the United States in the present war; the Lithuanian National Council therefore considers its insistence upon wholehearted and unequivocal support by its members of the efforts of the government and people of the United States toward winning the war as one of the most important points in its program;

The Lithuanian National Council is convinced that only the victory of the united democracies can give Europe the opportunity of reorganizing on such lines that the people of Lithuania, instead of being slaughtered and exiled periodically, will be assured of a free and independent life and the development of their economic and cultural resources;

Lithuania, forced by the circumstances of war into a

position fraught with uncertainty and danger to her continued existence, aspires toward a more just and orderly reorganization of Europe;

The Lithuanian National Council organized according to democratic principles, and composed of individuals representing every faction and every walk of life, constitutes itself the legitimate spokesman for the oppressed people of Lithuania;

The League of Citizens of Lithuania, as a living expression of the people and free institutions of Lithuania, has initiated the formation of a Lithuanian National Council, which will faithfully represent and express the desires of the Lithuanian people and work for a realization of their hope and freedom;

The Lithuanian National Council will welcome the organization of a new Europe in which the natural, governmental, ethnographic, cultural and economic interests of Lithuania would be safeguarded. The **idea of a Baltic Union is particularly welcomed by the Lithuanian National Council.** The Lithuanian National Council hereby assumes the responsibility of declaring that the people of Lithuania desire a free, independent and democratic Lithuania, with its capital in Vilnius, with the seaport of Klaipėda, and Lithuania Minor. To the realization of these desires the Lithuanian National Council pledges itself;

Condemning every form of racial and religious discrimination, and condemning any and every form of totalitarian government, including the dictatorial tendencies in Lithuania in the past, the Lithuanian National Council is resolved to carry on the traditions of her Lithuanian patriots, and finds the best model for the future reorganized state of Lithuania in the Declaration of Independence of February 16, 1918, and in the Proclamation by the Constituent Assembly, of May 15, 1920;

The Lithuanian National Council is grateful to its American compatriots for the moral and financial support extended by them to the oppressed and destitute people of Lithuania. They express the hope that American-Lithuanians will continue to give every possible aid

## THE LITHUANIAN BULLETIN

to the re-establishment of a free Lithuania in the future. They likewise express their deepest gratitude to the American-Lithuanian public, which, through the Lithuanian American Council, organizations and press, has so wholeheartedly accepted and supported the program of the Lithuanian National Council;

The Lithuanian National Council cannot remain silent in view of the present tragic plight of the oppressed people of Lithuania, whether they suffer under the Nazis at home, or in the concentration camps of Siberia. To all of our suffering compatriots we say: Courage, the hour of freedom is near!

**The Lithuanian National Council urges citizens of Lithuania, wherever they may be in the free world, to unite in organized groups everywhere and, working in contact with the recognized local diplomatic representatives of Lithuania, actively participate in the movement to re-establish a Free, Independent and Democratic Lithuania.**

### L I T H U A N I A

#### Misuse of Uniforms

*Kauener Zeitung*, Nov. 14, 1942. General Just, the Commander of the Lithuanian security territory, published a warning concerning the buying up of Wehrmacht outfits and military equipment which is strictly prohibited and will henceforth be drastically punished in the same way as concealment of stolen goods. Owing to the frequency of such thefts consideration cannot any longer be given to the income and family of those responsible for stealing or concealing these uniforms.

#### Shortage of Medicaments in Vilna

*Kauener Zeitung*, Nov. 16, 1942.—Speculation and illegal trading in medicines had assumed large proportions in Vilna. A number of medicines has in particular become scarce (oils of ether, morphia and anaesthetics), especially those used for wounded soldiers. The District Commissioner reviewed the situation and anticipated in the near future a large collection of medicaments for Germany. The local herb market was very well known and had formerly supplied Germany to a great extent with medicinal herbs. The peasants should cultivate gardens in order to increase production of these plants.

#### New Lithuanian Food Minister

*Kauener Zeitung*, Nov. 19, 1942.—In the place of the former Generalrat for food supplies and agriculture, Petronis, his successor, Ramanauskas, was installed in office by the General Commissioner for Lithuania, von Renteln.

