

... 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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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 2, 1949

Dear Mr. Jurgela:

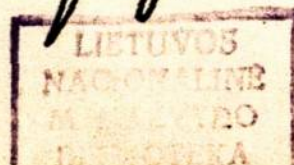
I am happy to send my greetings and best wishes to you who have gathered in New York for the meeting of the Lithuanian American Congress and to those Americans all across the country whom you represent.

You are to be congratulated for the contributions you have made to our democracy and for your desire that your kinsmen overseas may share the benefits and privileges and duties of a free people which we in the United States treasure so dearly.

Despite the existence in this world of those who place power and might above freedom and justice I have faith in the people of the world, faith that men and women like you and me can achieve a just peace for all the world on principles of freedom and justice and that with God's help we will achieve this goal. I know that you must share that faith and will work with your government to help make it a reality.

Very sincerely yours,

Harry Truman



The Third National Lithuanian American Congress

The Lithuanian American Council sponsored the third National Lithuanian American Congress in New York City at the Hotel New Yorker, November 4th, 5th and 6th. The two previous Congresses were held in 1914 and 1918, also at crucial times in the history of mankind.

The Lithuanian American Council is a coalition of the four ideological groups—the Roman Catholic Federation, Social Democratic Association, Liberals and National Association. It represents the majority of almost a million Lithuanian Americans.

Nearly 1,100 delegates were sent to the Congress by the various fraternal, veterans, civic, political, labor, social and cultural organizations. Augmenting the ranks of the delegates proper were many outstanding Lithuanians who had arrived in this country as Displaced Persons after escaping from the cannibalistic occupant of their country. Some of them had been prominent underground resistance leaders, who brought to the Congress eye-witness reports of what actually exists in Lithuania and how Russia is perpetrating Genocide in the Baltic States and flooding them with Mongolian hordes.

Besides the reports of its Executive Committee,—the president Leonard Šimutis, editor of the Catholic daily "Draugas," the secretary Dr. Pius Grigaitis, editor of the Social Democratic daily "Naujienos," the treasurer Michael Vaidyla, the editor of the Liberal weekly "Sandara," and vice-president Anthony Olis, Esq.,—the Congress was signally honored by the presence of Governor Thomas E. Dewey who addressed it. In the absence of Mayor O'Dwyer, Deputy Mayor John J. Bennett welcomed the delegates to New York City.

Among other distinguished guests were United States Senator Herbert R. O'Connor, of Maryland, and the representatives of the Baltic States still recognized by Washington—the Hon. Povilas Žadeikis, the Lithuanian Minister, the Hon. Julijs Feldmans, the Latvian Minister, and the Hon. Johannes Kaiv, the Estonian Minister.

The most important issues discussed at the Congress are amply reflected in the following resolutions.

I.

MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT

/By wire. Voted November 4, 1949, after the opening./

The Honorable
Harry S. Truman
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Delegates of one million Americans constituted in a Lithuanian American Congress meeting at Hotel

New Yorker in the City of New York, unanimously send a message of greetings to the President of the United States.

Deeply touched by the sentiments motivating your policy as expressed in your message to this Congress, the delegates in behalf of themselves and their constituencies reaffirming their undying loyalty to the principles of American democracy, pledge their loyal cooperation with your Administration toward the goal of equitable domestic tranquility and international peace founded on principles of national selfdetermination and Atlantic Charter, in other words on principles of freedom and justice which you invoke with God's help.

The Lithuanian American Congress will voice their views and aspirations in a set of resolutions after due deliberation, and copies thereof will be presented to the White House. At this time please accept our unanimous expression of gratitude for your unswerving policy of nonrecognition of the fruits of Nazi-Soviet partnership in aggression and for your continuing recognition of sovereignty of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

Leonard Šimutis, *President*
Dr. Pius Grigaitis, *Secretary*

II.

MESSAGE TO THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE

/By wire. Voted November 4, 1949./

His Excellency
Archbishop Amleto Cicognani
The Apostolic Delegate
Washington, D. C.

Delegates of one million Americans constituted in a Lithuanian American Congress meeting at Hotel New Yorker in the City of New York, request Your Excellency to transmit their message of respects to His Holiness The Pope.

Gratefully recalling the incessant Papal intercession in behalf of the martyred people of Catholic Lithuania and their just cause of liberty, the delegates beg His Holiness to bless and invoke Divine guidance in their deliberations and their efforts seeking Justice for the freedom-loving Christian People of Lithuania and other countries presently enslaved by militant Soviet communism.

Leonard Šimutis, *President*
Dr. Pius Grigaitis, *Secretary*

III.

MESSAGE TO UKRAINIAN AMERICAN CONGRESS

/By wire. Voted November 4, 1949./

Ukrainian American Congress
Statler Hotel
Washington, D. C.

Delegates of one million Americans constituted in a Lithuanian American Congress meeting at Hotel New Yorker in the City of New York send their greetings and best wishes to their fellow citizens and fellow freedom fighters of Ukrainian descent. This Congress wholeheartedly supports the just cause of the Ukrainian People as that of other liberty loving peoples presently enslaved by Russian Soviet communism.

Leonard Šimutis, *President*
Dr. Pius Grigaitis, *Secretary*

IV.

BASIC DECLARATION

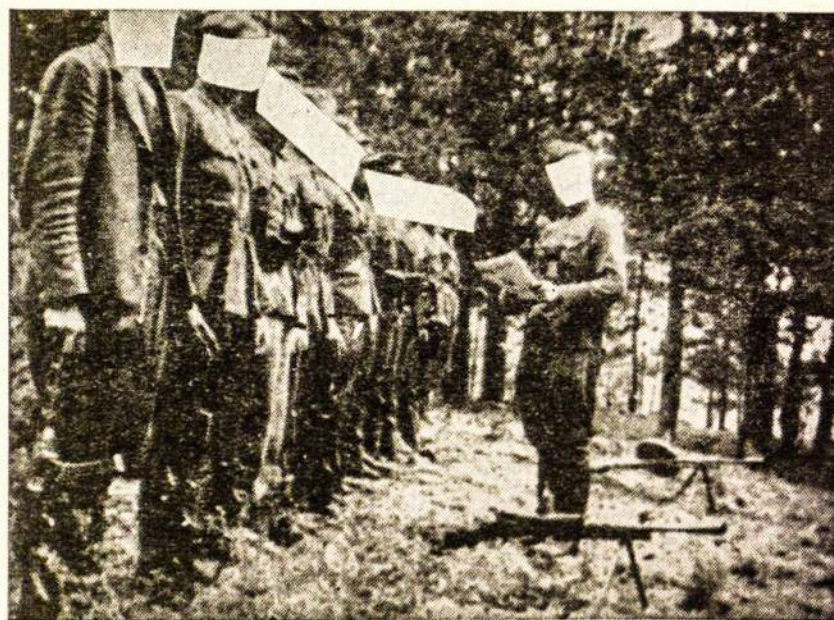
/Voted Nov. 5, 1949./

The Lithuanian American Congress, representing by duly elected delegates the preponderant majority of Americans of Lithuanian descent or extraction, reiterates its constituency's devotion to the principles enunciated in the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Wilsonian Fourteen Points, the Atlantic Charter, the Four Freedoms, the Truman Doctrine, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the objectives of the United Nations Charter and North Atlantic Pact.

Firmly espousing the inalienable rights of men and nations, the principle of equality of men and races, the right of all peoples capable of self-government to pursue individual happiness and to develop their creative national talents in freedom under a representative form of democratic government, the sovereign equality of states, large and small, and international co-operation under the rule of reason, of justice, and of law, the Lithuanian American Congress carefully reviewed the events of the past decade and the deplorable state of international affairs at the close of the year 1949.

In old Europe, the cradle of modern civilization, a major half of the continent lies under the sway of lawless rule by a group of conspirators established in the Kremlin of Muscovy who had extended their police state regime over formerly independent peoples of the Western Christian community of nations. The march of lawlessness and aggression initiated by Hitlerite Germany in partnership with Soviet Russia, has submerged in bondage the easternmost representatives of Western Civilization and Democracy who had for centuries past defended Europe from barbaric on-

slaughts, to wit: Lithuania, Poland, Latvia, Estonia, Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Albania, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and parts of Austria and Germany. Human rights are totally extinct in all of these countries. Western Christian religions are being forcibly eradicated in the Baltic States and the Ukraine, freedom of religion is constricted in other countries and formerly independent Christian Churches are being subverted to serve the interests of the Communist Party and its political police. Living standards of the subjected peoples are lowered below the meagre standards of Eurasian Russia. Millions of innocent people are being starved to death in slave labor camps of Arctic Russia under a program of incessant Genocide operations of unprecedented scale. The most formidable European races of the best fighting traditions are being molded into a mass of robots trained to destroy their own peoples and their friends of the Western World.



LITHUANIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS' ROLL CALL
AFTER THE BATTLE.

Resistance to Communist enslavement first exemplified by heroic Finns in a defensive open war and taken up, in underground resistance at first and in guerilla operations later, by gallant Lithuanians, Latvians, Estonians, Ukrainians and Poles, failed to evoke a worldwide understanding of the aspirations of these champions of the Atlantic Charter. The Great Democracies failed to champion the principles enunciated by themselves during World War II, and brave bands of patriots, abandoned by the signatories of the Atlantic Charter, are facing extinction in their lone Fight for Liberty against the armed might of Soviet Russia sustained by Lend-Lease. Nevertheless, underground resistance survives in the Baltic States, Poland and the Ukraine, and is in the pangs of birth in other Communist-dominated European nations east of the Stettin-Trieste line.

In Asia, the most populous continent lies prostrate in convulsions. Militant Communism is completing the subjugation of China and rearing its ugly head in other parts of the continent. The Sun of Freedom which had brightened the Asiatic horizon in 1945 is

obscured, is setting under the hammering blows of Lend-Lease arms wielded by hosts directed by Moscow-trained conspirators. Unfortunately, the peoples which had recently gained their freedom at the hands of Western European and American Powers, evince a deplorable lack of understanding of the Communist conspiracy and its methods, and heedlessly profess their "neutrality."

On other continents, the situation is more promising, even though poverty and exploitation present a dangerous contingency not to be ignored by United Nations of the non-Soviet world.

In our own country, people are recovering from their short-lived artificially fostered "love Russia" complex and are awakening to the Communist menace to American security, to American ways of life, and to international peace. The American reawakening is occasionally attended by outbursts of intemperance. Nevertheless, civil rights are imperiled nowhere in the United States, and there is every indication that Communist conspirators will be ultimately eliminated from the seats of power in the national Government and in labor Unions.

The current international confusion is the heritage of the political errors and maladjustments of the fateful conferences of Tehran, Yalta, and Potsdam. Abandonment of the Central-Eastern European and Chinese Peoples, the Siege of Berlin, the veto-ridden United Nations, the huge armaments outlay and the Marshall Plan—are the price for the ill-advised arrangements imposed by Stalin on gullible Western statesmen, constitutional representatives and servants of the American and British Peoples who posed as "Chiefs of State" at the ill-fated conferences. These secret political decisions were never submitted for ratification, and were never ratified, by either the Senate of the United States or the Parliament of the United Kingdom. The Soviet Union itself had already violated and repudiated the letter and the spirit of the Yalta and Potsdam agreements.

WHEREFORE, the Lithuanian American Congress respectfully submits to the President, Secretary of State, and Members of Congress of the United States:

That the Government of the United States *rescind in toto the unratified political decisions of Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam conferences*, which were nullified by Soviet violations;

That, having abrogated the said unratified maladjustments, the Government of the United States *reaffirm* its determination to reconstitute Peace in conformance with the principles of the *Atlantic Charter* applied to the friends and former foes alike, pursuant to the Declaration by original United Nations of January 2, 1942 and the Russian adherence to said principles in the international treaties signed with the United Kingdom and the United States in 1942;

That the Government of the United States *insist on the sanctity of treaties*, much advertised by Soviet spokesmen since 1939, by demanding *that*

the Soviet Union honor its international treaty obligations under the Peace Treaties and Nonaggression and Friendship Pacts concluded by the Soviet Union with the Republics of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland in the period of 1920-1938, and withdraw the Russian occupation forces and police-party apparatus from said States;

That the Government of the United States *take cognizance of the existing threat to international peace and security in consequence of the armed struggle continuing in the Russian-occupied Baltic States and in the allegedly "sovereign" Ukraine*, a member of the United Nations, and invoke applicable provisions of the United Nations Charter as a dutiful member of the United Nations and a permanent member of the Security Council;

That the Government of the United States *reaffirm its policy enunciated on July 23rd, 1940*, regarding the devious policies and predatory activities of the Soviet Union as part of a deliberate attempt to annihilate the political independence and territorial integrity of the Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, *and*, taking further cognizance of the barbarous Soviet policies applied against the Baltic Peoples, *invoke the aid of the United Nations in stopping the crime of Genocide* being perpetrated by the Government of the Soviet Union and its single ruling party.

V.

THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION

The Lithuanian American Congress expresses its gratification over the very active initiative of the United States Government in drafting the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

This Convention was signed by a majority of the United Nations and is ratified by several States. Its ratification is currently pending before the United States Senate.

The Lithuanian American Congress views the need to ratify the Genocide Convention as an issue second only to the problem of liberation from bondage of the Baltic States and other countries enslaved by the Soviet Union in the aftermath of the late war.

The Genocide Convention represents the first international legislation designed to effectuate at least one part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to abolish the barbarous practices in mid-Twentieth Century.

Heedless massacres committed in the heat of passions by uncivilized barbarians in the ancient times, were elevated by the Soviet and Nazi regimes into a status of a planned party-State policy which added more refined methods of genocide, viz., planned starvation, sterilization, kidnaping of children, systematic disruption of family life of the allegedly inferior races and of the large segments of society at home and in occupied foreign countries, creation of conditions pre-

LITHUANIAN MARTYRS FOR FREEDOM

Desecrated and tortured bodies of (bottom to top) Nykštaitis, Raktas, Lazdás and Vytenis dumped by the Russians on the market place at Butrimonys, county of Alytus, Lithuania.
(Photographed December 21, 1946.)

venting a natural development of national cultures and religious life, and slow death by exhaustion at hard labor in the Arctic slave labor camps.

These practices did not disappear with the United Nations victory over Hitlerite Germany and the publicized transformation of the Soviet dictatorial system into an allegedly "peace-loving and democratic" regime. Jews and certain Slavic peoples were the primary victims of the Nazi-managed genocide, not counting the masses of the German people opposing the Nazi system. The Lithuanians, Latvians, Estonians, Ukrainians, Volga Germans, Greeks, Crimean and Caucasian peoples are presently the principal victims of the Russian-managed genocide, not counting the masses of the Russian people opposing the Communist totalitarianism.

Having fought two world wars in defense of the basic principles enunciated by two American Presidents and spontaneously adopted by other peoples, principally the long-suffering nationalities imprisoned within the former Russian, German and Austro-Hungarian empires, the American People are obviously determined to see these principles honored, especially by governments of the countries which were saved from destruction through American intervention in the wars and American Lend-Lease aid. Genocide is the most horrible crime which must not be countenanced by the civilized society and must not be encouraged by inattention, inaction, indifference and failure to ratify the Genocide Convention.

Wherefore, the Lithuanian American Congress, in behalf of one million constituents represented by the Delegates voting unanimously for this resolution, respectfully urge their representatives in the United States Senate to ratify the Genocide Convention by an unanimous vote.

VI.

