

... 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

Lietuvos
nacionalinė
M. Mažvydo
biblioteka

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

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BALTIC UNIVERSITY AT HAMBURG

By Prof. MYKOLAS BIRŽIŠKA

WHEN, by autumn of 1944, about 200 professors and 2,000 students of the Universities of Vilnius, Kaunas and Dotnuva found themselves scattered throughout German-occupied Europe, an idea originated among the refugees to create an autonomous Lithuanian University, connected with some German university, in order to enable the youths to continue their studies. However, the knowledge of the failure of the Lithuanian youths in general and of the students in particular to enlist in the SS units seriously prejudiced German officialdom. Sabotage activities of the student body were also irritating the Nazis. Consequently, the German authorities deemed the Lithuanians one of the most undesirable elements and refused to countenance any large concentration of Lithuanian groups. The suggestion of forming a Lithuanian University was severely rebuked and the Nazis hunted down the prospective professors and students in order to put them to "useful work," such as digging trenches and manning air raid warning posts.

By April 1945, most of the Lithuanian academicians were liberated by the Western Allies. Again their primary concern was the education of the Lithuanian youth.

I lived far from any large Lithuanian center at that time but, nevertheless, I find noted in my diary: "13th June—I talked to Prof. Puzinas about the means of reasserting the problem of a Lithuanian University."

Our largest refugee center was at Würzburg. On 25th July 1945 Prof. J. Krikščiūnas, chairman of the Lithuanian Association, called a conference of professors at Würzburg. A committee of six professors was formed—Juozas Ambrazevičius, Magdalena Avietėnaitė (a native American), Zenonas Ivinskis, Jonas Vėbra and Stasys Žakevičius. The committee made certain representations to Allied Headquarters. However, the Allied Military authorities were determined to permit the reopening of German universities and proposed to establish an UNRRA University for Displaced Persons at Munich. About 300 Lithuanian students eventually enrolled in the UNRRA University and more than 1,200 students succeeded in gaining admission in German universities.

Upon learning of the Lithuanian plan for a national university, the Latvians in July 1945 submitted a petition to the British Military Government for an authorization to organize Latvian academic courses as an adjunct of the Hamburg University. However, the British refused to grant their permission.

Nevertheless, the Britons hinted that they might consider favorably the plan for opening a Baltic Academic Camp for students of all three Baltic peoples. The Baltic Section of the UNRRA Educational Advisory Board for the British zone of occupied Germany was made up predominantly of Latvians and Estonians. In the absence of Lithuanian professors at Ham-

burg, the Lithuanians were represented by Vaclas Misiulis, a lawyer, Antanas Masiulis, a high school teacher, and, later, by J. Montvila, a solicitor. The Baltic Educational Section at once undertook to collect all information regarding the number of Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian professors and students in all three Western zones of Germany.

The first consultation with the UNRRA Academic Advisers took place in October 1945. An organizing committee was elected. The Lithuanians were represented by Prof. Vladas Stanka and the Latvians by Prof. P. Gulbins. In November, plans were drawn up and organizers were selected for eight Faculties (Schools)—medicine, chemistry, construction engineering, agronomy, mechanical engineering, natural sciences-mathematics, philology, and law.

A joint conference of the organizing committee, newly arrived professors and UNRRA academic advisers was held in January 1946. The conferees proposed to house the faculty personnel in the Deutscher Ring building and in the Zoological Garden. It was decided to admit 1,500 students from the British zone exclusively, and to solicit the professorial staff from all three zones. It was further decided that the lectures be given in the respective national languages of the largest number of enrolled students in the various schools, or in the German language in the event the student body should prefer joint classes. A provisional University Statute was adopted. Prof. Gulbins was elected University President, and three nationality Deans were confirmed. Prof. Stanka was the Lithuanian Dean. Unfortunately, he was obliged to resign for reasons of health, and Prof. Vytautas Manelis is presently the Lithuanian Dean.

While still in formation, the faculty was advised that the buildings suggested for housing the University could not be made available for that use. A search was made for other buildings suitable to house the university and the constantly arriving students. Thanks to the exceptionally warm and enthusiastic cooperation of the American educational advisers of UNRRA—Professors Robert C. Riggle and Davis—and the receptive attitude of the British military, these difficulties were soon overcome.

A museum structure was assigned for lecture halls, and several small houses and barracks in a DP camp were used for living quarters. Eventually we moved "from the barracks of Vilnius to the barracks of Hamburg." General lectures

for the entire student body were initiated in March 1946, and specialized schools soon opened their regular lecture courses.

Thus came into being a university of war refugees from the three Baltic nations—the *Baltic University*. This university, unique in the world, already concluded two semesters and is presently pushing through its third semester of academic work.

More than 2,500 prospective students, including about 1,350 Lithuanians, desired to enroll in the Baltic University. This number exceeded the plans of the organizers approved by the British military authorities. A compromise solution limited the number of students to 1,000.

The Lithuanians made up the largest single bloc of prospective students. Nevertheless, the University admitted the largest number of Latvians (496), with Lithuanians in second place (355), and Estonians in third place (146). This was due to no discrimination but simply because the Latvians were already concentrated in northern Germany and were actively engaged in forming their national university,—while the Lithuanians were making plans to settle somewhere in southern Germany. Because of insurmountable difficulties, the Lithuanians could not concentrate on the formation of an academic center in Hamburg. Consequently, the Latvians predominate among the faculty and students of the Baltic University.

A student glee club was formed, under the direction of Prof. Pavasaris, a Latvian. A national Lithuanian chorus is directed by Prof. J. Banaitis. Frequent concerts are arranged, featuring music of all three Baltic countries or individual national music. The programs are excellent.

A University Festival was sponsored in May 1946. The affair featured exhibits of Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian publications, literary soirees, athletic contests and games, folk dances and national concerts. An excellent album was published on this occasion by the students. It is entitled "*Scientiae et Artibus*" and contains articles in all three Baltic languages, with an introduction in English by Dr. Robert C. Riggle, the University's champion and an UNRRA Welfare Officer. The students of all three nationalities, of Catholic and Protestant faiths, collaborate in all activities.

An even more important task is the work of the students' joint representative body. All three nationalities have equal numbers of stu-



BALTIC UNIVERSITY AT HAMBURG
Entrance to the Main Auditorium
(Decorated by the Students)

dent delegates elected by the respective nationality groups. The Baltic University is not concerned with politics, and does not play politics—its sponsors carefully see to that. One professor went to the extent of making an inquiry whether his course of political economics and systems of government might be deemed “political” and reflecting on certain systems of government. . . . Students are encouraged in their specialized fields, especially since no one is able to predict where this specialized training may be applied in practice.

Continuous rumblings of suspicion and accusations are constantly heard from the East. To avoid misunderstandings and friction with its Eastern Ally, the British administration contrived to reduce the Baltic University’s “political” name to a modest “Hamburg Displaced Persons University” (H.D.P.U.). This, of course, did not disrupt the academic work and did not reduce the teaching standards.

One need not be exceptionally clever to be able to understand that the very fact of a determined and smooth collaboration of the three Baltic nationalities in the field of sciences—purely academic and non-political—is the best politics, excellently attesting the nations concerned.

Consequently, we continue our work. We suffer from deficient rations and we are half-hungry, because the diet in our DP barracks is poorer than elsewhere in DP camps. During the winter colds, we are obliged to walk quite far, sometimes running to keep the blood in proper circulation, when we visit our families in an-

other DP camp. We are contributing our wealth of knowledge and rendering our services gratuitously, with no compensation. We teach, and the students study, quite frequently without books—without textbooks and writing paper. There is a severe shortage of pencils. We are taking advantage of the publications brought along during our forced trek from Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. All of the books contributed by the committee of *American Friends of the Baltic University* and the *United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America* never rest on the library shelves.