#### Premiums For Flax Deliveries

*Kauener Zeitung*, Nov. 24, 1942.—Flax seed must be delivered by growers in Lithuania before January 31st, 1943.

For every 100 kg of flax seed surrendered before this date four kg of kerosene, one litre of spirits and ironmongery worth two RM will be supplied.

The following prices will be paid per 100 kg of: first quality seed, 34 RM; second quality seed, 31 RM; third quality seed, 28 RM.

#### Agricultural Deliveries

*Kauener Zeitung*, Nov. 28, 1942.—In addition to the obligatory surrender of grain, the authorities in Lithuania have now decreed that pulse also must be surrendered against payment to the authorities. The farmer must deliver all agricultural products harvested to the organization "Lietukis" and it is prohibited for any other organization of person to purchase these products from the producer. The farmer is also prohibited from selling either flour or any food prepared from it. The mills may grind for the farmer only as much as is required by his household, and this quantity must be fixed by the authorities. Grain may not be given to domestic animals but stale grain, insuitable for consumption by human beings, may be used as fodder if authority to do so by the local district commissioner has been obtained. The regulations now apply to pulse also. Offenders run the risk of severe penalties. Those who illegally purchase the above-mentioned produce share the responsibility with those who sell it.

#### Blackout Offences in Vilna

*Kauener Zeitung*, Dec. 8, 1942.—Many offenders were discovered during blackout control in Vilna. The supply of electricity for 38 persons was cut off, 24 people were sentenced to a fine and 11 to terms of imprisonment.

#### German Demonstration in Vilna—Blind Faith

Dec. 12, 1942.—Reichsamtseiter Studentkowski addressed the Vilna Germans at a demonstration on December 11th, saying, inter alia: We do not want world domination, we only want to lead certain nations for their own good. Faithfulness to Hitler begins only when you no longer know where his way leads.

#### Regulations for Travellers

*Kauener Zeitung*, Dec. 15, 1942.—Everybody, whether a Reich German or a native of the "Ostland", when leaving Kaunas for some other place in Lithuania, must possess an identity document (Personalausweis) and a permit entitling the holder to buy a ticket at a railway or omnibus station. If travelling to other "Generalbezirke" in the Ostland every person, except Reichsdeutsche already possessing a "Durchlasschein" (exit permit) must carry a Reiseschein (travelling passport). For journeys to the Reich an exit permit is required. People going by buses to Riga must, if they are Reich German, have an exit permit and travelling certificate (Reisebescheinigung) issued by the authorities and if they are natives they must have a travelling passport. Bus travellers to Eydtkau must also have certificates confirming the official character of their journey (Dienstreisebescheinigungen), as well as delousing certificates or leave permits.

## LATVIA

## Latvian "Volunteers"

*Deutsche Zeitung in Ostland*, Nov. 17, 1942.—The Latvian Schutzmannschaft-battalion, now ready for service, was given a send-off at Kraslava (Kreslau) recently by the Commander of the "Ordnungspolizei Lettland."

## Latvian Girls in the German Labour Service

*Deutsche Ukraine-Zeitung*, Nov. 20, 1942.—The Riga correspondent reports that many hundreds of young Latvian girls have recently left for Germany for employment in the German Labour Service, which will last one year.

## Cattle Breeding in Latvia

*Deutsche Ukraine-Zeitung*, Nov. 20, 1942, writes that owing to German measures for intensifying cattle-breeding in Latvia, the country is now in the position to spare some of its parent animals for export to other territories of the Ostland for breeding purposes.

## German Favours for the Orthodox Church in Latvia

*Transocean*, Nov. 29, 1942, reports from Riga that Rosenberg has presented the Superiors of the Orthodox Church in Latvia at Riga with 1,026 bibles, gospels and other religious books from the libraries of the Cathedral and of Yuriev Monastery in Novgorod and other churches and libraries around Novgorod. They had been exhibited by the Bolsheviks in this cathedral, the oldest in Russia, built in 1055, and converted by them into a godless museum.

Regierungsrat Dr. Trampedach, on the staff of the Reich Commissioner of the Ostland, said that the Germans wanted to grant as much freedom, especially in the field of religion, as was compatible with the duty of maintaining peace and order. The Orthodox Church was reviving everywhere under German protection.