DISPLACED PERSONS LEGISLATION

The Displaced Persons Act of 1948 marked a significant Congressional action developing out of a serious realization of the need for American contribution to the solution of the vast international problem of political refugees from the Iron Curtain countries and of the persons displaced in consequence of the ravages of war. American responsibility for the creation of the problem itself was large, inasmuch as the United States Government, as a party to the unratified political maladjustments of the Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam conferences, was responsible for the presence in Western Germany, Austria and Italy of the masses of people from countries which were committed at Yalta and Potsdam to the tender mercies of the Soviet Union and its cohorts of political police.

The DP legislation of 1948 represented a provisional compromise between the widely divergent views held by the respective Congressional Committees. The Act is defective in several respects, particularly because of a comparatively small number of authorized admissions, the failure to provide for a priority to eligible persons who had spent most time in involuntary exile, acceptance of an unsatisfactory definition of "displaced persons" hammered out by the United Nations in the face of continuous disruptive Soviet misrepresentations and attacks, failure to provide for a fair proportional distribution of admissions among the ethnic groups, and particularly because of the unjust freezing of the small immigration quotas of the Baltic States.

The Congress failed to enact amended legislation in 1949, even though the House of Representatives had voted a Celler Bill. The Celler Bill contained some improvements, such as an enlarged number of admissions and a more equitable "cut off" date. On the other hand, it retained the unjust provisions of freezing the immigration quotas and failed to provide for a priority to persons who had spent most time in involuntary exile. The Displaced Persons Commission pointed out other unworkable provisions, such as stiff housing guarantees, but its suggestions for amended "liberalized" legislation attacked principally the features which it termed "discriminatory" against Catholics and Jews. These arguments failed to convince the Senate Committee which could not fail to note that the arguments of alleged discrimination were not borne out by facts and statistics.

Liberalized legislation for admission of "Displaced Persons" is needed, and the United States must share in the solution of the problem by accepting greater numbers of refugees from the Iron Curtain countries. However, in solving the problem, due attention should be paid to the element of justice. The unfreezing of the immigration quotas and elimination of the restrictions not contained in the regular Immigration Act, should receive serious attention in the enactment of liberalized legislation.

Calling these reflections to the attention of Mem-

bers of Congress of the United States, the Lithuanian American Congress respectfully submits that these considerations be carefully weighed and that a liberalized Displaced Persons Act be enacted early in 1950.

VII.

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

The Lithuanian American Congress commends the ably rendered service of the Lithuanian American Council in educating its constituency regarding the proper mission and organization of the United Nations. Back in 1945, at the San Francisco Conference, a memorandum was submitted by this Council outlining very serious observations on the plan of organization and suggesting that the veto power be entirely eliminated. At that time, spokesmen for the bipartisan foreign policy were not prepared to concede the validity of these observations fearing that the Senate of the United States would not renounce the veto power out of its regard for the extreme notions of sovereignty. By 1949, the abuse of the veto power by Soviet representatives at the UN Security Council has changed the views of a great many of our statesmen.

United Nations raised great hopes in the universe when its organization was planned and while the people firmly believed that the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms would be fulfilled. These hopes faded as American and British policies floundered over the pitfalls of the gradually revealed secret commitments of Yalta and Potsdam. Some hope is still lingering, as gallant guerilla forces continue to fight and die with the Atlantic Charter on their lips, in Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and the Ukraine. Resistance forces emerging in the satellite countries of Central Europe are recalling the selfsame promise of the Atlantic Charter. But in the United Nations, the Charter is passed over in silence, inasmuch as the authors of the Atlantic Charter fail to champion it and are content with debating over harmless declarations carrying no obligation to enforce these declarations.

Nevertheless, the United Nations remains a useful organization not only as a forum for the discussion of international problems that might otherwise be settled in secret compromises, as at Yalta and Potsdam. Inheriting a number of international institutions from the late League of Nations, the new international organization developed and expanded their useful functions. It brought new institutions into play to deal on a more efficient basis with vast problems of the refugees, cultural exchange and information, economic cooperation, etc. The influence of these new institutions is beneficially exercised in the countries outside the Soviet orbit—as the Soviet single-party regime brooks no interference or “propaganda” within the territories brought under its control in consequence of the surrender of Central-Eastern Europe by the American and British Governments. This influence is beneficial in spite of the fact that persons not genuinely representative of the Christian outlook of

“satellites,” should be equally entitled and enabled to present their cases to the United Nations if that organization is to justify its existence as guardian of peace, security, and human rights.

VIII.

“VOICE OF AMERICA”

While the facilities of the late OWI served to channel the spurious Soviet propaganda to the detriment of a number of occupied nations, the “Voice of America” and the United States Information Service have developed into major instruments of interpreting America, the American policy and a genuine reporting of world events to the people of the world, particularly to clandestine listeners among the unseen multitudes enslaved by the conspirators of the Kremlin.

The standards of information have much improved within the past few years, and materials broadcast were made understandable to foreign audiences for whom they are intended. The number of languages employed is likewise expanding and embracing ever larger audiences.

These developments are warmly commended by the Lithuanian American Congress. Their effectiveness is well attested by the growing Soviet attempts to jam the Voice of America broadcasts and to bar the USIS personnel from direct access to the people of the occupied countries.

The Lithuanian American Congress respectfully submits that the facilities of the Voice of America broadcasts and other information services be expanded to include transmissions in the Lithuanian language. Information should be compiled in cooperation with spokesmen of the Supreme Lithuanian Committee of Liberation and, at least occasionally, broadcast in person by personalities well known and respected in Lithuania. Similar facilities should be directed toward informing the people of Latvia and Estonia. Limited information reaches the Baltic States through the medium of German, Polish and Russian language broadcasts. But the masses of the population are excluded from sharing this information as long as it is not made available in the native languages understood by millions of survivors.

The Lithuanian American Council is authorized and directed to extend every cooperation to Government agencies entrusted with this service in behalf of the American People.

IX.

ALL-AMERICAN COLLABORATION

The Lithuanian American Congress realizes the presence of objections to so-called "hyphenated Americans" in some sections of the country, alongside the existence of certain slavishness among the first and second generation Americans in their eagerness to assimilate superficial "Americanism" of their own imagination. Nevertheless, "hyphenated Americans" and second and third generation Americans are second to none in their supreme devotion to the United States and in their distinguished record in the war, both on the fighting and on the home fronts. They are second to none in their sense of civic duty, and they have a superior understanding of problems associated with the countries of their ancestors and enriching their cultural contribution to America.

This superior knowledge of specific European affairs should be placed at the service of the country and should be availed of by Government agencies concerned with such affairs. In addition to local activities and keeping the neighboring communities properly informed and immunized against subversive propaganda, co-ordination on a national scale would be most beneficial to the country and to the cause of liberty everywhere.

The Lithuanian American Congress commends the hitherto humble efforts at collaboration made by the Lithuanian American Council, and suggests that this co-operation be made permanent, particularly with like representative organizations of fellow Americans of Latvian, Estonian, Polish, Ukrainian, Slovak, Czech, Hungarian, Romanian, Bulgarian, Yugoslav and Albanian descent. All of these representative organizations have at their disposal numerous newspapers, magazines and radio programs, and a well co-ordinated movement in behalf of a proper understanding of the problems of Central-Eastern Europe would *best serve the conduct of American international relations on a well informed and stable base.*

X.

SUPREME LITHUANIAN COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION

The Lithuanian American Congress welcomed the presence at the Congress of a number of former members of the Supreme Lithuanian Committee of Liberation (the VLIK), former underground leaders and guerrilla Freedom Fighters, and former prisoners of the NKVD and the Gestapo.

The underground resistance of the Lithuanian People, rising spontaneously since the first day of the



LITHUANIAN "FOREST BRETHREN"

Russo-German partnership in aggression and the first Russian occupation of the country, became a most effective movement under a coalition of political parties and resistance combat units—the VLIK. All of the German plans of mobilization of Lithuanian manpower and economic resources failed completely, and Lithuania was one of the only two European countries which, during the Nazi occupation, failed to produce SS-Legions for Hitler. The passive resistance under the leadership of the VLIK and its clandestine network of information services ultimately developed into armed resistance to the German occupation and to the second Russian occupation. The experience in clandestine resistance activities gained under the VLIK leadership, enabled the Lithuanian People to continue to this very day their resistance to the most barbaric Soviet occupation.

Political collaboration between the VLIK and the diplomatic missions of the Lithuanian Republic still recognized in the capitals of the Western Democracies, presents another aspect of political maturity of the Lithuanian People and the unbroken unity of views and aspirations of the people surviving in the homeland and their spokesmen abroad.

The Lithuanian American Congress extends, through the Supreme Lithuanian Committee of Liberation, its greetings and expression of the most profound admiration for the gallant Lithuanian Freedom Fighters still waging battle against the dark forces of enslavement and oppression in Russian-occupied Lithuania, and for their good neighbors and friends in Latvia and Estonia.

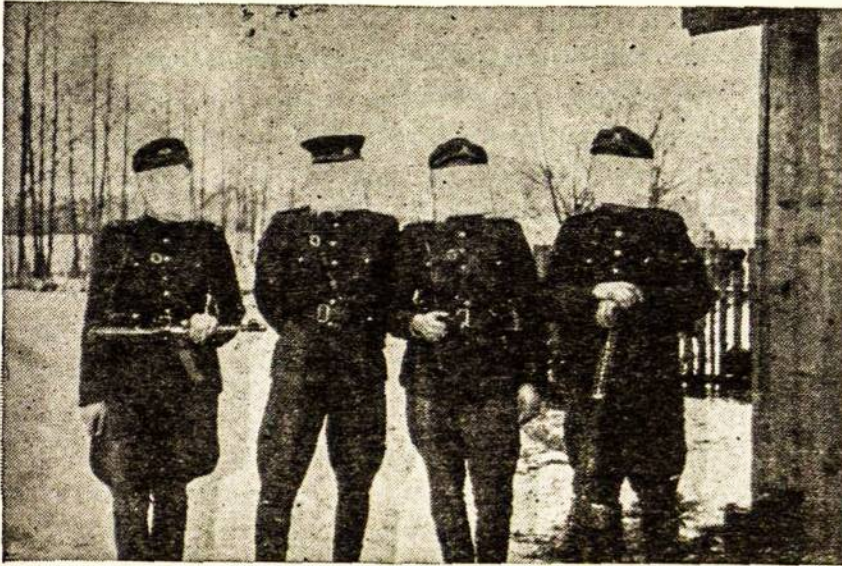
Lithuanian Americans not only admire the Fight for Freedom of the Lithuanian People, and of the Latvian and Estonian Peoples. They will continue to render, as they had in the past, every moral and political encouragement and assistance to the heroic forces of Freedom in Lithuania and the other Baltic States, until these martyred Peoples shall achieve complete liberation of their homelands to resume their proper place, as masters of their own destinies, among the community of free nations.

XI.

SELF-DETERMINATION AND REUNION
OF ALL LITHUANIAN LANDS

The Lithuanian American Congress welcomes the activities of the Council of Lithuania Minor, spokesman for the indigenous Lithuanian population of northern East Prussia, seeking a reunion of their homeland with the sovereign Lithuanian State.

Survival of the Lithuanian speech, customs and national orientation in northern East Prussia after nearly seven centuries of thralldom under the German rule, presents a most heartening example of the Lithuanian fitness of survival and of a Lithuanian individuality. The aspirations for a reunion with a preponderantly Roman Catholic Lithuanian State prove a genuine fraternal feeling and a great trust in the traditional Lithuanian religious tolerance which Protestant Lithuanian inhabitants of East Prussia repose in their brethren of Lithuania Major.



LITHUANIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN EAST PRUSSIA

The Potsdam decision granting a tentative American and British support to the Russian claim to northern East Prussia violates every tenet of historic honesty, political vision, the right of self-determination, the principles of the Atlantic Charter and the spirit of the United Nations Charter. This tentative decision, made without the advice and consent of the American People and of the population directly concerned, would condemn all of the Baltic peoples north of the Braunsberg-Goldap Line in East Prussia to slavery and extinction under Russian totalitarianism. Russia has no historic, ethnic, national, economic, cultural or security title to the Lithuanian areas of East Prussia, and a Russian or pseudo "Byelorussian" military-naval base at Königsberg could only serve as a springboard and bridgehead for further Russian aggression and expansion westward.

Wherefore, the Lithuanian American Congress respectfully submits to the President, Secretary of State, and Members of Congress of the United States that the Potsdam promise of support for Russian imperialist claims to northern Lithuanian half of East Prussia be rescinded, and that the United States espouse the legitimate aspirations of the indigenous population of that area to reunite with the sovereign and in-

dependent democratic Republic of Lithuania. Furthermore, that Lithuanian inhabitants of East Prussia, presently classed and treated as nationals of Germany, be reclassified as Lithuanian Displaced Persons and Refugees entitled to American protection from the tentacles of Russian "repatriation" missions and from forcible Germanization, or cultural genocide.

XII.

GRATITUDE TO RESETTLEMENT AGENCIES

The rolls of delegates to the Lithuanian American Congress were swelled with numerous New Americans who until recently had been nameless "Displaced Persons."

Among these New Americans taking an active and intelligent part in the deliberations of this Congress were former statesmen, functionaries, diplomats, scientists, professionals, teachers, army and navy officers, university students, clergymen, friars, excellent agronomists and farmers, artists, laborers, stage and opera stars, former guerrilla fighters and victims of Russian and German concentration camps. Among them were Catholic, Protestant and liberal men and women, former leaders and members of political parties of the Right, Center and Left, business people and labor union leaders. Their spirit of genuine democracy and tolerance, and high regard for human dignity and freedoms, proved that they will become, as a great many already had done, excellent American citizens with a highest sense of civic duty. Their model use of the ancient Lithuanian language coupled with their equally facile use of the English language, evoked a feeling of profound pride among the second and third generation Americans of Lithuanian descent who formed a majority at this Congress.

These new Americans, the former "D.P.s," were welcomed with warmth of feeling by the old Americans.

The new Americans have found shelter and opportunity for a resumption of normal life on the hospitable shores of America thanks to the wisdom of the Executive Government and of Members of Congress of the United States who made Displaced Persons Act a living reality, and thanks to the charity and selfless devotion of the National Catholic Welfare Conference and its War Relief Services and Resettlement Council, the Church World Service of the American Protestant Churches, the International Refugee Rescue Committee, the American Friends Service, Jewish voluntary agencies, and other American organizations which sponsored the program of resettlement in America of former "D.P.s". Their combined efforts, their devotion and material contributions enriched the American community with more than 100,000 men, women and children of finest qualities.

The Lithuanian American Congress unanimously voted to commend the Executive and Legislative Departments of the United States Government, and the voluntary agencies mentioned above, for their excellent contribution and humanitarian service in re-

habilitating the victims of Nazi-Soviet partnership in aggression and enslavement. The National Catholic Welfare Conference is particularly gratefully commended for the great assistance rendered in aiding Lithuanian D.P.s: more than three fourths of the Lithuanian refugees, of various religious affiliations, who had arrived in this country under Displaced Persons program, were resettled by the Catholic agency without discriminating among Catholics, Protestants, and persons not affiliated with any Christian Church.

XIII.

ON CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE AND PRO-RUSSIAN DISCRIMINATION

A number of American organizations have sprung up within the past few years purporting "to halt communism and save our freedom," to aid "Iron Curtain" refugees, to present a common cause of the Soviet-enslaved peoples, etc.

As a general rule, these committees are not in any way associated with representative organizations of the American people most directly concerned with problems of the nations enslaved by Russia. Second phenomenon common to such committees is the long list of members of their boards, enumerating on their stationery persons formerly highly placed with Government departments, thus tending to create an impression of intimate association with policy making media. At least one such organization features its endorsement by the Secretary of State.

Unfortunately, another phenomenon common to some of these committees is the *pro-Russian bias and evasion of mentioning the Baltic States*.