Regardless of our dreary surroundings, the scientific training is steadily progressing and improving in this unique Refugee University. Several scientific books are already published. These publications attracted the attention and sympathetic interest of our academic colleagues from other universities—German, British, American, Swiss, French and Swedish. We are constantly receiving warm praise and sympathy, sometimes expressed in the most touching terms.

The university youths are pursuing their studies with perseverance and zeal. Of course, with the impatience of youth, they can scarce await the day when they can apply the knowledge gained in Western exile—in the service of their own nations, their own homelands liberated from all foreign occupation and truly independent.

We are grateful for the precarious opportunity to remain part and parcel of the Western World into which we were born.

Relief for Hamburg Baltic Students

TÜBINGEN, Germany—The Refugee Women’s Division of the Lithuanian Red Cross opened a drive for food contributions for the starving Lithuanian and other Baltic students of the Hamburg DP University.

The Lithuanian Red Cross appeal states that the number of tubercular and malnutrition cases among the Baltic University students is steadily increasing. Twelve Lithuanian students are in the advanced tubercular condition and four are hospitalized. All other students show signs of weakness because of undernourishment. The Women’s Division sponsoring this drive expressed confidence that Lithuanian Displaced Persons (“*Dievo Paukšteliai*” or “God’s Little

Birdies”) will share their meager rations with the students of Hamburg.

(A special dispatch to *NAUJIENOS* Daily of Chicago).

The Editors of the *Lithuanian Bulletin* urge its readers to send food parcels or prepay CARE packages for the benefit of exile students of the Baltic University, especially during the Holiday Season.

Parcels of food, clothing, scientific books and magazines, textbooks and dictionaries, as well as monetary contributions, should be addressed to the UNITED LITHUANIAN RELIEF FUND OF AMERICA, 19 West 44th Street, New York 18, N. Y.

LIFE IN RED VILNIUS

By RICHARD KIERSNOWSKI

Editor's Note: Mr. Kiersnowski is a well known Polish journalist of Lithuanian extraction. His report on conditions in Soviet-occupied Vilnius (Wilno, Vilna) is based on information received from a Polish refugee who escaped from Lithuania at the end of September 1946.

Conditions described by that refugee confirm all other reports occasionally seeping through the "Iron Curtain."

Mr. Kiersnowski's article was first printed in the 6 November issue of *DZIENNIK POLSKI I DZIENNIK ŻOŁNIERZA* (The Polish Daily and Soldier's Daily), London, England, and reprinted in the *NOWY ŚWIAT* daily of New York 17 November.

The City of Ruins

VILNIUS presents a sad sight today. Considerably damaged during the hostilities, particularly during the German retreat, the city is not even attempting to dig itself out of the debris in spite of its formal title of the Capital of the "Lithuanian Soviet Republic."

The Lithuanian character of Vilnius is, after all, entirely theoretical, inasmuch as the Russians rule exclusively everywhere. The City of Vilnius, the Vilnius District and the rest of Lithuania are overflowing with Soviet troops. Soviet soldiers are quartered even in isolated homesteads and villages.

The debris is not removed from the streets in many places. The Vilnius and the German Streets present an especially tragic appearance. The Mickiewicz Street (now called the Gediminas Street) is likewise littered with ruins. Among the wrecked edifices on Mickiewicz St., the P.K.O. (The Polish Savings Chest) Building may be mentioned. Gone are the Red Strahl and the Hotel St. Georges. Among the fashionable cafés, only Rudnicki's and Strahl's "The Green" survived. A liquid called "coffee" and pastry of poor quality may be obtained there. These cafés are classified "Class I." Consequently, local citizens avoid them, as they avoid "Class I" restaurants—the Bristol and the Zacisze—because Soviet officers and functionaries of the NKVD are always in evidence at those places.

With the exception of St. Casimir's, the churches of Vilnius are generally intact. The Cathedral survived the hostilities—an artillery shell had knocked off the head from one of the two giant statues standing on both sides of the Cross above the main entrance. Religious services are performed daily in front of the miraculous icon of the Madonna of Vilnius in the *Aušros Vartai* (*Ostra Brama*) Chapel, and the street underneath the Chapel is always crowded with devotees.

No Resemblance to Europeans

The residents of Vilnius—both Lithuanians and Poles—no longer resemble Europeans. There are no elegantly dressed people. The "foofuyki" (waist jackets) and home-made "kubraczki" (sleeveless padded jackets) predominate. Leather footwear was replaced by felt boots with rubber soles. The women wear scarfs as a rule. Any decently dressed person is continually subjected to frequent rechecking of his identification papers by the "people's militia."

A peculiar characteristic of the city is the total absence of young people from the streets. Older persons and children predominate. The youths of Vilnius have disappeared from the city.

"Repatriation"

Not more than 15,000 Poles remain in Vilnius, and these are mostly older persons. Several dozen Polish priests remain, but their number is decreasing daily. Whoever was able to leave—left for Western Poland. Rural areas reacted similarly. There were villages whose entire populations declared themselves in favor of "repatriation" to Poland, including a number of villages populated exclusively by White Ruthenes.

Few obstacles initially were placed in the way of repatriation. Later, however, the NKVD imposed new difficulties. Consequently, it was announced that only those who had paid their taxes in full would be allowed to leave. Thereafter it was announced that, in addition to taxes, persons desiring to move to Poland must present the receipts of fulfillment of the levies in agricultural produce. A "vicious circle" was created in consequence of these demands: whoever had paid monetary taxes—still owed the taxes *in natura*; whoever had met his grain quotas—already owed new monetary taxes.

The White Ruthene population declaring itself in favor of repatriation—was mostly deported to the interior of Russia.

Chiefs of the "Polish Repatriation Mission" dispatched from Warsaw were unable to adjust themselves to the NKVD regime.

Ochocki, the first Chief of the Repatriation Mission and "Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Republic of Poland," was arrested in Vilnius and sentenced to 15 years in prison. The "government" of Osóbka did not even intervene in the trial of its plenipotentiary.

Urniasz arrived from Warsaw to replace

Ochocki—and fled back to Poland within two weeks.

Kalicki, the third representative, simultaneously named Director of the Polish Red Cross for Vilnius,—likewise fled and crossed the frontier with the assistance of . . . one of the Polish underground “forest units” made up of youths in hiding.

Finally, the last delegate of the “Government of the Republic of Poland,” called Lipinski, resigned his post immediately after his arrival in Vilnius and rushed post haste back to Warsaw.

Bacon and Champagne

Regardless of the proverbial Lithuanian talent of enterprise and good management—Vilnius is starving. Neither in Vilnius nor at Kaunas is there a single large private store. Occasionally one may come across little private shops on the back alleys. These, however, are doomed to extinction—sooner or later.

The main store for the entire City of Vilnius is the State-operated “Gastronome,” located on the Mickiewicz Street. Any one may make purchases at this store. But the prices for different types of purchasers are not uniform. Soviet officers, high officials and NKVD functionaries benefit by large discounts. The discount for NKVDists amounts to 90% of the ceiling prices. Permanent government employees carry the so-called “*limitnyie kartochki*” (limiting cards). The workers, however, benefit by no discounts in this “working people’s fatherland.”

The prices in the “Gastronome” are: a kilogram of sugar—100 rubles, a kilo of bacon—140 rubles, a kilo of meat—40 rubles, a piece of pastry—8 rubles.

No one seems to be able to explain why the shelves of the “Gastronome” are loaded with “dactyles” (doughnuts shaped like fingers). A kilogram (two American pounds) of dactyles costs 270 rubles.