## ESTONIA

## Red Cross in Tallinn

*Revaler Zeitung*, Nov. 11, 1942, reports that the Red Cross has been working in Tallinn since October 1, 1942.

## Misuse of Uniforms

*Revaler Zeitung*, Nov. 15, 1942.—It has been repeatedly announced officially that the wearing of former Estonian army and police uniforms is allowed only to members of the Estonian Schutzmannschaft. Offenders will face penalties and are also liable to have their outfits confiscated. Those concerned may sell the outfits still in their possession to the authorities. Disposing of uniform clothes to civilians is prohibited.

## Clogs Worn in Tallinn

*Revaler Zeitung*, Nov. 28, 1942, reports that clogs are nowadays worn in the streets of the city by a great

number of people in Tallinn, and in almost all the offices. Owing to the acute shortage of leather people are unable to acquire proper footwear.

## OSTLAND

## Legal Procedure

*Verordnungsblatt des Reichministers für die besetzten Ostgebiete*, Oct. 24, 1942, announces that Rosenberg published a Hitler decree on October 16th whereby criminal offences committed in the Occupied Eastern Territories will henceforth be tried by a German High Court whenever circumstances justify the transference of jurisdiction, or when the Public Prosecutor in specially important cases claims such procedure.

## Note-Issuing Bank for the Ostland

*Frankfurter Zeitung*, Nov. 11, 1942.—Currency matters for the Ostland are being newly regulated. Hitherto roubles have been exchanged for Reichskreditkassenscheine, which are at present the valid currency. By a decree of the Reich Minister of the Occupied Eastern Territories dated November 4th the conditions have been created for the Ostland to regulate payments and money matters in its own note-issuing bank, namely the "Notenbank im Ostland", with its head office in Riga. In the immediate future the new bank will continue to work on the basis of Reichskreditkassenscheine. In practice it will at first only be that the Reichskreditkasse in the Ostland will be turned into branches of the new Notenbank, while the question of whether and when its own currency will be introduced remains an open one.

It will have the sole right to issue bank notes. It will have as cover the securities of the usual business of a note-issuing bank: bills of exchange—but with six months' validity suitable for the slower currency circulation in the Ostland; interest bearing loans—also of six months' validity; treasury bills and promissory notes of the Ostland administration and also Reichsbank notes and Kreditkassenscheine, which have as regards the Ostland, the character of foreign exchange. In addition, cover is provided by accounts at the Reichsbank, the German Clearing Office and the Reichskreditkasse, and also by gold and foreign exchange and industrial credits to the Ostland administration. Gold and foreign exchange is given the same value as by the Reichsbank and therefore the connection with the Reichsmark is in a fixed relation. As additional security for the later note circulation it is intended to have a mortgage of at most two milliard Ostland Mark on all real property in the Ostland in favour of the Bank. This is a similar method as that adopted formerly by the Deutsche Rentenbank and latterly by the Bank of Issue in Poland for the sake of additional security for currency. The sphere of activity of the new Notenbank, apart from discounting and in particular the care of the currency, is the valuation and administration of securities and the banking for the Ostland administration.

**Compulsory Education for Volksdeutsche**

**Frankfurter Zeitung**, Nov. 13, 1942.—The Reich Minister for the Occupied Eastern Territories has decreed the compulsory attendance at school of Volksdeutsche children, so that the children can be brought up in the National-Socialist spirit. All children who have attained their seventh year on December 31st must start going to school at the beginning of the school year. Compulsory attendance at elementary schools is for eight years.

**Felt Boots**

**Deutsche Ukraine-Zeitung**, Nov. 22, 1942.—Felt boots for troops are being manufactured in some 50 large factories in the Ostland, the Ukraine and other territories.

**Textile Production in the Occupied East**

**Deutsche Ukraine-Zeitung**, Nov. 22, 1942.—Many of the textile mills have been restarted in the Ostland where 100,000 spindles and over 1,600 looms are now in operation.

Out of seven cotton ginning factories (Baumwollentkoernungsanstalten) in the Ukraine, five are now in operation, while repairs are being done to the remainder.

In the flax mills in the Ostland 33,000 spindles and 730 looms are in operation at present.

Furthermore, both in the Ostland and Ukraine, many hemp and ax scutching plants are again working.