One such committee, endorsed by the Secretary of State and listing among its Board of Directors a former Under Secretary of State, several former Assistant Secretaries, department heads, officials of the OSS, ambassadors, the former Supreme Commander of the liberating Allied Forces in Western Europe, etc. Gifts to this committee are said to be deductible for income tax purposes. The objectives are most commendable.

However, the map printed in its informative leaflet contradicts the official policy of the United States, in effect since July 23, 1940, in that it shows the territories of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, one-half of Poland, northern East Prussia, Carpatho-Ukraine and sections of Romania as territories of the Soviet Union. "New" Poland and Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary, Yugoslavia, and "old" Bulgaria are shown in different color, to illustrate the countries meriting the interest of this committee. The Baltic States and Albania are shown outside the area. The printed text repeats the list of countries, again excluding the Baltic States and Albania, and recites that "Eighty-million sturdy people living between Germany and Russia are now in bondage." A conclusion is obvious that many other millions—in the Baltic States, Albania, Poland east of the Curzon Line, the Ukraine east of Slovakia and the Pruth, as well as in Russia itself—

are not "now in bondage."

The Lithuanian American Congress, taking note of the existence of such *organizations misrepresenting the official policy of the United States* while professing to have the endorsement of the present Secretary of State, *calls the attention of the Secretary of State and of the distinguished fellow Americans serving on Boards of such committees, to the misguided use of their endorsement, and respectfully suggests that they owe a duty of honor to correct the misrepresentations made ostensibly with their endorsement.*

Furthermore, certain map publishers and map syndicates contribute to Soviet propaganda and to misinformation of American school students and newspaper readers, by publishing maps featuring Russia in its "new frontiers," lacking any international recognition. A particularly painful impression is created by the use of such synthetic maps in the press sympathetic to the cause of liberty of the Baltic Peoples and antagonistic to the predatory subversion of Communism.

The Lithuanian American Congress *calls on the editors and publishers of the free American Press to exercise their right of calling to the attention of map-making syndicates the harm and disservice to the American People which they render by channeling Soviet imperialistic propaganda to American children and news readers. Maps shown in the official publications of the Department of State could best be utilized, and would contribute toward a better understanding of American foreign policy.*

XIV.

THANKS TO DISTINGUISHED STATESMEN

The Lithuanian American Congress unanimously expresses greatest appreciation and gratitude to the many distinguished statesmen who lent their moral encouragement and sympathy with the objectives of a Just and Stable Peace which motivated this Congress.

President Harry S. Truman of the United States transmitted a warm message in writing. This Congress found itself in unanimous agreement with the goal of Freedom and Justice which the President is seeking.

Governor Thomas E. Dewey of the State of New York honored this Congress by addressing it in person. His views coincided in a great many aspects with the policies advocated by Lithuanian Americans.

Senator Herbert R. O'Connor and Representative Daniel J. Flood addressed the Congress, and affirmed their cooperation with the basic demands for Justice and Liberation of Lithuania and the other Baltic States.

United States Senators

Scott W. Lucas, Robert A. Taft, Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., Millard E. Tydings, Brien McMahon, Irving M. Ives, John Foster Dulles, William F. Knowland, Homer E. Capehart, Owen Brewster, John J. Williams, Paul H. Douglas, Leverett Saltonstall, Sheridan Downey, and Edward Martin,

and Representatives

John W. McCormack, Philip J. Philbin, Adolph J. Sabath, John J. Rooney, John Davis Lodge, Lawrence H. Smith, Ivor D. Fenton, Ray J. Madden, James J. Murphy, Edgar A. Jonas, Harold D. Donohue, Charles A. Buckley, Lansdale G. Sasscer, Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Edward A. Garmatz, George H. Fallon, and Barratt O'Hara,

transmitted their statements and declarations which greatly encouraged the Delegates in their deliberations and in their hopes of ultimately achieving Justice and understanding for the Peoples of Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and other nations enslaved by Russia.

Bishop Joseph F. Flannelly of the Catholic Archdiocese of New York touched the Delegates with his profoundly Christian sermon at St. Patrick's Basilica in New York, and his moving encouragement and blessing.

Mayor William O'Dwyer of New York City, through Deputy Mayor John J. Bennett, welcomed the Delegates to the greatest American City and voiced views which convinced the Delegates that the American People are practically unanimous in supporting the Administration's policy of non-recognition of the fruits of Nazi-Soviet partnership in rapacity, and in demanding liberation of Lithuania and other freedom-loving peoples from bondage.

Their Excellencies, Povilas Žadeikis, Julijs Feldmans and Johannes Kaiv, the Ministers of the Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia accredited to the Government of the United States, and their diplomatic and consular colleagues who addressed the Lithuanian American Congress, greatly contributed toward a most realistic understanding of the direst situation of their victimized nations. The Lithuanian American Congress found itself in full accord with their pleas for Justice and demand to stop the crime of genocide being perpetrated by the Russian occupant of their countries.

The Lithuanian American Congress:

Leonard Šimutis, *President*
Anthony A. Olis, *Vice President*
Pius Grigaitis, *Secretary*
Michael Vaidyla, *Treasurer*

Resolutions Committee:

Constantine R. Jurgėla, *Chairman*
Matas Zujus, *Secretary*
Msgr. John Balkūnas
John Januškis
Stanley Gegužis
Dr. Matas J. Vinikas
Jonas Valaitis
Vincent Rastenis
Vytautas Abraitis

Members

Freedom to Travel and of Asylum Behind the Iron Curtain

- Article 13.** — 1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

- Article 14.** — 1. Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

/The Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at Paris on 10 December 1948./

ILLUSTRATIONS

I. The Guard Over the Iron Curtain

INSTRUCTION

regarding the frontier regime within 800 meter belt along the territorial frontiers of the Byelorussian and Lithuanian SSRs.

1. In accordance with decree No. 362/19 of 13th March 1940 of the SNK (Council of People's Commissars) of the BSSR (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) and of the CK (Central Committee) of the BKP/b (Byelorussian Communist Party-bolshevik), and the decree No. 11 of 26th March 1941 by the SNK of the LSSR (Lithuanian SSR) and the CK of the LKP/b,—alongside the frontier with Germany and within the territories of the Byelorussian and

Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republics, a frontier belt of 800 meters is fixed which is under the exclusive administration of the NKVD frontier army units and the delineation of it on the spot is the matter exclusively for the frontier army.

2. All inhabitants are to be evicted from the 800-meter frontier belt, with the exception of the city of Novogrud—in the BSSR, and the cities of Kretinga, Kybartai, Vladislavov (Kudirkos Naumiensis) and Vishtynetz (Vištytis)—in the LSSR.

3. It is forbidden within the 800-meter frontier belt: to plant any cultures (grains), to mow hay, to pasture, to do forest labor, to fish and, in general, to enter the zone without a proper special permit of the frontier commander.

4. Along the rear limit of the 800-meter frontier belt, billboards—20 by 40 centimeter wide and 1.5 meter above the ground—are to be erected across all highways, roads and field paths, with an inscription facing toward the interior, "*Prohibited Frontier Belt.*"

5. Immovable, hermetically tightened barriers wrapped in coils of barbed wire, are to be erected at a distance of five meters from the frontier line, across all highways, roads and non-operating railways. In these places, the roads toward the rear are to be severed by ditches, 50 by 50 centimeter deep.

On the roads: Kretinga—Klaipėda, Tauragė—Tilšit, Kybartai—Eydtkuhnen, Vištytis—Vencloviškė, Kalvarija—Suvalki, Kučiūnai—Sejny, Augustovo—Suvalki, Łomża—Ostrolenka, Zaremba—Ostrow-Mazowiecki,—barriers wrapped in barbed wire coils are to be erected—mobile, removable but lockable, the key to be kept by the barrier's commander; these roads are not to be furrowed by ditches. In the rear of the 800-meter frontier belt, on all turnpikes, highways, field roads and non-operating railroads,—locked movable barriers are to be erected and the key thereto to be kept by the barrier's commander. Fences of barbed wire, coils, posts, are to be installed, or ditches to be dug, on both sides of the road, alongside the barrier.

6. In cases of necessity, with the permission of the frontier guard command and consent of the military area commander, local residents may be admitted into the 800-meter frontier belt for the technical work of frontier fortification, hay gathering for the use of the frontier units, and to clear the zone of vegetation. These labors are to be done in daytime exclusively, and only persons among the local inhabitants well screened and devoted to the Soviet rule, are to be permitted to do such work.

Each labor crew must be escorted by special frontier units. It is categorically prohibited to allow any one to approach closer than 200 meters from the frontier line.

In hay gathering and vegetation clearing from the zone, the mowed hay and the cut vegetation must be stored not closer than 800 meters from the rear limit of the frontier belt.

7. All persons encountered within the 800-meter frontier belt and lacking permits from the respective frontier commanders, are to be detained. The detainees are to be brought to the frontier barrier outpost. Permanent residents of the 7.5 kilometer frontier zone who crossed inadvertently into the prohibited zone, are to be escorted rearward after verification and the signing of a protocol, with the precinct commandant's permission. The protocols are turned over to the precinct commandant for transmission to militia organs, in order to call the guilty parties to administrative responsibility. All other transgressors must be detained, papers are to be prepared for administrative punishment as either malevolent violators of the 800-meter frontier belt or as destructors of the state frontier.

8. In order to avoid the ingress by animals of the local residents into the prohibited 800-meter belt, executive committees of the areas and county committees of the LKP/b are directed to promulgate special decrees warning local inhabitants residing in the places nearest to the 800-meter frontier zone. If need be,

fences are to be erected along the rear limit of the 800-meter frontier belt. If unaccompanied animals should cross into the 800-meter frontier belt, the animals are to be expelled to the rear of the zone and their owners must be warned regarding their responsibility for non-compliance with the established regime.

In the event of a repetition or a willful herding of animals for pasturage within the 800-meter frontier belt, the owners are to be called to administrative responsibility through militia organs.

9. In all cases when inhabitants are admitted for work inside the 800-meter frontier belt, between the frontier line and the furrowed control belt,—KP control points must be established at the crossing places and, following the conclusion of the labor, these places must be harrowed according to the general background of the KP, not permitting to erase foot tracks in a primitive manner, with a broom or rake. It is categorically forbidden to employ any local inhabitants for this task.

10. Permanent residents of villages (townships) of the Soviet administrative delineation within the 7.5 kilometer frontier zone, are permitted to visit the inhabited points listed in point 2 hereof, situated within the 800-meter frontier belt,—on the strength of their personal documents, without special permits. Those residing beyond the 7.5 km. frontier zone and outside the limits of Soviet administrative village (township) subdivisions within such belt,—are admitted upon the certification by the village, township Soviets and by the kolkhoz boards.

Kretinga, which is a county seat, may be visited without permits by those citizens who reside in the Kretinga county and who are in possession of documents showing that they reside in this county, that is, passports or certificates from village, township Soviets or kolkhoz boards.

11. The entire personnel of the frontier units must realize fully that the 800-meter frontier zone is a prohibited zone to be entered only by the frontier guards and those in possession of special permits issued by frontier commanders.

Any person showing up within the 800-meter frontier zone, regarding whom the frontier unit had received no special forewarning, must be immediately detained and, in accordance with the orders of the NKVD of the BSSR, weapons are to be employed strictly against those fleeing from the frontier units or those resisting the arrest.

12. Regulations of the frontier regime for the 800-meter frontier belt, are to be communicated to the residents of the 7.5 kilometer frontier zone by local Soviet and Party organizations within the limits of the extract attached hereto. Those residing within the 2-kilometer frontier belt (in back of the rear line of the 800-meter frontier zone), are to be acquainted with the frontier regime regulations by frontier commanders in person.

/signed/ Lieutenant-General BOGDANOV,
Commander of the NKVD Frontier Army
of the BSSR

7th May 1941.

Executed by—Major MOKRYSHEV.

II. Former Frontiers Are Also Guarded

Strictly Secret

TO

- CHIEFS OF NKVD COUNTY BRANCHES OF THE LSSR FOR THE COUNTIES OF ZARASAI, ŠVENČIONYS, TRAKAI, ALYTUS AND LAZDIJAI.
- CHIEF OF THE CITY BOARD OF VILNIUS OF THE NKVD OF THE LSSR.
- COMRADE GLADYSHEV, CHIEF OF DTO (ROAD TRANSPORT DIVISION) OF THE NKVD OF THE LSSR.
- COMRADE MAZYREV, CHIEF OF THE MILITIA.
- COMRADE PETRYLA, COMMANDER OF DVMV-URKM (WORKER PEASANT MILITIA BOARD).
- CHIEFS OF DEPARTMENTS 2, 3, EKO (PERSONNEL CADRES DEPARTMENT) OF THE UGB (STATE SECURITY BOARD).

To comrade PALEVIČIUS, in Alytus.

By order of Lieutenant General comrade MASLENIKOV, Deputy People's Commissar of the Interior of the LSSR, the defense of the frontier barrier zone along the entire former Soviet-Lithuanian frontier is discontinued as of the 6th December 1940, and the former Soviet-Lithuanian frontier is thereby liquidated.

In connection therewith, free crossing is permitted, as of this date, from the territory of Western Byelorussia into Lithuania and from Lithuania into the areas of Western Byelorussia.

The frontier barrier zone along the former Soviet-Polish frontier remains in effect.

In connection with the liquidation of the former Soviet-Lithuanian frontier, it must be borne in mind that the counter-revolutionary element might use this means for its hostile objectives.

People's enemies under prosecution or under elaboration, on both sides of the former frontier, will attempt to cross into either territory and to hide there.

Members of organizations will strive to reestablish contacts with their organizations on the other territory.

The problem of combatting speculation deserves a special attention. It is quite clear that speculators will activate their hostile activity and will attempt to develop speculation as widely as possible.

Speculators will attempt to transport goods for speculation from Lithuania to other cities of Western Byelorussia, and vice versa.

In order to bar the way for counter-revolutionary activity and to activate the combat on speculation, you must immediately foresee a series of concrete measures arising out of this problem.

In a close, essential contact with the neighboring areas of Whiteruthenia, you must jointly elaborate measures for combatting the counter-revolutionary element, speculators, etc. Mail a copy of the measures to us. The militia must prepare clearcut measures to ensure the strictest fight against speculators and violators of the passport regime.

The passport regime must be elevated to an extraordinary level. Not one person must arrive in our cities and reside there unregistered, without a proper order to proceed or other valid reasons. The suspect element must be detained and the problem regarding it must be decided jointly with the respective organs of Byelorussia. Speculators are to be arrested and turned over to the courts.

Chief of the DTO (Road Transport Division) of the NKVD of the LSSR and Commander of the railroad militia must undertake requisite measures to wage a successful fight against speculators, to inspect railroad passengers, and to inform us. Report to us regularly regarding the progress of execution of this directive, and report the various events immediately.

DEPUTY PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF THE
INTERIOR OF THE LSSR
STATE SECURITY MAJOR

(GLADKOV)

No. 39

7th December 1940.

III. Post-Repatriation Treatment

*Strictly Secret.
In person only.*

TO

CHIEF OF THE VILNIUS CITY ADMINISTRATION OF THE NKGB OF THE LSSR
ALL CHIEFS OF COUNTY BRANCHES OF
THE NKGB OF THE LSSR
CHIEFS OF THE NKGB TRANSPORT OFFICES
ON LITHUANIAN RAILWAYS

To comrade
city of

The repatriation of persons of German nationality from the Lithuanian SSR to Germany ended on 23 March 1941.

In the past, the German minority in Lithuania provided the main source for Germany's intelligence organs and it was possible to conduct the espionage work under the guise of German societies and business firms. However, since the repatriation of Germans from the LSSR, the German intelligence was obliged to adjust its operational methods to the changed conditions.