Furthermore, the store is amply stocked with champagne. A bottle of champagne costs 25 rubles, inasmuch as champagne is not limited to the bourgeoisie, as is the rule in the capitalist countries. A worker in Russia is entitled to cheap champagne!

“Free Lithuanians” and the NKVD

The city and district of Vilnius and entire Lithuania are trembling under the Soviet terror. *The Lithuanians are the principal victims of this terror*, inasmuch as few Poles remain. This situation caused a basic reorientation of the Lithuanians regarding the Poles. The Lith-

uanians freely associate with Poles and they stress that without a truly free and independent Poland—there will be no Lithuania.

Lithuania is perishing, and its people are transported to Russia *en masse*. Whoever declares his view in uncertain terms, whoever fails to stress one’s loyalty to the puppet, Paleckis,—is doomed to perish, sooner or later. The Reverend Vladas Mironas, the well known former Prime Minister of Lithuania, was recently re-arrested and deported to Siberia.

Lithuanian youths are escaping to the forests in droves. *Lithuanian guerrilla warfare, concentrated in the forests, is very strong and excellently organized. The underground army collaborates with the underground forces of Latvia and Estonia.* The great forests of Lithuania and the Vilnius area are sheltering the detachments of “*Free Lithuanians.*”

In the event of capture, the “Free Lithuanians” are murdered by the NKVD in the most bestial fashion. Corpses of the murdered guerrillas are usually exhibited in the most prominent places in the villages and towns. 40 corpses of the Lithuanians were recently laid out in the market place of Alytus for 10 days. The bodies were removed in a state of final decay.

This represents the *Life and Death* struggle. The Lithuanians claim that they have *no choice*. And they retaliate by a murder for a murder. They annihilate the smaller Soviet units and patrols.

In this situation, Vilnius was transformed into a gigantic headquarters of the NKVD for all three Baltic States. *Eighty of the largest edifices of Vilnius are occupied by the NKVD.* All of the taverns were transformed into detention places, and these are jammed to capacity with prisoners.

Such is the reality of life in Vilnius and the Vilnius District.

SIX MILLION RULERS

“Our party has six million members and candidates at the present moment. . . . In the process of admission of new members into the VKP/b/ (All-Union Communist Party—bolshevik) within the areas of the young Soviet republics—Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldavia, western areas of the Ukraine and Byelorussia—the party leadership must take into consideration the exceptional conditions and must select for membership in the party the people fully screened and utterly devoted to the communist cause, including leading villagers owning individual farms.”

(“PRAVDA” editorial, 8th August 1946, Moscow)

PAX SOVIETICA

THE policy of appeasement is still paying dividends in Central-Eastern Europe: active guerrilla fighting against the Soviet occupation forces and native traitors is in full swing in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Yugoslavia—also in the Ukraine, White Ruthenia (Byelorussia) and Northern Russia. Probably the most bitter struggle for liberation from the Soviet “liberators” is being waged in Lithuania, Poland and the Western Ukraine.

Several issues of the Lithuanian guerrilla newspapers have reached this country. Their contents are not meant for entertainment or pleasant pastime. The writers are bitter in their denunciation of the betrayal of their country by the authors of the Atlantic Charter and Four Freedoms.

Guerrilla newspapers claim that the Soviet-sponsored “elections” of 10 February 1946 were

totally boycotted by the people of Lithuania: not more than 5% of the native inhabitants heeded the call to cast their ballots for the single communist slate. This boycott brought immediate reprisals: on 18 February the Russians once more engaged in mass exiling.

KOVOS KELIU (On the Fighting Road) issue of 10 March 1946 editorialized:

“The 18th of February will survive in our people’s memory as one of the most brutal in all experience. Besides the periodic deportations of our people to hard labor in Russia, the bolsheviks initiated mass deportations on that date. Weak old men and babies were equally treated as criminals and packed as cattle in transports bound for the regions where, according to the Red terminology, ‘white bears bring forth their cubs’ . . .

“Our beloved Lithuania! Thou suffereth for the millions of the universe, not alone for Thy land’s own sons and daughters! . . . But the hour of reckoning is not far distant. We are duty-bound to vow vengeance on all the enemies of our people! Our revenge will be unmerciful! Let not one enemy dare seek mercy. . . .

“The bolshevik chieftains try to explain the present



Lithuanian Resistance Underground News Sheets

deportations as retaliation for the activated guerrilla operations. This we say to you, Red executioners:

"You could say such things to a fool born that same morning, one who has had no time to observe your 'paradise'. However, for five long years we have lived under you and experienced your rule. Did you meet one guerrilla in Lithuania in 1941? Did we not succumb to your singsong—did we not go to your polls, dreading your terror, to cast ballots for you? We had obeyed all your whims. Nevertheless, you murdered us, you exiled us, you shot us on the spot whenever any one failed to find a hideout from your murderous hands!"

The 4th April 1946 issue of the LAISVĖS VARPAS (The Liberty Bell) published an editorial, "Bolshevik Might on the Edge of the Abyss." The writer claims that the communist regime is tottering in Russia itself, because millions of Red soldiers had seen daylight after campaigning in Western Europe; that widely ramified guerrilla operations by the Ukrainians, White Ruthenes, Karelians, Moldavians and the Baltic peoples and the rising anti-communist feeling among the Soviet troops, compel Stalin and his party to seek victories in foreign conquests.

Both the LAISVĖS VARPAS and KOVOS KELIU encourage freedom fighters in a strikingly similar mood: the Lithuanians are not alone in their epic struggle. The world at large is beginning to take notice of "the armies of the freedom-loving peoples fighting for liberation atop the skeletons of small nations." They point out a significant fact: "*Several of these liberating armies are ranged on the same side, regardless of the fact that quite frequently they regard each other as mutually hostile*"—viz., the Lithuanians and Poles, the Ukrainians and Poles. "Statesmen, who respect nations' freedom and who do not fatten on the blood of innocent people, are beginning to understand that there will be no amity among nations if the peace building international organizations will continue to trample the right to freedom of individual nations."

ŠVIESA, a Lithuanian students' monthly, commenting on the contents of additional issues of the guerrilla newspapers received in Europe, calls attention to three themes evident in the clandestine press: (1) the present sufferings of the country, Russian atrocities and the continuing Lithuanian resistance; (2) an indomitable faith in the righteousness of the cause and the ultimate victory of the underground fight for Western humanitarian and democratic ideals; and (3) sharp criticism of the errors of the recent past. The latter topic receives con-

siderable space: "Who's Who—what they had said and what they are doing."

The editors seem to be well versed in contemporary developments abroad and cite Byrnes and Bevin speeches not reported inside the Soviet Union. Similarly, the news items disclose a wide knowledge of conditions in Russia Proper.

The mimeographed papers urge the people to record all the atrocities committed by "the bolshevik monster," by "bolshevik cannibals." For instance, the 5th June issue of the KOVOS KELIU exhorts:

"Let not a single teardrop of a mother escape our notice. Let not one sanguinary sacrifice of our brothers remain unreported. Let not one act of treason by Lithuanian renegades pass unnoticed."

Its 10th March issue stated:

"May the Red torturers remember that they cannot weaken by inhuman terror the spirit of the Lithuanian fighters. . . . Let us fight on, ignoring defeat; let us be worthy of our name, not simply vegetate as bread consumers; let us believe in Almighty God, rather than worship the idols of the renegades. . . . Know this, dear fellow countrymen: a blue sky shines above the dark clouds; life-bringing warmth returns after great hurricanes; beautiful flowers grow from tainted soil; white-headed eagles soar aloft from dead canyons—the heights are theirs, as are the Tomorrows."