In the wool mills in the Ostland 24,000 spindles and 485 looms have been restarted.

**German Companies in the Ostland**

**Koelnische Zeitung**, Nov. 27, 1942.—The Company styled "Die Siemens Ostland GmbH", with a nominal capital of RM 500,000, has been entered in the Commercial Register at the German Court in Riga. The object of the Company will be the sale of electric products manufactured by the German Siemens Company and other undertakings affiliated to it, as well as the manufacture of similar products within the scope of war orders entrusted to the Siemens Ostland Gesellschaft, and the erection of plants for the production and distribution of electric power. Oberingenieur Gerhard Lewicki, Oberingenieur Hans Ramm and the merchant Hans Verlohr, all of Riga, have been appointed managers.

Furthermore, a Company styled "Autobank GmbH" (Riga), with a nominal capital of RM 20,000, has been founded. The Company will trade in spare parts of motor vehicles, bicycles, etc.

**Revaler Zeitung**, Nov. 28, 1942, states that about 300,000 local workmen, employees and government officials are at present employed in forestry work in the eastern occupied territories. There are at present two administrative groups in charge of forestry economy, namely the Civil Administration Department and, in the military sector, a special department under military command. Military requirements naturally have priority.

In the summer of 1941 timber was needed first of all for the rebuilding of destroyed bridges, while in winter

there was the need for firewood and material necessary for building purposes. Meanwhile the need for railway sleepers and pit props has had to be satisfied without interruption, and plywood was also needed in considerable quantities. The centre of the latter industry lies in the Ostland. Pit props, fire wood fibre and plywood have already been delivered to Greater Germany in considerable quantities.

**The Press of the Occupied Eastern Territories**

**Ostland, Berlin, Dec. 12, 1942.**—At present six German dailies are published in the eastern territories; only one of those is for the Reich Commissionership Ukraine: **Deutsche Ukraine-Zeitung**, which appears in Luck. Another paper for the Ukraine is being prepared in Dnyepropetrovsk. The Reich Commissionership Ostland has five German dailies, among which the **Deutsche Zeitung im Ostland** is the most prominent. It appears in Riga, the headquarters of the Reich Commissioner. Other dailies appear in the headquarters of the Commissioners General: **Revaler Zeitung**, **Minsker Zeitung** and **Kauener Zeitung**. A branch paper of the **Kauener Zeitung** is the **Wilnaer Zeitung**.

Incomparably more extensive is the foreign language press in the occupied territories. According to the **Deutsche Presse**, No. 20/1942, in the Reich Commissionership Ostland there are 15 Estonian papers, 21 Latvian, 12 Lithuanian, one Polish and six White Ruthenian papers; only some of these are daily papers. The most important Estonian paper is the daily **Eesti Sona** (The Estonian Word), in Tallinn; **Postimes** (The Postman), a daily paper, appears in Tartu (Dorpat); **Uus Elu** (New Life), appears in Paernu three times a week. Among the Latvian papers the daily **Tevija** is the greatest and has a circulation of 250,000. There are also Latvian papers in Jelgava (Mitau), the **Zemgale**; **Kursemes Vards**, in Liepaja (Libau). The leading Lithuanian paper appears in Kaunas, it is the **I Laisve** (Towards Freedom) and has a circulation of 120,000.

White Ruthenian papers are: first of all the **Bialaruskaya Hazeta** (The White Ruthenian Newspaper) and **Holos Vioski** (The Voice of the Village).

In the Reich Commissionership Ukraine there are about 70 papers in the Ukrainian language. The most important are: **Novo Ukrainske Slovo** (The New Ukrainian Word) in Kiev, the **Ukrainski Holos** (The Ukrainian Voice) in Luck; the **Vinnitski Visti** (The Vinnitsa News), in Vinnitsa; **Volyni** in Rovno; **Podolanyn** in Kamenets Podolski, and the **Nova Ukraina** (The New Ukraine), in Kharkov.

Simferopol, the capital of the Crimea, has two papers, i. e., one Ukrainian paper, **Holos Kryma** (The Voice of the Crimea), and another paper which appears in Russian and Tartar. The number of the foreign language papers is, however, still rising, particularly in the Ukrainian language.

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