It was established during the period of repatriation that German intelligence organs had recruited agents both among the persons of German nationality who were directed to remain in the LSSR in order to perform the objectives of the German intelligence organs, and among local inhabitants, particularly former /army/ officers and security police officials.

These people will constitute the cadres of a so-called "Fifth Column" who, in addition to gathering the information of an espionage character, will be charged with the execution of the terrorist and diversionist objectives.

According to the available data, the German intelligence recruited its agents for diversionist operations among the skilled artisans, blacksmiths, electricians

and printing shop workers. In addition thereto, the German intelligence organs utilize the relatives of the fugitives who had fled to Germany—Security Police officials, former officers of the Lithuanian Army, and socio-political leaders of the bourgeois Lithuania. Fugitive Security Police officials have actively engaged in the work of the German intelligence organs under whose direction they are restoring their contacts with the agents formerly connected with them in the activities of the Security Police.

In a bourgeois Lithuania, officials of the Security and Criminal Police numbered six thousand six hundred seventy one (6671) and there were more than three thousand (3000) reserve officers. In view of the fact that most of them are presently unemployed, they undoubtedly provide a real source /base/ for German intelligence organs.

It is also known that German intelligence organs carried out a mass recruitment drive during the repatriation of persons of Lithuanian, Russian and Whiteruthenian nationalities from the Suvalkai and Klaipėda areas into the territory of the LSSR. According to incomplete data, 500 persons were thus recruited.

All of the political parties which had existed in a bourgeois Lithuania formed a united bloc for the struggle against the Soviet rule. Members of those parties, especially their leadership personnel, doubtless orient themselves toward Germany and are prepared to fulfil any objective indicated to them by intelligence organs.

The Voldemarists, the old German agency in Lithuania, are likewise prepared to serve the German intelligence organs. The so-called Activists, who used to publish at Klaipėda a newspaper "Žygis" /Action/ and who had drawn unto themselves the members of the Kadem /Christian Democratic/ party and the Voldemarists, already in 1939 had waged an activity directed at a union of Lithuania with Germany.

The so-called "Information Bureau of Lithuania" existing in Germany, directed by Škirpa, the former envoy of Lithuania to Berlin, maintains ramified contacts with persons residing in the LSSR and through them is creating insurrectionist counter-revolutionary organizations.

With the object of halting the activities of the German intelligence organs on the territory of the Lithuanian SSR,

I ORDER:

- 1/ Take into operational accounting and elaboration by agents:
 - a) persons who had declined to leave for Germany under repatriation.
 - b) persons of German nationality who remained in the Lithuanian SSR.
 - v) Lithuanians who were not permitted to leave for Germany under repatriation.
 - g) relatives and political friends, among local residents, of the Germans who had moved to Germany under repatriation.
 - d) arrivals from Germany under repatriation into

the LSSR, who are suspected of ties with German intelligence organs.

- e) connections of fugitive police officials, officers of the former Lithuanian Army and socio-political leaders of a bourgeois Lithuania who had fled to Germany.
 - 2/ Review the accumulated German line /topical index materials/ and agency /network of agent-informers/, with the object of disclosing traitors and provocateurs.
 - 3/ By 20 April 1941, submit exhaustive reports regarding all the available elaborations of people who are suspected of ties with German intelligence organs, indicating the particular agency /agent-informers/ who had clarified the activities of such persons and the further measures intended to be taken in these cases.
 - 4/ Immediately report to KRO II of the NKGB all cases of elaboration instituted along the German line.
 - 5/ By special monthly reports (on the first day of each month), report on the agency operational work directed toward disclosure of channels of the German intelligence organs.
 - 6/ Persons under elaboration regarding the ties with German intelligence organs are to be arrested exclusively under the sanction by KRO II of the NKGB of the LSSR.
 - 7/ In order to ensure the purposefulness of recruitment of a new agency /agent-informers/ for the elaboration of the above indicated persons, conduct the recruitment only upon receipt of a specific sanction by KRO II.
 - 8/ All correspondence regarding the objects of recruitment must be forwarded to Chief of KRO II of the NKGB of the LSSR with an inscription: "*The envelope must not be opened by anyone else.*"
- PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY OF THE LSSR
SENIOR MAJOR OF STATE SECURITY /GLADKOV/
Countersigned:
CHIEF OF KRO II OF THE NKGB OF THE LSSR
CAPTAIN OF STATE SECURITY /CHERNONYBOV/
No. 24
12th April 1941.

IV. Tracing the Escaped Victims of Russian Oppression

Strictly Secret

ORDER

of the

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY
OF THE LITHUANIAN SSR FOR THE
YEAR 1941

No. 0025 *Contents:* Reinvigorated search for criminals and other persons in hiding from the NKGB organs.

No. 0025 Kaunas, 12 April 1941.

Notwithstanding the presence of a large number of counter-revolutionary element in hiding from arrest and agency surveillance, the operational tracing of it

remains on a fairly low level and certain organs of the NKGB undertake no measures to detain persons named in the testimony of prisoners, no publication is made regarding the tracing of persons who had fled to Germany and their contacts left behind. Only isolated individuals are registered with the operational departments and, regarding them, no effective tracing work is conducted. County branches and precincts limit their task of tracing the criminal element in hiding, to reports to Department 2 of the NKGB and use no other measures. The order No. 001530 of the NKVD of the USSR, dated 9th October 1940, pertaining to tracing throughout the Union, is totally ignored.

Deeming that such a situation is intolerable in the future, and in conformance with the Order No. 001530 of the NKVD of the USSR of the 9th October 1940,

I ORDER :

1/ Chiefs of the operational departments of the main NKGB, chiefs of the county branches and precincts,—to extend the task of tracing the criminals in hiding, in compliance with my orders pertaining to anti-Soviet element.

2/ To organize the tracing task in such a manner that every operational collaborator would concern himself daily with the tracing of persons sought of the defined categories.

3/ Immediately and in compliance with the order of the 9th October 1940 of the NKVD of the USSR,—to list for tracing throughout the Union all persons who had attempted to flee abroad.

4/ To list for tracing within the republic, through Department 2 of the NKGB, the criminals in hiding whose place of residence was not established during the earlier check-up.

5/ For publication throughout the Union,—the central operational departments, county branches and precincts must submit to Department 2 of the NKGB a detailed report regarding the criminals in hiding, wherein full identification data must be indicated, external marks, contacts, what preliminary tracing efforts had been made, who was entrusted with the further tracing, measures intended to be taken for tracing, etc. Information from the Bureau of Addresses and SPO 1 of the NKGB, including photograph (if available), must be presented at the same time.

6/ On the strength of this data, Department 2 of the NKGB immediately must orient county branches and operational departments of the main office regarding the criminal in hiding, and at the same time to take the matter under its control, to start an agency-tracing file which is handed, under a signed receipt, to the operational worker entrusted with the tracing.

7/ Chiefs of the operational departments of the main office, chiefs of the county branches and precincts, upon receipt of orientation from Department 2 of the NKGB pertinent to the criminal in hiding, must immediately prepare an index card for the person to be traced and place it in the index file, simultaneously transmitting an objective to the agency (informant) apparatus for tracing him.

8/ The Narkom (People's Commissar) of the Interior /the NKVD/ of the LSSR, Senior Major of State Security comrade GUZEVIČIUS, is requested to instruct the NKVD organs of the LSSR regarding as-

sistance to the NKGB organs in tracing the criminals in hiding, by tightening the passport regime and placing of warning cards in the bureaus of addresses.

9/ To direct Chief of the Department 2 of the NKGB to conduct periodic inspection of the operational tracing work in the county branches, also in the operational departments of the main office, and in each instance to report to the Narkomat's command.

10/ In the event that the criminal is not traced by local means of tracing, the operational departments of the main office and the county branches are to publish, through Department 2 of the NKGB, the search for the respective person, in accordance with the order No. 001530 of the NKVD of the USSR of the 9th October 1940, for tracing throughout the Union.

11/ Comrade GAILEVIČIUS, Chief of Department 3 of the NKGB, to complement immediately the operational-tracing group and to elaborate the measures for their use.

12/ Chief of Department 2 of the NKGB to furnish tracing index card forms to county branches of the NKGB and warning sheet forms for the bureaus of addresses.

13/ This order, and order No. 001530 of the 9th October 1940 of the NKVD of the USSR regarding the tracing of the criminals, must be discussed at the operational consultations of the branches and precincts.

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY
OF THE LITHUANIAN SSR
SENIOR MAJOR OF STATE SECURITY
(GLADKOV)

V. Retaliation Against Innocent Relatives Of Refugees

Very Urgent—Strictly Secret

TO:

- CHIEFS OF KRO (COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT) AND SPO (SECRET POLITICAL DEPARTMENT) OF THE NKGB OF THE LITH. SSR.
- CHIEF OF THE VILNIUS UNKGB (BOARD OF STATE SECURITY) OF THE LITH. SSR.
- CHIEFS OF NKGB COUNTY BRANCHES AND PRECINCTS OF THE LSSR.
- CHIEFS OF RAILROAD UNITS AND OPERATIONAL OUTPOSTS OF THE NKGB.

Copies: To Chiefs of Departments 3 of the NKO (People's Commissariat of Defense) and Commanders of the Frontier units.

To: Comrade YUDIN,

Deputy Chief of the Alytus County Branch.

Supplementing the earlier directive No. 5/1563 of 11 April 1941 pertinent to accounting for the families of fatherland's traitors who had escaped abroad since the 7th December 1940, for handling investigation cases regarding them, I PROPOSE:

1/ To immediately conclude the investigation cases regarding the members of families of the fatherland's traitors now under an accounting, and transmit the same to the NKGB for direction to the Extraordinary Consultation (*Osoboye Sovyeshchaniye*).

Once again I remind that the investigation must establish:

- a) the flight abroad of the traitor of the fatherland.
- b) the membership composition of the family of the traitor of the fatherland who had, prior to the perpetration of the crime, lived with him or were supported by him.

2/ A separate investigation file must be instituted for each family of a fatherland's traitor. According to possibility, all adult members of such a family must be interrogated. Family members are to be interrogated in such a manner as to establish the fact of the flight abroad and to verify the fugitive's whereabouts. No charges are to be announced to the interrogated family members and no punitive measures are to be applied.

Should the interrogation establish that any member of the family had aided in the preparation or perpetration of treason, or was aware but failed to inform the government, such person is to be called to responsibility *under Article 58-1-b of the Penal Code of the RSFSR*.

3/ In the event that any deportable member of the family of the fatherland's traitor lives separately, he must be indexed in the general inquest file and, necessarily, his place of residence must be verified.

4/ Farms of the deportable need not be specially inventoried. The movable and immovable property is to be clarified while interrogating members of the family of a fatherland's traitor.

5/ Two copies of the roster of the family members must be enclosed in every inquest file, one copy whereof is basted to the file and the second copy is to be enclosed in the file but not basted-in, inasmuch as it is intended for consignment to Department 2 of the NKGB.

The roster is to be drafted in the following form:

1. consecutive number, 2. surname, name and father's name of each member of the family, 3. relationship degree (father, mother, brother, sister, wife), 4. age, 5. place of residence.

Note: Fugitive's surname is to be marked on top of the list.

6/ On the basis of the interrogation material, every file must contain the decree to exile the members of the fatherland traitor's family to the northern regions of the USSR. The decree is basted to the file's top.

7/ In order to preclude escape or escaping into hiding of members of the family of a fatherland's traitor, NKGB county branches must provide for surveillance by the agency. Supervision over the security of the property slated for confiscation, must likewise be provided for.

8/ Inquest files are to be forwarded to Department 2 of the NKGB not later than 10th June, inasmuch as such files must on the 10th June be directed where necessary through a special representative of the NKVD of the USSR.

9/ Department 3, NKO units, railroad units, operational outposts and NKVD frontier detachments—are to transmit their inquest files to Department 2 of the NKGB through NKGB county branches.

DEPUTY PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE
SECURITY OF THE LSSR

(BYKOV)

ATTEST: ACTING CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT 2
OF THE NKGB OF THE LSSR
SECURITY SENIOR LIEUTENANT

(PYADYSHEV)

27th May 1941.

No. 5/2620

K a u n a s.

Life In A Police State

The Conspiracy of the Politburo

The deportations have no relation to reprisals or suppression of "the counter-revolution": they are an integral part of a long range conspiracy elaborated by the Politburo of the Kremlin. It is an integral part of a Soviet political system. Even if a certain part of the population of an occupied country resists or offers no resistance to Sovietization, or even openly sympathizes with Communism—arrests and mass deportations must go on and embrace both the resistant and passive elements, and open sympathizers of the bolsheviks, including Party members. This policy is inexorably pursued by the Politburo in any country falling under its rule. If any deviations are apparent at times, these are merely tactical considerations.

The "Planning Bureau" had acquired considerable experience in the Ukraine prior to 1939. Foreign "sectors" were formed in 1938, and comrade V. G. Dekanozov was placed in charge of the "Baltic Sector." With the Hitler-Stalin negotiations, comrade Dekanozov, Stalin's fellow Georgian, was given the title of Deputy Commissar for Foreign Affairs. It was he who

supervised the liquidation of Lithuania in 1940, as another Deputy Commissar Andrei Vyshinsky supervised the burial of Latvia and Politburo member, General Zhdanov, presided over the demise of Estonia.

The plan elaborated by comrade Dekanozov and approved by the Politburo in 1939, called for the "liquidation" of 700,000 Lithuanians by the execution of a graduated series of genocidal "operations." (The figure was raised to 50% of the entire Lithuanian population by 1945, to 70% by 1947, and at the present time stands at 85% in view of the unexpected stubbornness of the Lithuanian resistance.)

The figure of 700,000 victims staggered even the most docile native Communists who were dreaming of an independent rule—but appeals were in vain. Nevertheless, some sort of a justification had to be made and "popularized." Artificial hatred against "the people's enemies" had to be aroused. Therefore, the few Lithuanian-speaking Communists were dispatched to exhort the population at compulsory mass meetings against imaginary "people's enemies" in this agricultural country of small farmers.

Everyone realized that the Communists were the only enemies of the people. But the populace was obliged to listen for hours to the speeches of the people's enemies. Comrade Sniečkus, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the LKP/b [the Communist-bolshevik Party of Lithuania], reported to the Fifth Party Congress at Kaunas on 5th February 1941. He urged on Party organizations the maintenance of "revolutionary alertness in exposing the activities of class enemies," inciting hatred against the people's enemies among the masses, putting an end to the attitude of negligence stated to have been evident among Party comrades, including the leaders, regarding the false notion that it might be possible to convert disappointed enemies, Smetona's henchmen, into constructive builders of Socialism. He recalled the all-wise words of the Great Leader of Nations, Father and Teacher, glorious Stalin The Sun, to the effect that, with the growing power of the Soviet State, resistance by the diminishing numbers of the non-working classes would likewise grow stronger. Therefore, in order to exterminate these elements without paying an unnecessarily heavy price, the Party comrades must bring to the surface and expose the treacherous plots of the enemy, no matter how masked they may be. The Communists of Lithuania must be "prepared to repulse the enemy at any moment." Comrade Sniečkus stressed that, in raising the level of their revolutionary alertness, the Communists must "strengthen their organs of security and must help them to eradicate the people's enemies and all their roots."

These "organs" had, indeed, strengthened their activities beyond the comprehension of the people. Some of these ramifications will be presently traced in outline.

In the past several issues of the *Bulletin*, some political aspects of Soviet judicial philosophy and certain investigative procedures were illustrated by extracts from the NKVD Manual, Article 57 of the Soviet Penal Code, and instructions to MVD-MGB inquisitorial personnel. Reference was made to top secret NKVD orders of October 1939, and to a Red Army map of 1939 tending to confirm that the annexation of the Baltic States was planned during the preliminary Nazi-Soviet negotiations for a partnership in aggression and plunder.