In the 25th March issue the same paper writes:

"It is not destined that you, Red Monster, should smother our aspirations for freedom. Thousands of unsung heroes are out to bring back the liberty of Lithuania. Today their blood, as red roses, is drying in the sand; their bones are whiter than sea foam. But know this: this is not a prisoners' country—our land breathes of freedom and bread. It is not a country of slaves! This is not your country! . . . A Lithuanian is capable of fighting and dying. He shall yet prove to you that he is capable of fighting and winning."

The 5th June issue encourages the rank and file:

"The Lithuanian People is not alone in this gigantic fight. It is allied with hundreds of millions of people hungering for Peace, Liberty and Tranquility. . . . We stand in the vanguard of mankind's struggle against bolshevism. . . . We pulse the world's ideals, the ideals based on humanity's yearning for liberation from tyranny and oppression. We realize our worth as human beings, and we are certain that our contribution of heroic blood and sufferings will yet shine as the most brilliant bulb in the world's wreath of Freedom and Peace."

UŽ TĖVŲ ŽEMĘ (For the Land of Fathers) takes to sever task the errors of the past. The 4th April 1946 issue states:

"We must remain just. Let us honor the heroes and condemn the weaklings. By hiding mistakes and crimes, we only injure our national conscience . . .

"A great many will be surprised to learn that the

freedom fighters of today are similar to those of 40 and 50 years ago. Only the simple rustic, the poorly educated farmer has found the courage and the means to wage the TO BE OR NOT TO BE fight for his country's freedom.

"The number of intellectuals participating in this fight is close to zero. After two decades of free existence, our plain folk, our villagers had the right to expect not only the moral support of the intellectuals in our fight but ample and well grounded leaders. . . .

"We had Colonels, Generals, Directors, Professors. A great many of them were titled 'Your Excellency.' We had an Officers Academy, a War College—hundreds and thousands of officers were trained. The nation begrudged them nothing, because it expected leaders in the time of distress."

However, in 1940,

"everything—arms and men—were surrendered to the bolsheviks' mercy in conformance with the most scrupulously prepared inventories—just when the heroic Finnish People had shown us the true road. . . . The leaders, with bemedalled breasts, shouted death-defying words to fight to the last drop of blood. . . . Their words were wonderful: a soldier must be respected not for killing others but for his preparedness to meet death first on behalf of others. . . . However, those who had repeatedly sworn to defend the country from enemies, are now engaged, under fictitious aliases, as bookkeepers and scribes in Soviet offices promoting 'socialistic competition,' drafting and executing the plans for our nation's destruction. . . . And so the plain folk are waging this titanic struggle alone and leaderless."

The editorial condemned estate owners, agronomists and imported foreign specialists.

"When the calamity came, they departed from our country with their conscience at peace, while their former farmhands exist in penury. . . . The Lithuanian speech and spirit survived and was kept alive in the log cabins of the villages, not in the cities or on estates. But when the Lithuanian had recovered his political freedom, the log cabins were soon forgotten. . . .

"Our scholars and artists deserve special mention. They form an army of yellow-bellied and frightened renegades who became tools of bolshevik propaganda to save their own hides. We had thought that they were the nation's prophets, national poets,—but they proved to be pushcart peddlers, prostitutes of art. Well, let them sing as the nation is bathed in blood and tears—soon enough the wind will sing for them on the gallows."

The editorial cautioned "the elite" to think it over. In the same vein, KOVOS KELIU issue of 5th June published an open letter by a "Professor from the Forest" addressed to his former colleagues. It deserves quotation.

"I have in my hands an issue of TIESA (Pravda), describing the Second Congress of the Intelligentsia, and among the many names known to me, I find your name, dear Professor. I read your words with the greatest interest. Believe me: I was sad and utterly disgusted after reading. You and your other colleagues pay homage to Stalin's Sun and swear eternal love and loyalty to it. You dare call that most notorious

murderer 'the genius, the most gifted creator of this epoch.' What duplicity! Because *you do not believe* that he is the greatest friend and protector of Lithuania.

"If well-paid agents spoke thusly—I would have paid no attention. But when *you*, Professor, state so?! You, who used to orate about the great love for the native land, about the blood of our ancestors soaked in the black soil of our country,—you, who prophesied a new era, an era of freedom, of the creative spiritualized man.

"Must I recite to you those daily perpetrated crimes of your 'god'? Did you not see the NKVD and Annihilator Troops dragging the corpse of a murdered freedom-fighter through the city pavements and, getting drunkenly mad with blood, starting a weird dance and abusing the corpse in the ever more repulsive ways? Did you not see Stalin's reprobates disrobing a young school-girl, sicking dogs on her, stabbing her, spitting on her, and demanding that she betray 'bandits' whom she had never known? Didn't you at least once hear a tortured mother beg for death, to end her tortures? Didn't you ever think of your own mother and daughter? Didn't your heartbeat quicken with repulsion and cold fury? Do you believe that those people, whom your comrades call 'bandits', deserve such a name?

"This is Sunday morning. The awakened birds are speeding to pay their respects to the rising sun. A sleepy fog is rising from the pastures and marshes. The undescrivable Lithuanian feeling—never experienced in the many foreign lands I had visited—is intoxicating. Thirty 'men of the green' are around me, exhausted after a night's exploit, nodding in their alertness.

"Who are they?

"In this little band you would find persons of various callings, training and character. Most of them are young college students or high school boys. Beside them are farmers and workers. All deadly serious, deeply thoughtful. Limitless determination and pain mark their faces. The family of every single person here has been exiled, tortured to death or imprisoned, evicted from home. These men escaped from prisons. Their homes were burned down.

"How many such persons are there? Our entire People, with the exception of a handful of renegades. They all know the significance of their difficult struggle. Yet they do not stand alone: men of good will throughout the world are with them.

"Not for a moment do they doubt their ultimate victory. They believe sacredly that their fight is the Fight for the Freedom of the entire World and for Human Rights. They shall surely win!

"Their ranks are continually depleted—during two years tens of thousands perished in battle. The places of the killed are constantly taken by new volunteers, and they wage the fight with ever hardening strength.

"And you, dear Professor? Don't you realize that it is impossible to enslave and vanquish a nation's spirit? Don't you see the upheaval, don't you feel the great new current which is toppling the old retrograde world from its foundations? Don't you sense a premonition that the great hour of reckoning for the perverse bolshevism is approaching?

"*There shall be a second Nüremberg Trial, and it*

shall take place in Moscow! It will bare to the world the mass of atrocities which will shake the most hardened hearts!

"Think it over! Our nation is kind-hearted. It is capable of forgetting. The fight for freedom needs writers, professors, scholars and statesmen. I know you. I know that you debase yourself from fear, not because of misunderstanding. Pathetically eager to survive, you are sacrificing your honor, your fair name, your family's future.

"You are mistaken, for you do not know the Muscovites. Sooner or later, they will liquidate you. And should you survive after selling your soul to them—the free Nation shall never forgive you!

"Think it over and decide, while it is not too late. Your proper choice lies with your own people. And your People today is waging a deadly fight. It needs fighters. Enlist in their ranks! The democratic world is already talking of the heroic Lithuanian People. Our nation is destined to enjoy a great and beautiful future. We need just a little more determination and stamina!

Your friend,
Professor from the Forest."

The KOVOS KELIU in the 10th March issue discusses the future of Lithuania. The editorial states that "the plain folk of Lithuania do not fight for the landed estates or for the cap-

itals; they are fighting for a new life based on the democratic order, on democratic ways of life. . . . All agricultural toilers shall be provided with their own privately owned parcels of land. . . . Education and arts shall be accessible to the masses. . . . State capital must be employed to serve the interests of all citizens, rather than provide funds for individual good timers." The article discusses forestry, communications, individual rights, private property rights, individual initiative in industry, freedom of speech and assembly, freedom of conscience, full equality of citizens, improved and expanded social security and workmen's compensation, etc. "The Lithuanian People must have its own national culture and civilization, and must not lag behind the Western countries."