Additional aspects of Russian rule over foreign populations will be shown in the present and the forthcoming issues, culminating in the preparation and execution of a series of genocidal "operations." Original "strictly secret" orders of the Russian NKVD-NKGB (now MVD-MGB) will be reproduced in illustrating the Russian Soviet "philosophy" and methods of rule.

The First "Operation"

The first mass arrests and deportations were carried out on the night of 11th to 12th July 1940, a little over three weeks since the Russian occupation of Lithuania. An NKVD order of 7 July 1940, signed by

comrade Antanas Sniečkus, designated the leaders of five "groups" charged with listing the first victims. It was reproduced in the July-August 1947 issue of the *Bulletin* and reviewed in the April-June 1949 issue.

The plan directed that a number of "operatives" be assigned, as of 8th July 1940, to verify the addresses of prospective victims. The "operational groups" were strengthened by considerable numbers of native officials of the criminal and regular police. The orders directed that the various police chiefs should be forewarned that police officers would be needed for a certain "operation," but the exact number of the officers required was not to be revealed. To camouflage the preparations, Zdanavičius, a native chief of the Lithuanian Security Police, was designated to alert the regular police.

Gailevičius, a native Lithuanian, the nominal head of Department II of the Ministry of the Interior, was instructed "to draft"—that is, to translate from the Russian—a special instruction for the conduct of searches and arrests. Copies of the instruction were to be handed to "operational group commanders" on the eve of the operation. Thirty automobiles were to be placed at their disposal in Kaunas, for inter-group liaison. Comrade Sniečkus, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania and Director of the Security Department of the Ministry of the Interior, was charged with the task of providing transportation. In anticipation of necessity for sealing up the private quarters of persons to be arrested, Slavinas, head of the Communist Party Secretariat, was directed to prepare, by the 9th of July, 1940, metal seals for making impressions on wax and to provide twenty pocket flashlights.

To ensure the success of the "operation" throughout the country, "operational collaborators" were to be delegated from Kaunas to the following places: 8 operatives to Vilnius, and one operative each to the area centers of Šiauliai, Ukmergė, Marijampolė and Panevėžys. To facilitate the selection of completely trustworthy native police officers, all county police chiefs and area police heads were ordered to submit complete lists of the police personnel in their respective jurisdictions, to the Secretariat of the Security Department.

Razauskas, the native Jewish head of the Investigation Division of the NKVD, was charged with the drafting, by the 10th of July, of "orders" for the arrest of all persons named in the lists prepared by the five "groups" designated by Sniečkus in his directive of July 7th. Information concerning persons to be detained was to be "co-ordinated with the data under custody of Gedvila, Minister of the Interior." The task of "co-ordinating" this information was made the personal responsibility of comrade Sniečkus. The aforementioned Razauskas, Chief of the Investigative Division, and Kučinskis, the Warden of the Prison of Kaunas, were directed to organize "the reception" of the detainees and of the property seized during the searches:

"In order to ensure strict isolation, it must be ascertained by the 11th of July, at which time the list of detainable persons will be approved, which persons will be assigned to particular cells. Distribution must be planned so that persons associated in the same case shall not be placed together."

The warden of the prison—there was only one prison in Kaunas in 1940, compared to the several dozen prisons operating there in 1949—was ordered to prepare, by the 11th of July, enough cells to accommodate 200 additional prisoners. Cadres of prison guards, screened for their reliability, were to be formed. Warden Kučinskis was directed to redouble the prison guard as of July 12th, and Chief Investigator Razauskas was ordered to select a special team of investigators to conduct the interrogation immediately after the arrests. It was ordered that all prospective suspects should be shadowed, beginning with July 9th, and that the Chief of Department II should organize eight "external observation posts" for this purpose.

The plan required that area NKVD chiefs—in this transitional period when the NKVD functioned separately within the building of the Ministry of the Interior of a still "independent" Lithuania—report to their HQ in Kaunas on July 9th, with "the prepared operational materials for the co-ordination of the prospective candidates." They were to receive at that time their special instructions. A special "conditional code for telephonic conversations with Area Chiefs" was devised, as well as a code form for the drafting of reports regarding the "preparation and results of the operation." A scheduled consultation with Area Chiefs would decide which prisoners should be transported to Kaunas and to Vilnius.

"Because persons among the prospects and among individuals not listed therein who anticipate their detention, may attempt to cross the state frontier," the Frontier Guard Police was to be alerted in force and the frontier with Germany hermetically sealed between July 11th and 16th. Sniečkus was charged with this responsibility.

The "isolation" of Polish refugees was ordered to commence earlier, on July 8th.

"All operational workers and policemen assigned to participate in the execution of the operation, must be equipped with firearms. Those not familiar with the handling of firearms must undergo special training on the 8th and 9th days of July, reporting for two hours of instruction at firing ranges." Zdanavičius was charged with this part of the preparations.

"This plan must be executed unerringly and without any excuses whatsoever, even though its individual points may be altered or supplemented by the Director or his Deputy in accordance with circumstances."

The plan was, indeed, "unerringly" executed.

On the night of July 11-12, 1940, hundreds of automobiles parked in front of the homes of prominent Lithuanians in Kaunas, Vilnius, Šiauliai, Panevėžys,

and hundreds of other towns, villages and hamlets. Russian "Chekists",* with loaded rifles and fixed bayonets, jumped from the automobiles and trucks, accompanied by uniformed Lithuanian policemen and local Communists in mufti. Searches were made—as a formality, rather than as a necessity.

The heads of these "operational groups" were, in almost every case, persons of non-Lithuanian nationality. After the search, members of the prisoners' families were herded into one room and the rest of the quarters were sealed up. The Chekists behaved with utmost brutality and freely used their rifle butts. Relatives, wives and friends left undisturbed were not informed as to a prisoner's place of detention or destination.

In spite of the mass character of the arrests, the utmost secrecy was maintained both on the first night and during later arrests. Not a word of arrests was printed in the Communist-controlled press. Relatives of prisoners were told to make no attempt to ascertain the place of detention—nor to mention the fact of the arrests to any one, or . . . Nevertheless, the entire country knew of the shocking mass "operation" by dawn.

Persons of all ideologies, from all walks of life, were detained—individuals concerning whom there was no conceivable ground for prosecution. Terror seized the people. Until then no one had ever "disappeared at night" from his home, or while walking on the street. But now "kidnaping" became commonplace, with this difference: no ransom was demanded and no one was allowed to make inquiries. This was, evidently, the meaning of Article 99 of the Stalin Constitution: "Citizens of the Lithuanian SSR are guaranteed the inviolability of their persons. No one may be detained otherwise than by a court decree or with the sanction of the Prosecutor."

Under "Stalin's Sun," many Lithuanian men chose to spend their nights far from their homes. Footsteps at night brought fear to all hearts. At night women and children feared a loud rap on the door accompanied by Russian profanity. Stark terror fell on Lithuania.

More than 2,000 prominent Lithuanians were detained during the first NKVD "operation," and arrests continued nightly afterward.

It must be admitted that terror temporarily benefited the Russians more than did the official propaganda lies. But the effect of this Soviet terrorism was that even the humblest citizens distrusted and hated the Russians and their stooges, alienating even those who had formerly entertained sympathies for Communism as a "social experiment." Such opposition goaded the Russians toward greater terror, leading to yet stiffer reaction, more indiscriminate terror, and on into the inevitable vicious circle.

* A traditional Soviet term designating members of the political police formerly known as Cheka, GPU, OGPU, NKVD, NKGB, and presently as MVD-MGB.

The First Genocide Instruction

On November 28, 1940, the NKVD issued the following instruction for the preparation of genocide on a vast scale, in the execution of the order No. 001223 of the NKVD of the USSR of October 11, 1939:

Strictly Secret

ORDER

of the People's Commissar of the Interior of the Lithuanian SSR for the year 1940

Contents: Regarding negligence in accounting for the anti-Soviet and socially alien element.

No. 0054

Kaunas, 28th November 1940.

In connection with the great pollution of the republic of Lithuania with anti-Soviet and socially alien elements, accounting acquires an especially great importance.

It is important for operational workers to know how many former policemen, White Guards, former officers, and members and such like of anti-Soviet political parties and organizations are on Lithuanian territory, and where such elements are concentrated.

This is necessary in order to gauge the strength of the counterrevolution and to direct the operational agent apparatus for the digestion and liquidation thereof.

Despite the importance of keeping all such accounts, our operational organs did not seriously undertake this task.

The data gathered by the agent-investigative apparatus remains scattered in cabinets of operational collaborators without being properly used.

Executing the order No. 001223 of the NKVD of the USSR regarding accounting for the anti-Soviet element and the liquidation of negligence in this work,

I ORDER:

1. Chiefs of operational departments in the main office and of the county branches and precincts, must take over within 3 days all files and cases on record with Special Department One—the formular files and persons named therein.

2. Within 10 days, transfer to SPO I all anti-Soviet elements listed in the alphabetical files (index accounting).

3. At the same time, undertake the tabulation and screening of all anti-Soviet and socially alien elements found on the territory of the Lithuanian republic and transfer them to the jurisdiction of operational accounting in SPO I.

4. Accounts of persons listed in agent reports and in the alphabetical files (index accounting) are to be consolidated in SPO I of the NKVD of the LSSR, for which purpose special cards must be prepared concerning each person transferred by the county branches and precincts of the NKVD and by the City Board for Vilnius, and such cards must be transmitted to SPO I.

5. Index accounting must embrace all persons who,

by reason of their social and political background, national-chauvinistic and religious convictions, and moral and political instability, are opposed to the socialist order and thus might be used for anti-Soviet purposes by the intelligence services of foreign countries and by counter-revolutionary centers.

These elements include:

a) All former members of anti-Soviet political parties, organizations and groups: Trotskyists, Rightists, Socialist Revolutionaries, Mensheviks, Social Democrats, Anarchists, and such like;

b) All former members of national-chauvinistic anti-Soviet parties, organizations and groups: Nationalists, Young Lithuania, Voldemarists, Populists, Christian Democrats, members of Nationalist terrorist organizations ("The Iron Wolf"), active members of student fraternities, active members of the Riflemen's Association [the National Guard], and the Catholic terrorist organization "The White Steed";

c) Former military police, policemen, former employees of the political and criminal police and of the prisons;

d) Former officers of the Tsarist, Petlyura, and other armies;

e) Former officers and members of the military courts of the armies of Lithuania and Poland;

f) Former political bandits and volunteers of the White and other armies;

g) Persons expelled from the Communist Party and Comm-Youth for anti-Party offenses;

h) All deserters, political emigres, re-emigrants, repatriates, and contrabandists;

i) All citizens of foreign countries, representatives of foreign firms, employees of offices of foreign countries, former citizens of foreign countries, former employees of legations, concerns, concessions and stock companies of foreign countries;

j) Persons maintaining personal contacts and correspondence abroad, with foreign legations and consulates, Esperantists and Philatelists;

k) Former employees of the departments of ministries (from Referents upwards);*

l) Former workers of the Red Cross and Polish refugees;

m) Religionists (priests, pastors), sectarians and the active worshipers of religious congregations;

n) Former noblemen, estate owners, merchants, bankers, businessmen (who availed themselves of hired labor), shop owners, proprietors of hotels and restaurants.

6. In preparing index accounts of the anti-Soviet element, all sources must be utilized, including: agency [informers'] reports, special investigative materials, data of the Party and Soviet organizations, statements of citizens, depositions of arrested persons, and other data. As a rule, statements and other official materials must first be verified by means of agents.

* "Referent" means an expert adviser on a particular problem, a rapporteur responsible to the head of a department in the ministry.

7. Operational Departments and county branches and precincts must prepare separate rosters of persons subject to accounting who have moved elsewhere, and must take steps to trace them. The cards regarding the persons sought must be filled in and sent to SPO I.

8. Formular files must be instituted and placed in the active agency account [the process of gathering verifying reports by the network of agent informers] of former activists of anti-Soviet political parties and organizations (Trotskyists, Mensheviks, Social Revolutionaries, Nationalist associations, and the like), counter-revolutionary religious authorities (priests, mullas, pastors), responsible collaborators of the police, ministries, foreign firms and the like, in accordance with available data concerning their anti-Soviet activity.

9. Chiefs of SPO I of the NKVD of the LSSR must report to me daily regarding progress made under this order.

10. This order is to be discussed in operational consultations, and concrete measures for its execution must be provided for.

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF THE INTERIOR OF THE
LITHUANIAN SSR
/Signed/ Guzevičius

The copy is authentic:
/Signature illegible/

Provincial Instruction

"Strictly Secret."

To comrade S.,

Operational Plenipotentiary of the Biržai UO
[County Branch] of the NKVD.

Supplementing order No. 0054 of the People's Commissar of the Interior of the Lithuanian SSR, I order the following:

1. Complete the listing of the anti-Soviet element by February 10th, 1941.
2. By the same term, begin elaboration of the entire anti-Soviet and socially-alien element within your area and draft the lists.
3. Likewise, by February 10th, 1941, submit to me filled-out accounting index cards regarding each person entered in the list.
4. Include in the list all persons who by reason of their social or political past, national chauvinistic views, religious convictions, moral and political instability are hostile to the socialistic order and, for this reason, might be used by intelligence agents of foreign countries or by anti-revolutionary centers for anti-Soviet aims.

This element includes:

1. All former members of anti-Soviet political parties, organizations and groups: Trotskyists, Rightists, Social Revolutionaries, Mensheviks, Social Democrats, Anarchists and such like.
2. All former members of national-chauvinistic anti-Soviet party organizations and groups: Nationalists, Young Lithuanians, Voldemarists, Populists, Christian Democrats, members of the Nationalist terrorist "Iron

Wolf" organization, members of the Catholic terrorist "White Steed" organization, active members of the National Guard, and the like.

3. Former gendarmes, policemen, former employees of the political and criminal police, and prison guards.

4. Former officers of the Tsar's, White, Petlyura's and other armies.

5. Former officers of the armies and military courts of Lithuania and Poland.

6. Former political bandits, volunteers of the White and other anti-Soviet armies.

7. Persons dropped from memberships rolls of the Communist Party and Komsomol, guilty before the Party.

8. All transients, political emigres, re-emigrants, repatriates and contrabandists.

9. All citizens of foreign states, representatives of firms of foreign states, collaborators of institutions of foreign states, former aliens, former employees of foreign legations, concession firms and stock companies.

10. Persons maintaining personal correspondence with abroad, with legations and consulates, the Esperantists and philatelists.

11. Former officials of state departments /referents and upward/.

12. Former workers of the Red Cross and refugees from Poland.

13. Clergymen /Orthodox Pop's, Catholic priests/ of various confessions, sectarians and religious aktiv [practitioners].

14. Former noblemen, estate owners, merchants, bankers, business men /who had employed hired help/, managers of concerns, proprietors of hotels and restaurants.

Note: In organizing the listing of the anti-Soviet element, you must use all sources, including: agency reports, specially reviewed materials, materials of Party and Soviet organizations, archive materials, citizens' information, testimony of prisoners, and other data. Reports, testimony and other official materials must be, as ordered, checked in advance in an agency manner.

If not clear, contact my deputy, comrade Pavlenko, or Senior operational plenipotentiary comrade Sychev. Report to me daily regarding the progress of the work.

/signed/ P. Lisas
Chief of the NKVD UO of Biržai

Biržai, 30 January 1941."

The "PK"—Postal Control Points

Even though the Stalin Constitution of the Lithuanian SSR in Article 100 boldly asserted that "Inviolability of the citizens' quarters and the secrecy of correspondence is warranted by law,"—postal censorship provided the most profitable venue of gauging popular morale and coralling victims for liquidation.