All of the clandestine newspapers appeal for extended guerrilla operations throughout the country, and urge the populace to transmit parcels of food and clothing to the martyred exiles in Siberia.

The remarkable feature is that not a single item calls for unity or for a common effort. It is clear that *unity is an accomplished fact.*

"PEACE IN OUR TIME":

War Communiques Broadcast by "The Lithuanian Guerrilla Radio"

IF the "communiques of the Lithuanian Guerrilla HQ," broadcast almost daily by "clandestine radio" and reported by one of the listening posts "Somewhere in Europe," are reporting true facts and are not the product of Soviet provocation—the rising storm of the resistance movements within the triangle of the Baltic Sea, the Carpathians and the Caucasus will eventually deluge the enslaved areas of Eastern Europe.

In Lithuania, the Russians maintain MVD (NKVD), MGB (NKGB) Con ("Istrebiteli" or "Exterminators") and People's Militia units in all towns to guard all bridges and government-party offices. The "government" of Justas Paleckis itself is surrounded by Russian "aides" and is maintained exclusively by the armed might of Russia. The guerrillas are denounced as "bandits," "fascists" and "German-Lithuanian nationalists," although these very same "fascists" had fought against the Hitlerites. During the first six months of 1946, more than 800 cases of serious sabotage were reported by the

occupation authorities. The NKVD advertised rewards up to 10,000 rubles for information leading to arrest of the saboteurs. However, no cases of betrayal were reported thus far.

Guerrilla units include men and women of all ages and callings. In one Samagite unit there was a 60-year-old farmer with his three sons, and this family "squad" constantly volunteered for most dangerous assignments. The old guerrilla was a good shot, and he accounted for a number of NKVD men. In a Sudavian unit there was a 12-year-old boy, J. P., whose father was executed by the Muscovites and whose mother and sisters were exiled to Siberia. The guerrillas adopted the boy and employed him as a messenger. One night he was wounded by Soviet sentinels. When the wounded boy refused to betray his friends in the forests, the Soviet troopers crushed the boy's frail body by running a tank over him.

Guerrilla units include men of Lithuania exclusively, although an occasional Frenchman or a Dutchman, former prisoners of war, are to be found. Latvian, Polish and White Ruthene units are occasionally sheltered, and joint operations are sometimes effected. It is known that several large Lithuanian guerrilla units were sheltered in Poland at the invitation by Polish

underground forces during the great manhunt in southern Lithuania.

One unimpeachable source advises that, during the summer of 1946, the Muscovites attempted to "purge" Lithuania three times.

In the first operation, 7,000 NKVD men with auxiliary units searched for a week the forests and homesteads on the right (northern) bank of the Nemunas (Niemen, Memel) River. 200 Red troopers were killed and 31 guerrillas perished in the skirmishes. The corpses of the "bandits" were publicly displayed in the Prienai, Marijampolė and Veiveriai market places.

The second operation was effected between 18 June and 18 July. The task force included 14,000 NKVD troops and additional auxiliary units. Major General "Bartašiūnas"—a Russian masquerading under a Lithuanian alias as the "People's Commissar for Internal Affairs of the Lithuanian SSR"—personally was in charge of the operation. This time the guerrillas suffered heavier casualties—about 200 men perished, including several staff officers. The Soviets, however, suffered considerably heavier casualties, including 1,400 men killed.

The third operation was carried out between 12 and 16 September in Samagitia. The "exterminators" lost 560 men, the guerrillas lost 39 men. The Russian radio of Vilnius announced that 435 "bandits" were killed and 50 wounded—without mentioning the NKVD casualties.

The Muscovites dropped three groups of paratroopers in Sudavia and Samagitia dressed in American and British uniforms, speaking English among themselves and supplied with American and British currency. The paratroopers contacted guerrillas and demanded that they be brought to HQ to discuss anti-Russian operations purportedly planned by the Anglo-Saxon countries. The provocateurs were soon demasked and only three of them escaped alive.

Russian purge activities extended to Communist Party members. At Kaunas, party secretary Gaigalavičius, committeeman Bieliauskas and six other Lithuanian members were expelled from the party and arrested.

The extent of this warfare may be gleaned by studying the "war communiques of the guerrilla HQ"—which source could not be reliably verified—and the order of the NKVD commissar "Bartašiūnas," published elsewhere in this issue of the *Lithuanian Bulletin*. The latter is an authentic document removed from the wall in N. village of Lithuania.

RADIO WAR COMMUNIQUES

11 August 1946—At Akmenė (northern Samagitia), the People's Court personnel was liquidated, the Kom-somol "nest" destroyed, 600 of the People's Militia dispersed.

12 August—A "Con" unit of 700 men, proceeding along the Aukštadvaris-Semeliškės highway (central Lithuania), was destroyed. The prisoners said that they had been transferred to Lithuania from the Caucasus and that altogether three army corps are presently massed in our country.

13 August—A detachment of "Istrebiteli" ("Exterminators") attacked the town of Linkuva and began looting. Our units dispersed the Russians. A Muscovite masquerading as "Jonas Jakimaitis" was caught in possession of 12 pounds of pocket and wrist watches and 10 gold rings.

—A motor convoy of 12 trucks with food was seized today. The escorts were annihilated.

—White Ruthenian, Ukrainian and Polish radios broadcast warnings during the past week that new "Exterminator" units are on their way to Lithuania to bolster the Con detachments.

14 August—A People's Militia unit was destroyed on the Klovainiai—Pakruojis highway (Šiauliai county). Our booty: three trucks, 28 motorcycles and one light automobile with radio broadcasting apparatus.

—The Ukrainian Guerrilla HQ announced that several units of Con troops and militia were destroyed by the Ukrainians in the area of Sadvinsk R.R. station. 2,800 persons of both sexes between 16 to 30 years, being transported from Lithuania and White Ruthenia to the Russian interior, were liberated when the train was seized. The liberated exiles found a temporary refuge with the Ukrainian guerrillas.

15 August—A People's Militia unit was destroyed at the Marcinkonys R.R. station (on the Vilnius-Warsaw line, north of Grodno). Our booty: two carloads of butter, flour and sugar.

—On the same day, our units operating in the area of Valkininkai and Varėna (north of Marcinkonys) destroyed a Con unit numbering nearly 700 men.

—Near Mołodeczno (between Vilnius and Mensk) a Con unit was annihilated before it had time to form battle lines.

—New units of "Istrebiteli" appeared in the neighborhood of Tauragė (near the German frontier north of the Nemunas). The Russians are plundering the farms.

18 August—Between Druja (on the Latvian frontier in the North-east) and Mołodeczno, eleven Con regiments were dispersed. Our units suffered casualties in wounded. Polish and White Ruthene units were not properly coordinated and suffered light casualties. These regiments formed the backbone of the "Istrebiteli" army marching to reinforce other units in Lithuania.

—In the Augustowo Forest (on the Polish frontier) our units were encircled by Con detachments. When our forces eluded the enemy by secret passages, the Russians opened crossfire on their units and battled each other, until our units formed battle lines and destroyed the rest of the Muscovites. Our booty includes ample supplies of firearms and cartridges, 26 field kitchens, a number of trucks in operating condi-

tion, and three tankloads of gasoline.

19 August—At Jonava (Kaunas county), our units annihilated the personnel of the Communist Party, Kómsomol, militia and People's Court, and rased the local Sovkhoz populated by alien settlers.