SPO II—Special Political Department Two—of the NKVD of the USSR transmitted the strictly secret order No. 1028507, dated October 11, 1940, to comrade Security Captain Shpakov, head of SPO II of the NKVD for Lithuania. He was ordered to submit the following report by October 20, 1940:

"1. How many PK points are operating, and their location.

2. The personnel of the PK and the numbers of translators, indicating the languages they know.

3. How many letters destined for abroad or received from abroad are handled daily.

4. In what manner does the PK control this correspondence, and on what scale PK points provide chemical control of the correspondence.

5. What operational results have been achieved thus far: how many and what type of special reports have been transmitted; how many "T" [telephonic conversation] cases were clarified; how many and what type of materials (according to classifications) were turned over to operational departments.

6. How, and to what extent, the control of international telegrams is being exercised."

Shpakov's reply, were it made available, would throw considerable light on this interesting phase of a police state. Unfortunately, the report was not found among the papers seized by the Lithuanian Insurrectionists in 1941.

According to the seized files, there had been eight "PK" (Postal Control) points in Lithuania: at Vilnius, Kaunas, Šiauliai, Panevėžys, Alytus, Marijampolė, Ukmergė, and Telšiai. The numbers of employees and their nationality are not fully available. The first PK point at Kaunas was instituted in August 1940, and it employed one Jewish male and 4 Jewish females—it is the general Russian practice to employ Jews prior to liquidating them. The volume of correspondence cleared through PK points indicates that sizeable numbers of personnel were employed.

For instance, comrade Šarok, Chief of the Security Board for the City of Vilnius, on June 9, 1941 reported to NKGB Commissar Gladkov in two reports (Nos. 21/347 and 21/348) that, in the period from May 9, 1941 to June 7, 1941, a total of 63,447 pieces of mail were examined, and from May 23, 1941 to June 7, 1941, a total of 35,324 letters were read. Thus, within 29 days, a single "Postal Control" point in Vilnius rifled a total of 98,771 pieces of mail, or an average of slightly more than 3405 pieces daily. Such accomplishments required the services of many employees.

In addition to the "readers," chemical experts were assigned to each PK for the chemical treatment of letters examined, and special instructions were issued to these "experts."

The NKVD was quite pleased with its PK and made plans to expand. Comrade Aladyshev, Chief of Section IV of Department IV of the NKVD of the USSR, prepared a "mobilization plan" dated June 12, 1941:

"... For the control of military correspondence during the mobilization, supplemental cadres of letter examiners must be installed in the following PK points:

- a) at the PK of Kaunas 10 persons
- b) at the PK of Vilnius 15 persons
- v) at the PK of Šiauliai 5 persons
- g) at the PK of Panevėžys 5 persons

"Five additional persons are to be assigned for carrying on the chemical analysis of correspondence at the Central PK Point. The PK at Alytus, Marijampolė, Ukmergė and Telšiai does not need enlarging and the permanent cadres at those points are deemed sufficient."

Ordinary and registered mails, domestic and foreign correspondence, telegraph, telephone and radio communications were controlled. Local stations transmitted their reports to the central PK at Kaunas, and the latter transmitted them through channels to the NKVD and finally to the NKGB. The NKGB (People's Commissariat of State Security) carefully sifted the reports and the contents of the confiscated mail containing expressions of hostility to the Soviet order or "counter-revolutionary thoughts." Conclusions were made regarding the authors and recipients of such mail. Files were then instituted and agent-informers "went to work."

The heads of the NKVD and of the NKGB periodically demanded reports on the progress of this work. Extracts from "anti-Soviet and counter-revolutionary letters" were transmitted to Moscow in special reports via comrade Pozdnyakov, former Soviet Minister to Lithuania, now the Gauleiter—the Plenipotentiary of the Central Committee of the VKP/b (All-Union Communist Party-bolshevik) and of the Council of People's Commissars of the Soviet Union.

The reports and the extracts enabled comrade Pozdnyakov to gauge the temper of the occupied country. In his turn, he made reports to the CK of the VKP/b and the Sovnarkom of the USSR, his masters. One of Pozdnyakov's files was seized by the insurrectionists. His secret reports disclose much regarding the practices of the police regime controlling the correspondence, and regarding the popular morale. The reports of the Soviet officials are very objectively compiled—there is never an exaggeration or understatement. For this reason, a sheaf from Pozdnyakov's file deserves publication even eight and a half years later.

Extracts from Confiscated Letters

The Pozdnyakov file contains reports covering the period from January 15, 1941 to June 7, 1941. His special "strictly secret and to be returned" reports typify the contents of the examined and confiscated mails. "Counter-revolutionary ideas" and the morale of "anti-Soviet convictions" are illustrated by quotations from the letters.

Pozdnyakov's reports to his masters indicate that within this period of 158 days, the PK points examined 251,108 letters of domestic and foreign mails. Of

this number 17,247 letters were confiscated because of their counter-revolutionary contents, and both the writers and addressees were "liquidated" by the Russians.

Extracts from soldiers' letters

The Pozdnyakov reports disclose that the soldiers of the 29th Rifle Corps (the former Lithuanian Army) stationed at Vilnius were most decisively "counter-revolutionaries."

Thus, in a Special Report No. 9 of January 24, 1941, Pozdnyakov noted that the soldiers of the 29th Rifle Corps in their letters from Vilnius to relatives and friends "systematically libeled the Soviet Regime and the Red Army." A total of 1,750 letters from soldiers were examined within five days, January 15th to 20th. Of these, 194 letters were deemed "counter-revolutionary," as illustrated by the following extracts:

"Dear brother-in-law, this is the seventh month of the 'blossoming' Red rose, and it is not known when it will wilt. Probably the lead bullets and the sharp sword will snip that rose, and the bullets and the sword may come from the Western front. We are expecting and shall ultimately greet its coming."

"... The verdant spring disappeared, leaving our fortunes behind. Dark clouds enshroud the sunlight. We are pressed heavily by the enemy's hand. My thoughts fly far away where there is no misery, where there is happiness which has left us far behind. I keep silent and gnash my teeth. I know and I believe that a day of joy shall come again, that the country will heave and march on a new path, the path of our ancestors."

"... My dear relatives. We voted under compulsion, we could not refuse, we had to vote for the communists even though I hate them. We shall soon take a soldier's oath and will have to swear, as disobedience is punished severely. There were 500 of us when we arrived at Vilnius. Presently, a great many were transported to a disciplinary battalion at Leningrad for returning late from the city or from a leave. Just utter a word—and you get a two year sentence. I had refused to vote and to swear allegiance, and they marked this in my papers. I thought that they would imprison me, but nothing happened thus far. I think that it is better to know more and speak less."

In a Special Report No. 12 (of February 6, 1941) Pozdnyakov noted that during the period from January 21st to February 3rd, 1941, a total of 2,022 letters of the soldiers of the 29th Rifle Corps were examined. Of these, 120 were confiscated as derogatory to the Soviet regime and the Red Army, as illustrated by the quotations:

"... Only life or death awaits us. It will become clear within a month. We have to take an oath on February 23rd, 1941, even if we don't want to. I feel that a change will come in the spring and that life will again be as it was in the old days. Should I live until the event that I contemplate, please do not pity me

should I part from you. Just remember that I had been a Lithuanian and recall your Fatherland. I do not fear death, even though they threaten us with death. If they want blood, we can shed it."

"... We shall have an oath taking on 23.II.1941, but I shall not swear, even if they should put me to death. I have once sworn to God, and I cannot swear to a demon now. I am expecting a springtime, maybe some end will come. For better or for worse. I would much rather have remained unborn, instead of suffering for something that God alone may know."

"... We are oppressed so much that it is impossible to describe it in full: for being A.W.O.L. for two hours, a prison sentence of from four to eight years is meted. For a single uttered word—prison or death. Nothing has happened to me, so far, but—most certainly—I will never come home, as I have a warm Lithuanian heart and nothing shall stop me, neither death nor a bullet. I do not regret that my youth shall become a corpse. I recall how I had served as a volunteer for the freedom of Lithuania. Now, the slavery of this damned communism surrounds us."

"... Soldier life has worsened, Red army men are pressed with heavy misery. A great many desert from the Red Army. The soldiers follow in the footsteps of Antanas [President Antanas Smetona]. Six Red Army troopers deserted recently from our regiment, another escaped during Christmas, and no one heard where they are now. Letters from Germany told us that they were all right. Whether this is true, I cannot vouch—but I heard the story myself."

In a Special Report No. 15 (of February 11, 1941), Pozdnyakov noted that 2,020 letters from soldiers were rifled and 89 were confiscated:

"... Our food is very bad. I have grown gaunt, and can hardly drag my bones on a diet of tea and pudding. My belt is tightened, there are no more holes left. Mama, please send me something to eat."

"... Dear brother: I am very sick but they won't admit me in the hospital, as the hospital is overcrowded and there is no room left. I cannot eat, the food is so bad that only a shadow of my former self remains and you would not recognize me. I must confess that I am sick and tired of such a life of misery, and I may put an end to this misery myself."

In a Special Report No. 17 (of February 15, 1941), Pozdnyakov reported that 2,896 pieces of soldiers' mail were rifled between February 5th and 11th, 1941, and that 98 letters were seized.

The Day of the Soldier's Oath

In a Special Report No. 22 (of March 11, 1941), he reported the examination of 2,895 pieces of Lithuanian soldiers' mail during the period of February 20th to 27th, and the confiscation of 98 pieces. Both reports dealt with anti-Soviet feeling on the eve of the anniversary of Red Army Day:

"... Did you understand everything in a letter brought to you by a friend? Have you done what I

had asked? If you have not, do so by 25th-26th of February, as there will be oath taking on the 23rd. If everything will be all right, the 23rd of February will decide—we shall either all survive, or all die. That day is very solemn, understand? Read closely what I have written you."

"... The oath taking on the 23rd of February. Few soldiers are willing to take it. We are greatly dissatisfied. When recruits arrive, they will all disperse. We don't know where they are going to move us—inside Lithuania or elsewhere. Altogether we don't know what lies in store for us. There are many men who ignore death and the Soviet regulations. One man shot a Russian soldier, but before he could shoot himself, he was disarmed."

"... I am mentally tormented. There will be an oath-taking on 23.II.1941, I shall see what will happen to me. Don't worry about me. If I should do something, I shall do it to myself. Many think the same way too. I decided not to take the oath."

"Marytė, darling, you ask me if I had taken an oath. This is what happened: I did not want to be moved to a prison in Russia, and when they threatened me with a bayonet pressed against my face—I swore, with a heavy heart. But what of it? I had sworn with tears in my eyes and with hatred for them. Ultimately, as our good leaders used to say, when an opportunity shall arrive—with weapons in our hands—we shall show how to treat the 'comrades.' It was impossible to refuse to take the oath, as those who refused were immediately shipped from Vilnius to an unknown destination. Some of the commanders swore with unashamed tears, some deserted just before the oath taking, but we had no place to go to, and had to swear."

"... I am afraid of death. When I was a dragoon, I wanted to fight for my country, sword in hand. Now I have no country. I became cold and senseless, and I picture myself only as cannon fodder. Were I to hear a Lithuanian song, I would break the wall with my head. I loved my country—you will understand me."

"... There is not enough food, and the belt must be tightened. I have no money and must stay half-hungry. My stomach groans—and we march 15 kilometers or more daily. We live in a forest under the open sky. Please help me. I don't know if I will ever come home from the army, as these maneuvers and bad food torture me to death. It used to be good to live under Smetona, but under the Russians—everything is bad. I don't know if I will survive these two years. If I should survive, I will be grey-haired. There is no life in Vilnius. Suicides are numerous among the soldiers: on February 19th two soldiers jumped from the second story, guard houses are overcrowded, everything is bad."

Great attention was paid to military mails, and the following figures were cited by Pozdnyakov:

Period	Letters examined	Letters seized
February 28 to March 7, 1941	3,805	65
March 7 to March 20	13,298	245
March 20 to April 9	10,100	228
April 9 to April 17	5,742	67
April 16 to May 5	18,900	2,350

Special Reports—No. 48 of May 25, 1941 and No. 52 of June 4, 1941—are characteristic of soldiers' letters but no figures are cited by comrade Pozdnyakov. Extracts are given, however:

"... The Lithuanians are being Russianized. Everything Lithuanian—songs, etc.—is banned. The agitation is for freedom. In reality, it is something else, and there are more Russian than Lithuanian newspapers. When I come home on leave, I will tell you more about our life. We live like birds in a cage and we do not sing our own songs. But the spring shall come, we are sure that better times are ahead. If we should have to fight, we shall fight and be invincible."

"... You know, brother-in-law, Lithuanians are strong, they will live through. But no one knows what is in our hearts. I will not write to you—you understand. Have no fear, they will not have us in the army, as the Russians fear that we might rise up in arms. The country just waits for the day when we shall start fighting the Russians, but we are suppressed and afraid to say a word. You know, men used to live free. Now they are oppressed and are waiting for an opportunity. And so, you recruits and reservists, don't be disheartened. Remember that we are all your brothers and waiting for the sunrise, when we shall live as once before. Now, ours is a prison life. In the past, we would have raised hell if food were bad. Presently, we must remain silent. It used to be freedom, now—it is hard prison labor. The Russians tell us that they will give us all the weapons they brought here. Presently we hear that they are transporting these weapons back. They don't like it that here people are clean and accustomed to freedom."

"... Alas, I was born in an unfortunate year. It would be much better if I were a stone. Such times! Misery, not life! I don't feel like living in this world. They say that heavy taxes must be paid and people must enlist in kolkhozes. Some do not enter the kolkhozes, but eventually everyone will be driven there and will have to pay heavy taxes. Everything is very expensive here in Vilnius."

"... I am a Lithuanian patriot and I admire other patriots. But I can't describe everything, as I would find myself in prison. We just do what they order, but we think as we wish. Once we soldiers talked frankly about Lithuania's past and we sang patriotic songs. For this, we nearly said goodbye to our Lithuanian soil, and we are cautious now, we know that we must act. I wanted to enlist in the army to serve my country as a loyal Lithuanian, but life changed. I did take the Soviet oath, but I think that this oath is not mine. The rays of a Soviet sun do not warm me, they repel me. It used to be good under Lithuanian rule. I shall

never forget the words of the Lithuanian Anthem: 'from Thy past may Thy sons claim strength'."

"... I am a political martyr. We, 12 soldiers, were punished for one 'job'. Through the shortsightedness of the GPU, we fared fairly well,—we might have stood on the brink of a pit with eyes blindfolded. In a way, it is too bad that this did not come to pass. It would have been better, because it will happen eventually. I and my comrades may be broken up but they can't re-forge us. They may shoot us down but they cannot make us communists, total atheists. I am a Lithuanian freeman and a Catholic, and I shall never become a traitor to my nationality and religion. This is the second year that I am observing this 'bolshevik paradise', and this is but slavery. You asked me to be an honorable soldier, to train well and to obey my commanders. That's exactly what I am. Even my friends are wondering how I manage to show courage, discipline and other good qualities."

"... Had I become a Red, most certainly I would have been an officer by the Summer. But—when my superiors, in my presence, speak evil and deride matters that are sacred to me and are my life's objects, such as Lithuania's independence, her religion and my nation, a free Fatherland,—by calling it Smetona's farm? I can truthfully say that the USSR is inhabited by bloodthirsty vagabonds and murderers, decayed people, that their own farm is a madman's farm and cannot be compared with our farm. We are on the road to communism and it is going to be worse. Today, my superiors are in fact my enemies."