—At Obeliai (near Daugavpils in the North-east), Kédainiai (on the Kaunas-Riga R. R.), Utena and Ukmergė (county seats) several Sovkhozos and newly established Russian "cultural farms" were rased.

20 August—Near Joniškis (on the Latvian frontier) our units battled People's Militia guarding the highways. Our booty: 36 motorcycles with sidecars, machine guns, pistols, cartridges and hand grenades.

21 August—In the area of Pažerūnai (on the Memel District frontier), all Russian settlements and three kolkhozos were destroyed.

—At Bajorai (the Memel District) a Voyentorg (an army depot) was blown up and, during the panic, 18 trucks and 3 automobiles were seized and driven away.

—In Klaipėda (Memel) a grain elevator and two piers were blown up in the port.

—At Kaunas, during the blowing up of the Tilmansas Hall at the time a communist meeting was held there, 1st Sergeant Antanas Saldukas, a heroic guerrilla, lost his life. At Panemunė and Šančiai (the suburbs of Kaunas) People's Militia barracks were ignited and blown up.

22 August—At Antazavė (near Daugavpils), a traveling People's Tribunal and its military escorts were destroyed and 18 guerrillas being tried were liberated. A Russian NKVD Colonel-prosecutor was taken prisoner. He testified that he was transferred here from Poland to prosecute guerrillas exclusively.

23 August—The Ukrainian Guerrilla HQ announced that a strong Con corps is being transported in the direction of White Ruthenia. The Ukrainians suggest that this corps might be on the way to Lithuania. The same source broadcast that guerrilla operations in Transcaucasia, Croatia and the Carpathians are expanding and seriously crippling Russian telephone, railway, river and motor communications.

—The Polish Guerrilla HQ broadcast that during the night of 21-22 August a strong detachment of Con, more than 3,000 men, were dispersed.

24 August—At Klovainiai (Šiauliai county) a People's Court and 26 militiamen were exterminated.

—At Šiaulėnai, the building housing the Township Executive Committee, Communist Party and Komsomol was destroyed during a joint meeting of the communist personnel.

25 August—On the highway between Bubiai and Šiauliai, a Con unit of 250 men was annihilated within 3 minutes. We suffered no casualties. The booty: 40 trucks, 1 field kitchen, 1 truckload of food, plenty of arms, cartridges, various grenades, and one radio broadcasting-receiving set.

26 August—A Con unit of 150 men was exterminated in the Karsokiškės Forest. We had no casualties. The booty: 7 heavy machine guns, 4 light machine guns, many tommyguns with cartridges.

27 August—At Pasvalys (north-central Lithuania) our forces annihilated a unit of militia road guards, members of the Township Executive Committee and other communists attending a party meeting.

—At Linkuva we annihilated a militia unit, members of the Communist Party and Township Execu-

tive Committee, and liquidated a Muscovite kolkhoz.

—At Biržai, strong detachments of People's Militia were annihilated or dispersed after a protracted battle. The Pioneers and Communist Party members who offered resistance were exterminated. We suffered some casualties in wounded.

—At Druja, members of the itinerant People's Court were liquidated. Militiamen guarding the court dispersed without offering resistance. According to the seized files, 7 Latvian "kulaks" charged with maintaining contacts with the guerrillas were being tried. The court was scheduled to arrive in Panevėžys on 31 August to try the cases of Gabrilavičius and other employees of a local cooperative for embezzlement and to try secretary Sosoyev of the local Komsomol for inaction.

—At the Subačius railway depot, our units seized a half carload of food and butter consigned to Kaunas from the dairies of Skapiškis, Suvainiškis and Kupiškis.

—A Latvian guerrilla unit joined one of our detachments.

28 August—At Turmantas (a suburb of Daugavpils) a unit of 115 militia road guards was destroyed. We acquired 30 usable motorcycles. We suffered no casualties.

—At Kušeliškiai village, a militia unit engaged in a drinking orgy was surprised. The property looted from the inhabitants was recovered, including mainly watches and gold rings.

—At Linkmenys (in the North-east), one Stankus, a notorious communist, was liquidated during his tour of agitation in the Vilnius District. The local kolkhoz was rased.

—At Stalupėnai (Stallupönen in East Prussia), the local Komsomol brigade engaged in flailing grains was liquidated.

—At Vištytis, Lazdijai and Varėna (southern Lithuania), the grain stocks of the local sovkhosos were destroyed. Horses and cattle were brought to our bases.

—Between Vilnius and Švenčionėliai, several People's Militia and road guard units comprising 628 men were annihilated during 23-27 August.

—In Grodno, our and White Ruthenian units in a jointly executed operation blew up the railroad station and set fire to various warehouses. Our units retired from the city without casualties.

—The Polish Guerrilla HQ announced that 2,700 bolshevik troopers were annihilated in Poland this month.

—The Ukrainian HQ announced that more than 8,000 men of Con units were destroyed in southern Galicia. Communist instructors and agitators were exterminated.

—On the Tytuvėnai-Lydavėnai highway (Samagitia), Boris Sokolov, stationed at Kaunas, was taken prisoner. The captive and his escorts had been assigned to visit and purge the Communist Party organizations in Samagitia and Klaipėda District in consequence of the repeated destruction of militia units guarding the highways.

—At Althofen (in East Prussia) a goskhoz (State Farm) and all of its Russian "apostles" were destroyed. 200 heads of cattle were brought to our bases. The tractors were blown up.

—The Ukrainian HQ broadcast that six echelons of well armed Con units of various branches are pro-

ceeding northward in the direction of Lithuania.

—In the area of Švenčionys, a Russian Colonel in NKVD uniform was taken prisoner after the destruction of his Con detachment. He refused to divulge any information concerning himself. However, his briefcase contained orders to kill a number of former Lithuanian officials and students.

29 August—On the Tilsit Turnpike, between Šiauliai and Kelmė, an echelon of Con troops transported in 36 trucks and two automobiles and escorted, in the van and rearguard, by 2 tanks and 14 motorcycles, was ambushed. The convoy was annihilated by our fire within 30 seconds. Two vanguard motorcyclists who escaped the fire were annihilated 4 kilometers farther away. All of the trucks were damaged beyond repair. Each truck carried 14 "exterminators," besides the chauffeurs and relief drivers. The two passenger automobiles carried officers identified by their epaulets. 8 officer caps were found. One motorcyclist was found in the ditch untouched by bullets but with broken arms and legs. According to the testimony of the wounded cyclist, the Con unit was on its way to mop up the forests of Viduklė. Our booty: 504 tommyguns with cartridges, about 3,000 rifle grenades adjustable for firing from machine guns, 12 rifles and 13 repairable motorcycles. Our casualties: one of the men was burned by gasoline through negligence.

—In the Lentvaravas-Vievis railroad sector, a Con echelon was derailed. The surviving troops were annihilated. We had no casualties. Our booty: 3 usable 1½ ton trucks, ample arms and munitions, 2 field kitchens.

—Russian forest wardens and "Stakhanovite" despoilers of Lithuanian forests were liquidated in the areas of Vievis, Semeliškės, Žasliai and Aukštadvaris (central Lithuania). Forestry wards of Trakai, Kaišiadorys, Žalgiris, Turžėnai, Raudondvaris, Panemunė and Pūnia were visited on the same day. Alien communist wardens and secretaries were dispatched to join Lenin.

30 August—Our units operating in the area of Tauragė-Raseiniai (Samagitia) dynamited the Lydavėnai railway bridge.

—In the neighborhood of Kaunas-Babtai highway, a militia unit of 182 men guarding the highway was destroyed. Our booty: 50 usable motorcycles, 172 tommyguns, more than 500 hand grenades, 8 sniping rifles and about 10 hundredweight of munitions.

—On the Samagitian Turnpike, five militia units of road guards, each operating in groups of 12 motorcycles with sidecars, were destroyed. The booty: 40 usable motorcycles, 60 tommyguns and 200 rifle grenades.

31 August—As was reported yesterday, the newly reconstructed railway bridge at Lydavėnai was blown up. Thereafter, a train proceeding from Šiauliai rolled into the Dubysa river. Our booty included canned food, munitions, tobacco, 12 pieces of motorized field artillery. The gun crews and train escorts were annihilated before they had a chance to pick up arms.

—A railway bridge was blown up near Jonava. A train proceeding from Kaunas toppled into the Neris. Train guards were annihilated. No booty.

—The Kalnėnai railway bridge was blown up when a train from the direction of Gaižūnai approached. The escorts were destroyed.

1 September—Nine railway bridges were blown up on the Vilnius-Mołodeczno stretch and all traffic between Vilnius and Minsk was paralyzed for some time. Four trains, including two relief trains, were derailed. All telephone-telegraph wires were downed for a stretch of 12 km.

—On the Vilnius-Grodno railway line, 7 bridges and 6 km. of telephone-telegraph wires were destroyed.

—9 bridges were blown up and 6 km. of wires destroyed on the Šiauliai-Joniškis-Riga railroad.

—8 bridges and 6 km. of wires were destroyed on the Šiauliai-Mažeikiai-Riga railroad.

—11 bridges and 6 km. of wires were destroyed on the Šiauliai-Telšiai-Klaipėda railroad.

—8 bridges were blown upon on the Šiauliai-Pagėgiai-Tilsit railroad.

—9 bridges destroyed and 15 damaged on the Kaunas-Eydtkau railroad.

—29 bridges were destroyed and 100 km. of wires cut on the Varėna-Alytus-Suwałki railroad line.

2 September—Professors Kriščiūnas and K. Ambrozaitis were detained and tried at the Dotnuva Agricultural Academy. The Field Court Martial sentenced them to flogging, 66 blows each, and warned the defendants that in the event of their collaboration with the enemy in the future—they would be dispatched to Papa Lenin without further warning. Local Komparty, Komsomol and militia personnel were annihilated. The Bubiai sovkhos was rased.

—Main bridges of the Vilnius-Grodno turnpike and 18 groups of militia road guards were destroyed.

3 September—All bridges and 13 km. of wires were destroyed on the Skapiškis-Suvainiškis and Panevėžys-Švenčionėliai narrow gauge railroads, inasmuch as only the Con, Red Army units and Communist Party personnel were using the railroad.

—On the Zarasai-Daugavpils highway, 12 groups of People's Militia units of 8 and 12 sidecar motorcycles, each carrying 3 men, were exterminated.

—On the Kaunas-Marijampolė turnpike, 9 groups of militia of 12 motorcycle units each were destroyed.

—On the Mažeikiai-Akmenė highway, 12 groups of motorcyclist militiamen were annihilated.

—On the Königsberg-Wehlau railroad sector, 9 bridges were blown up and 6 km. of wires destroyed.

—All of the East Prussian bridges on the Königsberg-Berlin highway were simultaneously destroyed at 23:30 o'clock, by our and Polish units.

5 September—The agit-kolektiv (the agitators team) of Tauragės Naumištis was detained and exterminated. Its members—the Russians Vassily Vakhnov, Fyodor Arteny, Ostap Ivanov, and Lithuanian traitors Tomas Stonys, Aleksas Vilpikaitis and Algirdas Vilpišauskas—admitted having been veteran members of the Communist Party, graduates of the agitators courses in Russia and recipients of various decorations for the communist activities, and firm believers in the Communist ideology. They were all tried by a Field Court Martial and sentenced to death.

—The Polish Guerrilla HQ broadcast: in Western East Prussia, Lower and Upper Silesias strategic highway bridges in the direction of Berlin were destroyed. Several large railway bridges were blown up.

—The White Ruthene Guerrilla HQ broadcast; strategic railway and highway bridges were destroyed

(Continued on page 16)

Lietuvos TSR Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisaro IŠAKYMAS

1946 m. vasario 15 d.

Vilnius

Didvyriškai Raudonajai Armijai išvadavus Lietuvos TSR nuo vokiškųjų fašistinių grobikų, Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisariato organai ir kariuomenė, gyventojų bei liaudies gynėjų remiami, atliko didelį darbą lietuviškai-vokiškųjų nacionalistų gaujoms sutriuškinti.

Daugumoje apskričių sutriuškintos beveik visos gaujos ir nelegalios antitarybinės buržuazinės nacionalistinės organizacijos.

Lietuviškai-vokiškųjų nacionalistų vadai, be mažų išimčių, suimti ar sunaikinti, o tie gaujų dalyviai, kurie apgaule arba grasinimų bei teroro verčiami buvo įtraukti į gaujas — pasidavė Tarybų valdžios organams ir sugrįžo prie ramaus darbo. Daugelis jų sąžiningu darbu išpirko savo kaltę Tėvynei.

Tačiau yra žinoma, kad kai kurie banditai pasidavė Tarybų valdžios organams ne, savo noru, o gaujų vadų nurodyti; taipogi yra žinoma, kad jie ginklų neatidavė, tebe palaiko ryšius su savo vadais ir padeda lietuviškai-vokiškiems nacionalistams vykdyti jų žvėriškus darbus prieš ramius gyventojus.

Atsižvelgdamas į tai, kad kai kur dar tebėra lietuviškai-vokiškųjų nacionalistų likučių, kurie savo banditiškais veiksmais trukdo ramų piliečių gyvenimą, siekiamas galutinai likviduoti tuos lietuviškai-vokiškųjų nacionalistų likučius, —

ISAKAU:

1. Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisariato apskričių ir valsčių viršininkams, Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisariato kariuomenei ir liaudies gynėjų būriams tuojau imtis griežtų priemonių apvalyti visoms Lietuvos TSR apskritims nuo lietuviškai-vokiškųjų nacionalistų likučių.

2. Visiems savo noru pasiduodantiems banditams, jų tarpe ir gaujų vadams, LLA ir kitų buržuazinių nacionalistinių organizacijų dalyviams, po to, kai jie pasiduos ir atiduos ginklus, jokių represijų netaikyti, paleisti juos į savo namus ir išdėti pasus.

3. Gaujų dalyviams, kuriems jų vadai banditai draudžia savo noru pasiduoti Tarybų valdžios organams, įsakau užmušti tokius vadus ir organizuotai atvykti su ginklais į Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisariato įstaigas. Niekas iš asmenų, užmušusių banditų gaujų vadus ar eilinius banditus, trukdančius jiems pasiduoti, nebus traukiamas atsakomybėn.

4. Anksčiau pasidavusieji banditai, bet dar neatidavusieji ginklų, o taip pat kiti asmenys, turintieji ginklus, — privalo nedelsdami atiduoti juos Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisariato įstaigoms.

5. Banditų ir buržuazinių nacionalistinių organizacijų dalyvių, nepasidavusių Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisariato įstaigoms, šeimoms suimti ir išstremti.

6. Gyventojai, kurių namuose ir sodybose yra bunkerių ar kitokių slėptuvių banditams ir besislapstantiems nuo valdžios organų asmenims, — privalo nedelsdam pranešti apie tai Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisariato įstaigoms.

Asmenis, neatidavusius ginklų ir nepranešiusius apie jų turimus bunkerius bei slėptuves, suimti ir teisti kaip banditus.

7. Asmenys, žinantieji bunkerių ir slėptuvių vietas, nepriklausomai nuo to, kur tos slėptuvės būtų, privalo nedelsdami pranešti apie tai Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisariato įstaigoms.