"... When we sing Lithuanian songs, all of us are very sad, as there is no Lithuanian motherland. They frequently forbid the singing of Lithuanian songs. They tell us to sing Soviet songs in Lithuanian, but we prefer to do no singing. They will soon issue Soviet uniforms to us, and then it will be impossible to distinguish Lithuanian soldiers from the Soviet ones. I will send my Lithuanian uniform home, so as to preserve the memories of the Lithuanian Army."

"... We, Lithuanians, must suffer imprisonment and exile, no one knows what for. The Special Departments dispose of our brothers with electric chairs, and therefore a great many flee to Germany. Those caught deserting never see the sunlight again."

"... My darling sister. Inwardly we suffer like miserable dogs, life is dull, it is hard to bear the yoke. Inside me, I feel myself bleeding from the sharp knife blade, until it will cut me through. The end is in sight... So, sister, if I can't lead the life I want, let them choke on my young blood."

"... What do they know, these beggars who sit in the chairs of authority? All they know is how to suffocate a man. Only commissars can maintain maids, and woe unto a man who is yoked like a horse to his plow. Much vermin has infested our country, and many sacrifices and much blood letting will be needed until we shall exterminate them."

"... Recruits will arrive soon. Many of them will try at once to jump from the second story. They will,

most likely, be interspersed among the Russians; they will learn what life means. Even though we had grown accustomed "as dogs to hanging," still—thoughts occur that we should put an end to ourselves and our misery. One sees nothing good ahead. One grows weaker daily and can scarcely drag one's legs."

"... My Fatherland is being converted into a future battlefield. It is heartbreaking to realize this. The bloodthirsty enemy's regiments are trampling our farms. Probably the time shall come when we shall repay them for all the tortures inflicted on us."

"... I am serving in the army and, what is most important, I am disgusted with the policy of lies. Tell me, have you succumbed to the communistic influence? Probably you are a Komsomol? If it should turn out that way, I would be most unhappy: I don't want to have traitors in my family. It would be a grievous blow to me, the oldest in our family... In the army, the bolshevik training pays dividends in evil. I don't want to write much, as my letter might fall into other hands and it would be bad then. The political lectures do not interest me and I sleep during such talks. There was laughter and gayety in the barracks in the past, but these are things of memory. It is all the fault of the soup and buckwheat pudding which we dislike. The taste of the fish reminds us of the taste of a fallen horse. Quite frequently we sing in half-tones the 'patriotic' songs of these days. Then, 'If war comes tomorrow' acquires some sense."

Letters of school children

The confiscated letters of Lithuanian soldiers inducted into the Red Army told the Russians enough. Once having been proud of their insignia and status, proud of their descent from many generations of freedom fighters, the Lithuanian soldiers could not be "digested" by their inferior masters. But pupils of the elementary and secondary schools proved to be no easier for the Russians to "re-educate."

The Russians spent vast sums of money to organize the "Pioneers" and the "Komsomol"—whose members were to spy on their teachers and fellow students. But there were few recruits in schools, and the rest of the pupils studiously shunned the traitors. For this reason, the NKVD paid much attention to schools, and students' letters attracted much attention at the PK points.

In a special report No. 11 (of February 3, 1941), the NKVD reported to Pozdnyakov that in the period from January 30 to February 1, 1941, a total of 1,577 domestic and international letters were "controlled." The SPO II singled out a number of "counter-revolutionary" letters written by upper classmen of the gymnasias of Kaunas and of the provinces. The report of February 14, 1941, noted that "an anti-Soviet feeling was pronounced in the letters of students, and attempts to form subversive circles are noted." A total of 1,150 letters was rifled between February 1 and 3, 1941, and 12 letters were confiscated. The NKVD cited extracts from the seized letters:

"... You know, Apolonija, I perform a loved task in defending my rights and I will continue to do so. I am powerless, but when I defend Lithuania and the Lithuanians, I am fiercer than a lion. I am not afraid of their bullets, their prisons. I am fighting for my country. When the beautiful dawn of freedom shall come, we will be happier, we shall rejoice over the glory of combat. I don't know whether I could express my feelings on seeing a happy Lithuania and a happy you. Let us believe that we shall win. Arms alone are not important, but the will to fight. This will must not break. Probably you are a Komsomol but I trust you and believe that you will not enroll in the ranks of the enemy... Instill a Lithuanian spirit in every heart in Lithuania, and be cautious. Send me reports on what people are saying, whether there are secret organizations, etc."

"... Dear brother, you ask for news and here it is: 'I... organized a group of several who slowly, cautiously are preparing for the objective. There are some big, learned men. We have good weapons, probably the time shall come when these weapons will gladden in the hands of our native sons...'"

Another special report, No. 18 of February 21, 1941, noted that between February 17 and 19, 1941, in connection with the Lithuanian Independence Day, many counter-revolutionary letters passed through the mail: of the 2,350 examined letters, 13 were confiscated—and their authors were school youths. Extracts were cited:

"... Oh, my heart is aching because that day—the 16th of February—became shrouded in mourning. Our people are crying, our people are being murdered nationally and morally. Where is the great rejoicing of former days? Where are the banners, songs, marches and parades? All this is trampled by the dirty paw of a barbarian. We need more faith and patience, and our present sufferings will not last."

"... The 16th of February passed. During the entire day groups of 3-4 people visited the tomb of the Unknown Soldier which was guarded by the militia. The National Anthem was sung in the church, and the priest suffered, he was arrested. It is rumored that,

after the Germans [The repatriates who were then being exchanged under an arrangement between Hitler and Stalin. *Translator.*] will leave, the dark night will descend, similar to a St. Bartholomew's Night."

"... You are aware that on the 16th of February armed guards were lurking behind every corner throughout the city. What were they guarding against, what did they fear? The Tricolor is a criminal possession... I spent the whole day in church. Just before I left, the words of the National Anthem rang out; every one sang with tears in eyes. That should have affected even those whose hearts are frozen."

Lithuania is—or was—an agricultural country of small farms. Farmers formed the backbone of the country. They, too, showed their anguish in letters rifled at the PK. The bolshevik "agrarian reform" robbed tens of thousands of hard working farmers. They were burdened with excessive and progressively rising taxes. They were subjected to threats and physical beatings.

The suspect letters were translated into Russian at the PK posts and were consolidated into a so-called "memorandum" drafted by SPO II of the NKVD. In addition to extracts of letters, the senders and addressees were listed in the memorandum. These memoranda were then transmitted to SPO II of the NKVD in Moscow. The latter, by a secret order No. 10.30699 of October 27, 1940, directed the NKVD of Lithuania to prepare three types of reports:

- (1) regarding mails coming from abroad;
- (2) mails going abroad;
- (3) internal-domestic mail.

These reports cited extracts of the letters and usually ended with a cryptic statement: "The confiscated letters were transmitted to the proper operational organs for operational use." Supplemental reports on the confiscated mails going abroad from Lithuania and vice versa, were transmitted to SPO II of the NKVD of the USSR. Letter writers and receivers of mail from abroad were detained for prosecution. Hundreds of thousands of agent-informers were pressed into gathering the information desired by the NKVD-NKGB.

A Martyred People Moves To Resist

Lithuania had never experienced the open "purge trials" of the type staged in the post-war period in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, etc. The reason is probably found in the fact that the Russians had not found enough collaborators among the Lithuanians—there were no candidates for "purges" as there was a severe shortage of collaborators acquainted with the language and personalities of this strange Roman Catholic country. It had taken the Russians a full year to prepare to put into operation their first major

genocidal "operation"—a mere half-year was sufficient to put into operation the genocide in Eastern Poland, a Slavic country whose inhabitants spoke White-ruthenian and Ukrainian dialects easily understood by the Russians.

As may be gleaned from the NKVD orders issued on the eve of Christmas and other Christian holidays, the ways of life had to be explained to the alien masters of a raped Christian country, who were going to witness masses of people going to churches—masses of

people going anywhere without compulsion from the "authorities." Precautions were taken by the superstitious and suspicious Russians who expected trouble from the church-goers.

Similar precautions were taken on the eve of the Lithuanian Independence Day. The NKVD transmitted secret instructions to its county branch offices which then alerted the precincts. A sample order is reproduced below:

"Strictly Secret. Very Urgent.

Utena, 12th February 1941. No. 84.

TO

PLENIPOTENTIARIES of the Worker-Peasant Militia of the County of Utena.

The approaching 16th day of February, that is, the anniversary date of the creation of a former bourgeois government on the territory of Lithuania, must increase the alertness of collaborators of the Worker-Peasant Militia during the forthcoming period, to guard against possible activities by the harmful, counter-revolutionary, hostile elements and their henchmen.

Organs of the Worker-Peasant Militia must undertake most energetic measures to forestall and to prevent all harmful events stemming from the hostile element, and to safeguard the total security of general order and state property.

I direct:

1. Place guards of auxiliary militiamen, local Komsomol members and (Party) workers employed thereat, around all nationalized concerns in your area, and the area militia must diligently supervise the performance of duties by such guards.

2. Institute a night watch by crews of firemen around such concerns, co-ordinating the militia with the firemen.

3. To forestall dissemination of counter-revolutionary leaflets and proclamations at inhabited points, cemetery areas and monuments,—dispatch patrols operating 24 hours a day, made up of auxiliary militiamen and Komsomol members. Local militiamen must check up on the patrols.

In the event that any counter-revolutionary excesses occur within your precinct, urgently report to me.

(Signed) /illegible/

Chief of the W. P. Militia of Utena County."

Thousands of "small fry"—pupils of the elementary and secondary schools—landed in the NKVD network in February 1941. People spontaneously attended religious services and sang the National Anthem in many churches—causing the arrest of the innocent pastors. . .

Signs of Open Resistance

Another month rolled by. The Russians prefaced their forthcoming "operation" of mass deportations with the quickening tempo of requisitions, with the

increased quotas of compulsory grain and produce deliveries. In several places farmers resisted the militiamen coming to seize their stocks. This meant rebellion:—the facts were reported to Moscow, and Moscow ordered the beginning of mass deportations. /See the facsimile orders from Moscow reproduced in the September-October 1947 issue of the LITHUANIAN BULLETIN./ Additional expert Chekists were ordered into Lithuania, and the local "apparatus" was alerted, as may be observed from the following order of the People's Commissar of State Security (NKGB) for Lithuania:*

"Strictly Secret—Very Urgent

TO

ALL CHIEFS OF COUNTY BRANCHES AND PRECINCTS OF THE NKGB OF THE LSSR

CHIEF OF THE CITY BOARD OF THE NKGB FOR VILNIUS

CHIEFS OF SPO, KRO, RO

CHIEFS OF INVESTIGATION AND DEPARTMENT III

In person, to comrade
in the city of

Comrade MERKULOV, Commissar of Third Rank and People's Commissar of State Security of the USSR, by his order No. 0038 of March 22, 1941, has ordered that *the operations waged by our organs in liquidating armed bandit groups and in detaining counter-revolutionary insurgents and other members of anti-Soviet formations, must be waged according to a pre-determined plan, experienced operational collaborators must be assigned to lead the operations of liquidating armed formations, and (armed) forces must be deployed with precision during the period of operation, etc.*

It was decreed in the aforesaid order that *in all instances where an operation had failed, a diligent investigation must be conducted in order to hold the guilty to the strictest responsibility.*

Under the conditions of work of the NKGB in Lithuania, this order is of utmost importance and every Chekist must apply himself to its execution with exceptional seriousness.

Under our working conditions, whenever in waging an operation we meet with an armed enemy, the problem of preparing for the operation acquires a signally important bearing; but, as noted in that order, our collaborators do not apply themselves very seriously to the preparation of an operation and, in consequence thereof, operational plenipotentiary of the NKVD of the LSSR, Stanislavovich, was killed during the operation on October 29th, 1940.

The circular order No. 673/N/4 of March 24, 1941, promulgated by the People's Commissar of State Security of the USSR, concerning the problem of conducting investigations, once more stresses the necessity of forming a well-developed operational plan in liquidating cases, etc.

* Italics indicate underlined parts of the typewritten-mimeographed text.

In executing the order No. 0038 of the People's Commissar of State Security, the NKGB of the LSSR on March 31st, 1941, by an order No. 0016, provided for a series of practical measures to ensure the successful execution of operations.

Nevertheless, certain county branches violate the People's Commissar's order No. 0038, the circular No. 637/N/4 and the order No. 0016 of the NKGB of the LSSR.

In carrying out operations, they do not fix plans providing for all the measures necessary to the successful execution of an operation; they do not sufficiently instruct the members taking part in the operation; they assign inexperienced collaborators to lead the operation, etc.

I ORDER YOU IN PERSON:

1. Immediately acquaint all operational personnel (and take their acknowledgment thereof in writing) with Order No. 0038 of the NKGB of the USSR, the circular No. 673/N/4 of the NKGB of the USSR, and the directives indicated in my Order No. 0016 of March 31st, 1941, and discuss the same in minutest detail at operational consultations.

2. I forewarn once again that every operation must be conducted according to an adequately preconceived written plan; the plan must be approved either by myself or my deputy and, in counties, by the Chiefs of county branches; plans of important operations must be submitted for approval to me or my deputy. Only an experienced collaborator may be assigned to lead an operation, and operational personnel must be instructed in the minutest detail regarding the plan.

3. Chiefs of SPO, KRO and Investigation, in reviewing the materials supplied by County Branches of the NKGB prior to seeking sanction [That is, a warrant. *Translator.*] for arrests, must review the plans submitted for an operation and for an inquest. In authorizing an arrest, the Chief of Department 3 must require plans for conducting the operation from departmental chiefs.

4. I again warn all chiefs of branches and precincts that operations must be conducted exclusively according to a predetermined and well-thought-out operational plan, and that the operation itself must be thoroughly prepared.

Parties guilty of violating the above orders and who irresponsibly apply themselves to the preparation and execution of an operation, shall be called to account by me.

By the 7th of May, inform me by a special report of the results of your work in executing the hereinabove order.

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY OF THE LSSR
SENIOR MAJOR OF STATE SECURITY /GLADKOV/

April 2nd, 1941.
No. 31"

Bold Defiance: Russian Arms Seized . . .

As soon as the Russians applied themselves seriously, spurred by comrade Gladkov's threat of reprisals, to the surprising phenomenon of armed resistance on the part of Lithuanian farmers defending their supply of daily bread, they noted that they were much too preoccupied with their thankless punctilious compilation of their "daily" and "Five Day" summaries. Something serious was afoot—besides their own preparations for genocide. The country was refusing to bow and was showing defiance!

Within five days after dispatching his threatening order No. 31, comrade Gladkov was forced to dispatch two additional top secret orders on April 7, 1941: a circular order to Chiefs, and a formal order read to "operational personnel." Both of these orders dealt with the disclosure of arms seizure, and are reproduced below.

1. *"Strictly Secret. Very Urgent."*
TO

ALL CHIEFS OF COUNTY BRANCHES AND PRECINCTS OF
THE NKGB OF THE LSSR
COMMANDERS OF FRONTIER UNITS
CHIEFS OF KRO, SPO, PART I, DEPARTMENT 3 AND
INQUEST PART
CHIEFS OF DEPARTMENTS III OF THE WORKER-
PEASANT RED ARMY
AND PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF THE INTERIOR OF THE
LSSR
COMMANDERS OF NKVD RAILWAY UNITS AND
OPERATIONAL POINTS

Comrade
City of

It is established that counter-revolutionary organizations existing on the territory of the LSSR, as well as individuals among the counter-revolutionary elements, are collecting and striving to procure weapons and cartridges in order to organize armed struggle against Soviet rule.

Especially energetic activity in this direction has been noted recently in connection with preparations for the First of May Day.