Visus tuos, kurie, žinodami bunkerių bei slėptuvių buvimo vietas, nepranešė apie tai Vidaus Reikalų Liaudies Komisariato įstaigoms, suimti ir teisti kaip banditų pagalbininkus.

LIETUVOS TSR VIDAUS REIKALŲ LIAUDIES KOMISARAS
Generolas majoras BARTASIUNAS

ORDER

Of the People's Commissar for Internal Affairs of the Lithuanian SSR

15th February 1946

Vilnius

The organs of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs and the army, succored by the inhabitants and the people's defenders, have performed a great task in smashing the bands of Lithuanian-German nationalists after the liberation of the Lithuanian SSR by the heroic Red Army from the German plunderers.

In most of the counties, nearly all of the bands and the illegal anti-Soviet bourgeois nationalist organizations had been crushed.

Leaders of the Lithuanian-German nationalists were, with few exceptions, detained or destroyed, and those who had been compelled to enlist in the bands by deception or threats—surrendered to the Soviet government organs and returned to peaceful work. A great many of them have expiated their crimes against the Fatherland by conscientious work.

It is known, nevertheless, that some bandits surrendered to the Soviet government organs not of their own will but by direction of the bands' leaders; it is likewise known that they had not surrendered their arms, that they maintain contacts with their leaders and are aiding Lithuanian-German nationalists in executing bestial deeds against peaceful inhabitants.

In view of the continuing existence of some remnants of Lithuanian-German nationalists who, by their acts of banditry, obstruct the quiet life of the inhabitants, and in order to liquidate those remnants of the Lithuanian-German nationalists,—

I ORDER :

1. County and township chiefs of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs, the armed forces of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs and the detachments of people's defenders,—to immediately take drastic measures to clear all the counties of the Lithuanian SSR from the remnants of the Lithuanian-German nationalists.

2. To apply no repressions, to release home and issue passports to bandits, including the bands' leaders, of the LLA (*Laisvų Lietuvių Armija*—The Army of Free Lithuanians) and participants of other bourgeois nationalist organizations who surrender of their own will, after they had surrendered and turned in their arms.

3. I order the participants of the bands whose leaders enjoin their voluntary surrender to the Soviet government organs—to kill such leaders and to report in an organized manner and with arms to the institutions of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs. None of the persons who had killed the leaders of the bandit gangs or the rank-and-file bandits obstructing such surrender, will be persecuted.

4. Bandits who had surrendered earlier but had not turned in their arms, also all other persons possessing arms,—must without delay turn the same over to the institutions of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs.

5. To arrest and exile members of the families of the bandits and participants of the bourgeois nationalist organizations who had not surrendered to the institutions of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs.

6. Inhabitants in whose homes or settlements are installed bunkers or other hiding places for bandits and persons in hiding from the government organs,—must without delay report the fact to the institutions of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs.

Persons who fail to surrender arms or to report the presence of bunkers and hiding places under their control, are to be arrested and tried as bandits.

7. Persons who know the location of bunkers and hiding places, regardless of the location of such hiding places, must report the fact without delay to the institutions of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs.

All those who, while knowing the location of bunkers and hiding places, failed to report the fact to the institutions of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs, are to be arrested and tried as accomplices of the bandits.

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE
LITHUANIAN SSR

Major General BARTAŠIŪNAS

APPOINTMENTS DULY MADE AND CONFIRMED BY MOSCOW

"Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the LSSR confirming the decrees of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR concerning the appointments of the Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR

"The Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic decrees to confirm the following decrees of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR:—

—appointment of comrade Aleksandr Petrovich SOKOLOV as Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Motiejus, son of Juozas, ŠUMAUSKAS as Chairman of the State Planning Commission of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Sergay Mikhailovich SHKODIN as Minister of the Local Industry of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Juozas, son of Jonas, STIMBURYŠ as Minister of the Social Provisioning of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Andray Sergayevich ZASYPKIN as Minister of the Fishing Industry of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Vladas, son of Kazys, VILDŽIŪNAS as Minister of Agriculture of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Yakov Grigoryevich SVISHCHOV as Minister of the Communal Properties of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Stanislovas, son of Juozas, BANAITIS as Minister of Health Protection of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Dimitry Ardalyonovich YEFIMOV as Minister of State Security of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Vladimieras, son of Kazimieras, ALEKNAVIČIUS as Minister of Technical Cultures of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Adolfas, son of Adolfas, IVAŠKEVIČIUS as Minister of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Vladislav, son of Yosif, AUGUSTINAITIS as Minister of Animal Industry of the Lithuanian SSR;

—appointment of comrade Nikolai Andrayevich LYUBIMTSEV as Minister of Construction Materials Industry of the Lithuanian SSR.

Signed: J. Paleckis

Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR

Signed: S. Pupeikis

Secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR

VILNIUS, 7th August 1946."

/"TIESA" No. 194/1028, 20th August 1946/

P. S.— Official communications are, apparently, expeditiously handled: it required only 13 days for the NKVD officials stationed in Lithuania to gain the approval of their bosses in Moscow. Private letters mailed from Vilnius and addressed to Moscow arrive there, if at all, within two to six months.— Editor, *Lithuanian Bulletin*.

THE PARTY IS 100% RUSSIA

• "A plenary meeting of the Committee II for the city of Vilnius of the LKP/b/ (Lithuanian Communist Party—bolshevik) was held in Vilnius on 29-30 July 1946. Among other items, the meeting discussed the problem of the party's membership drive conducted in May and June. A report was made by comrade Yurchenko, director of the organizing section of the LKP/b/ Committee for the City of Vilnius, who complained that the growth of the party ranks is proceeding unsatisfactorily, particularly in the Dzerzhinsky borough.

"According to him, party committees in the tobacco factory of Vilnius, the "Sparta" agricultural machinery plant, bakeries No. 1 and 3, borough committees of the regional electrical energy, State Comptroller's Ministry, and other priority cells of the party—failed to enroll a lone new member in the party.

"Comrade Gavorukhin, party organizer in the "Vebras" plant, took part in the discussion. Comrade Malkov, deputy Rector of the University of Vilnius, reported that 12 persons, including 5 scientists, were admitted to the party among the University personnel. Comrade Maslov, director of the organizing committee of the LKP/b/ for the Dzerzhinsky borough of Vilnius, blamed the faulty organizational work in that borough on the priority party cells.

"Other participants in the discussion were: comrade Mikhailov, party organizer for the "Elektrit" plant; comrade Batrakov, secretary of the Soviet borough committee of the LKP/b/; Loskutova, director of the organizing section of the party for the Lenin borough; comrade Batov, party organizing secretary for the "Sparta" factory; comrade Nabokikh, secretary of the priority cell for the Supreme Construction Board; and comrade Chistyakov, secretary for the city committee of Vilnius."

/"TIESA" No. 179/1013, 2nd August 1946/

RADIO COMMUNIQUES

(Continued from page 13)

on the trunklines Riga-Moscow, Mensk-Moscow and Warsaw-Moscow. Also, 200 km. of telephone-telegraph wires destroyed.

—Around 4 A.M. this morning, a flight squadron appeared in the air and for 15 minutes flew low over the forest near the Ariogala railway station. Bombs were dropped on the neighboring villages, causing no serious damage beyond the noise. Afterwards, the planes formed a beeline in the direction of Kaunas and dropped more than 180 parachutists on the right side of the railway. However, all of the paratroopers were picked off like decoy ducks or black crows before they descended to the ground.

18 radio transmitters and 180 tommyguns were recovered from the corpses. Their mission is difficult to fathom, inasmuch as our comrades-in-arms of White Ruthenia, Poland and Ukraine reported no such proceedings in their areas.