The counter-revolutionary element is sending its agents to work in military warehouses, in the People's Commissariat of the Interior, Highway Departments, and other places where arms are to be found, in order to seize them or, at an opportune moment, to seize the warehouses, and they also purchase weapons from organization members and ordinary persons.

On the fifth day of April this year, the theft of 500 hand grenades and as many capsules was discovered in the militia warehouse of the City Board of Vilnius.

It is quite clear that this seizure of hand grenades was perpetrated in consequence of criminal negligence in arms accounting and guarding by militia workers, and because of the presence of counter-revolutionary element in the militia personnel, which flagrantly perpetrated counter-revolutionary activities.

Accounting for and guarding of arms, especially in the militia, remains on a wholly unsatisfactory level, and the enemy is taking advantage of this.

Together with this, it must be noted that, in seizing weapons from the enemy, the NKGB personnel does not pay proper attention to the control of arms-accounting and security.

The seizure of arms from the counter-revolutionary element and from the inhabitants in general, usually proceeds with impermissible tardiness, and the results are extremely insignificant. The seizures are carried out perfunctorily and singly.

On the other hand, we know that the counter-revolutionary element on the territory of the Lithuanian SSR possesses large numbers of weapons.

These arms were left during the liquidation of the former Polish Army in Vilnius, during its internment in Lithuania, during the liquidation of anti-Soviet organizations such as the *Šauliai* [The National Guard], etc. All this could easily have been checked and determined, both through the network of agents and in the archives.

In the past, weapons were sold at the arsenals. The records of sales could likewise be easily verified in the archives and the identity of persons who have purchased such arms could be established.

Attaching special importance to the problem of locating and recovering the weapons, and of safeguarding the same,

I ORDER:

1. You personally must estimate the extent of knowledge had by the operational personnel and the network of agents regarding arms seizures, must focus the attention of the entire operational personnel of the NKGB and the NKVD by personally and daily leading in this task.

2. Through experienced agents, take measures to locate the arms stolen in Vilnius and to apprehend the criminals, without giving publicity to the matter.

3. In closing any agency cases, formular cases, etc., special attention must be paid to arms seizures, keeping firmly in mind the fact that the counter-revolutionary element which is organizing combat against the Soviet rule is attempting to procure and amass reserves of weapons, and that it actually possesses such arms.

4. Serious attention must be paid to this phase of work in conducting interrogations, especially of counter-revolutionary and insurrectionist formations, spies, terrorists, diversionists, etc.

5. Explore all archives of police warehouses, accounting archives relative to the issuance of arms to individuals, the surrender of arms by internees, etc.

6. Report to me daily regarding the number of weapons seized, on the proper forms which are supplied to you separately.

...In connection with the forthcoming May Day celebrations, serious attention must be given to the problem of arms seizure, the inspection and guarding of arsenals, increased security, the re-examination of

warehouses containing combustible materials in the Bureau of Highways and other organs. The inspection must be conducted with complete diligence and seriousness, and a proper protocol must be drawn up by you, personally.

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY OF THE LSSR
SENIOR MAJOR OF STATE SECURITY /GLADKOV/

Kaunas, April 7th, 1941.

The copy is authentic: /—/ SEMYOKHINA

Codification Secretary"

A person who is now in the United States and who had much to do with the "theft" of the 500 hand grenades and capsules some time prior to April 5, 1941, informs us that a number of innocent Lithuanian policemen had paid with their lives for their "negligence." The Russians never learned of the identity of the "counter-revolutionary element" who had stolen into the arsenal—and later put the hand grenades to good use. The time has not yet come to reveal the complete story. But the second, formal order of comrade Gladkov is reproduced below in order to illustrate the inner operations of the NKGB in similar cases.

2.

"Strictly Secret

ORDER

OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY
OF THE LSSR FOR 1941

No. 0017 Contents: Concerning arms accounting and security in the organs of the NKGB and NKVD.

No. 0017

April 7th, 1941.

On April 5th of the current year, the theft of 500 hand grenades of the "Mills" type and of two cases of grenade capsules was detected in the arsenal of the Militia Board of the City of Vilnius.

It is quite clear that the seizure was perpetrated by the counter-revolutionary elements with a view to waging armed combat against Soviet rule. This theft took place because of the exceptionally criminal attitude of militia collaborators toward accounting for and guarding arms. The storage place, in which the grenades were stored, was not guarded, not sealed, and only the keeper of the storage place and the janitor were aware of the existence of this arsenal.

Despite numerous local instructions to put in order the system of arms accounting and security, County Chiefs of the NKGB and militia precinct commanders attach no special importance to this matter. Inspection of the accounting and guarding of arms is entrusted to ordinary collaborators who at times do not pay serious attention to this task.

I ORDER:

1) Comrade State Security Major SHAROK, Chief of the NKGB Board for the City of Vilnius, immedi-

ately to take all measures for locating the seized grenades and to apprehend persons who have taken them.

In executing this task, to mobilize the maximum number of collaborators, by releasing them from other duties, until the grenades shall have been found and the persons who seized them apprehended.

2) To create a special group of operatives for the detection of these criminals, made up of:

- 1) State Security Major comrade—BYKOV
- 2) State Security Major comrade—SHAROK
- 3) Department Chief comrade—GERASIMOVICH
- 4) Senior Operational Plenipotentiary comrade—NOGINOV

With the headquarters in the City of Vilnius.

Leadership in the task of detection is assigned to comrade BYKOV, who is to relieve the indicated comrades from other duties.

3) Supervision of tracing throughout the republic is assigned to State Security Captain comrade CHERNONYBOV, Chief of the KRO [Counter-Intelligence Department].

4) All heads of Operational Departments of the NKGB, chiefs of NKGB County Branches and precincts, and commanders of NKVD railway units and operational points, shall take all necessary operational and agency network measures for the tracing and recovery of the weapons, as specified in my directives given at the operational consultation of April 5th, 1941.

5) Without delay, to conduct repeated inspections of the status of accounting for and guarding of arms in the organs of the NKVD, NKGB and Militia. Also, to check on the execution of my previously issued directives on this problem by ordering the following comrades to proceed for this task to their respective posts of assignment:

- 1) To Kretinga—State Security Lieutenant comrade MILOVZOROV, senior operational plenipotentiary of the KRO of the NKGB.
- 2) To Tauragė—State Security Lieutenant comrade YERMAKOV, senior operational plenipotentiary of RO [Intelligence Department] of the NKGB.
- 3) To Raseiniai—State Security Captain comrade CHECHEV, Deputy Chief of the NKVD Prisons Department.
- 4) To Šiauliai—State Security Lieutenant PLOTKIN, operational plenipotentiary of SPO of the NKGB.
- 5) To Panevėžys—State Security Sergeant comrade LOVKOV, operational plenipotentiary of SPO of the NKGB.
- 6) To Ukmergė—comrade TODES, Chief of SPO of the NKGB.
- 7) To Utena—State Security Lieutenant comrade CHVANOV, section chief of KRO [Counter Intelligence Department] of the NKGB.

- 8) To Trakai—State Security Junior Lieutenant ZAKHAROV, chief of the Investigation Part of the Political Department of the NKVD.
- 9) To Kėdainiai—comrade VOLFSON, Chief of the Non-Political Prisoners Guarding Division of the NKVD.
- 10) To Vilkaviškis—State Security Lieutenant comrade STEPANIAN, operational plenipotentiary of KRO of the NKGB.
- 11) To Marijampolė—comrade MIRSKY, senior operational plenipotentiary of SPO of the NKGB.
- 12) To Alytus—comrade MILVYDAS, Deputy Chief of KRO of the NKGB.
- 13) To Šakiai—State Security Junior Lieutenant comrade KHARITONCHIK, senior investigator of Investigation Division of the NKGB.
- 14) To Lazdijai—State Security Sergeant comrade YERIGO, senior operational plenipotentiary of KRO of the NKGB.
- 15) To Telšiai—comrade FEIGELSON, operational plenipotentiary of the NKVD.
- 16) To Mažeikiai—comrade KUBLUKOV, Part Chief of Department II of the NKGB.
- 17) To Zarasai—State Security Sergeant comrade LIKHVINTSEV, Part chief of Department II of the NKGB.
- 18) To Švenčionėliai and Švenčionys—State Security Sergeant comrade KUZMIN, Part chief of Department III of the NKGB.
- 19) To Biržai—State Security Senior Lieutenant comrade BABSKY, Deputy chief of the Cadres Department of the NKGB.
- 20) To Rokiškis—State Security Lieutenant comrade VASILYEV, Part chief of AKhO [Administrative Supply Department] of the NKVD.

The inspection of the status of arms accounting and guarding in the City of Kaunas is assigned to comrade KHOLEVO, Deputy Chief of the Secret Political Department (SPO).

The inspection of the status of arms accounting and guarding in the City of Vilnius is assigned to comrade BYKOV.

The inspection of the status of arms accounting and guarding must be carried out by the above-named comrades. Local commissions formed under their leadership, with the participation of County Chiefs of the NKGB and NKVD, must draft proper reports.

6) Comrade KHOLEVO, Deputy chief of SPO of the NKGB, must submit his report on this matter by April 9th, 1941.

State Security Senior Major comrade GUZEVIČIUS, People's Commissar of the Interior, must be informed that the NKGB proposal made in February regarding the accounting and guarding of militia weapons and regarding the transfer of all surplus weapons to the UVS [Ordnance-Supply Administration], has not yet been complied with by the organs of the militia.

The NKVD is requested to authorize the Chief of URKM [Administration of Worker Peasant Militia] to regulate this matter without delay by transferring, within 3 days, to the UVS warehouses all surplus arms, leaving sufficient weapons as specified in the cadre tables, and providing reliable guard and accounting, to be concentrated in the URKM.

I warn the Chiefs of county branches and precincts of the NKGB that I shall hold to judicial responsibility all non-compliance with my directives of March 4th and with those given at operational consultations on April 5th.

Once again I direct the attention of chiefs of the county branches and precincts of the NKGB to the need for assuring proper control of the accounting, guarding and use of arms in the militia organs, Boards of Highways, and elsewhere. You must personally inspect, without delegating the task to any one else, and all abnormalities must be reported to me immediately.

Security Major comrade SHAROK, Chief of the NKGB City Board in Vilnius,—check on how the NKVD committee appointed in February had performed its task of arms accounting and guarding, and hold to responsibility all persons who attend to this matter superficially.

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY OF THE LSSR
SENIOR MAJOR OF STATE SECURITY /GLADKOV/

"Security" for May Day

On the same day, comrade Gladkov projected his security measures for the May Day exercises. Instead of thinking that all decent Lithuanians would endeavor to stay home, far from the loudspeakers gushing Russian blasphemies, his warped mind visioned trouble—he imagined that the missing 500 hand grenades might be put to use.

*"Strictly Secret.
Very Urgent."*

TO ALL CHIEFS OF COUNTY BRANCHES AND PRECINCTS
OF THE NKGB OF THE LSSR,
COMMANDERS OF FRONTIER UNITS,
CHIEFS OF KRO, SPO, PART ONE, DEPARTMENT III
AND INVESTIGATION,
CHIEFS OF DEPARTMENTS III OF THE WORKER-
PEASANT RED ARMY,
AND PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF INTERIOR OF THE
LITHUANIAN SSR.
TO CHIEFS OF NKVD OPERATIONAL UNITS AND
POSTS ON LITHUANIAN RAILWAYS.

To comrade
.....

In connection with the forthcoming international proletarian festivity of the 1st of May Day, *it is proposed that you immediately prepare a detailed plan for ensuring state security during the 1st of May Day festivity and transmit same to the People's Commissariat of State Security.*

For the consideration of this matter, you must call, without delay, a consultation of representatives of the NKVD, Militia, Departments III of the Army, fire prevention service, chiefs of prisons and commanders of the NKVD Troops (where such are stationed); propose to the above-named organizations—to each according to its own line of work—that they draft concrete plans and submit the same to you by April 15th, 1941.

Upon receipt of such plans from county localities, you must draft a general plan for the entire county.

Responsible persons must be designated by the NKVD, Militia, etc., for each phase of the task.

The general plan must be transmitted to us prior to April 20, 1941.

In planning operational measures for the 1st of May festivity, the following basic problems must be borne in mind:

1) Strengthening the protection of industrial establishments, defense installations, warehouses, railways and other transport—to forestall diversion, fires, catastrophes, etc.

2) Ensuring and strengthening the protection of arms, combustible and poisonous materials, multiplication equipment in establishments and offices, seizing the same from unauthorized persons.

The entire operational personnel of the NKGB and the NKVD must pay special attention to the necessity of mobilizing all of our forces for the detection of arms and, upon encountering, the seizure of them from the counter-revolutionary element.

3) All along the NKGB lines of work, ensuring the inspection of elaboration by the agency network and of the formular files, and the liquidation of *activists, especially those involved in terrorism, espionage, and insurrection.*

Along the NKVD lines of work,—organizing the inspection of the passport system and its reinforcement, especially in the frontier areas, towns, cities, etc.

Searching of hotels and overnight sleeping places in order to trap persons in hiding.

4) Concluding arrangements with the command of military units regarding assignment of the necessary forces for this task and, on the eve of and during the May Day festivities, strengthening the patrols in cities, towns, etc.

5) Organizing night inspections of street passersby and establishments, in order to preclude the dissemination of counter-revolutionary appeals, the raising of flags, and the like; for this purpose, mobilize all collaborators of the NKGB, NKVD and Militia and, furthermore, the necessary number of Communists and Komsomols to be provided by the Party committees; also utilize tested agents.

6) You personally should organize proper protection and order at the parades, demonstrations and entertainment affairs in connection with the May Day festival.



FREEMEN RULE THEIR NATIVE FORESTS
Time for a Repast.

7) Reinforce to the maximum effort the operational work through the network of agents, directed toward complete disclosure and liquidation of various counter-revolutionary formations and individuals who carry on hostile activities against our Party and Soviet rule.

It is necessary to discuss jointly with the NKVD all problems concerning the protection of industry, agricultural inventories, cities and inhabited points, and to instruct Party Ukoms [County Committees] and county Executive Committees to enlist Communists and non-Party *aktiv* [fellow travelers actively engaged in the Party work but not carried on the Party rolls of members] in performing this very important work.

According to agency data, the counter-revolutionary organizations made up of former members of counter-revolutionary parties, former officers, policemen, officials and manufacturers, have extended their activities for the disruption of May Day festivities and to obstruct the participation of the working people in the observance and organization of their revolutionary celebration.

All these enemies of the people, recruited by the clergy, are seeking accomplices among the "have-beens" and are organizing their hostile work.

No doubt, the people's enemies will attempt during the May Day observances to use most acute forms of struggle, such as terrorism, diversion, etc. They will attempt to disrupt, to create panic and thereby to mar the dignified observance of the May Day.

According to the information at our disposal, the people's enemies will attempt to resort to terror and diversion during the ceremonial sessions in theaters, clubs, etc., or may try to set theaters, factories and establishments on fire, and to disseminate counter-revolutionary leaflets and, if possible, to organize counter-revolutionary demonstrations. Counter-revolutionary, terrorist and spying element might be brought in from abroad.

The Party and the Soviet Government have placed on our organs especially honorable and responsible duties—to safeguard state security.

We must undertake immediately all measures in order that the working people may safely observe their international proletarian festival.

We must nip in the bud each and every manifestation of the people's enemies.

We shall be able to achieve this objective only if we expand and reinforce to the maximum our agency-operational work in the direction of liquidation of the formations of spies, terrorists, diversionists, insurgents and various other counter-revolutionaries.

Regarding the preparations for May Day, inform me by special reports every three days.

Beginning with April 27th, 1941, report every two hours on each date.

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY OF THE LSSR
SENIOR MAJOR OF STATE SECURITY /GLADKOV/

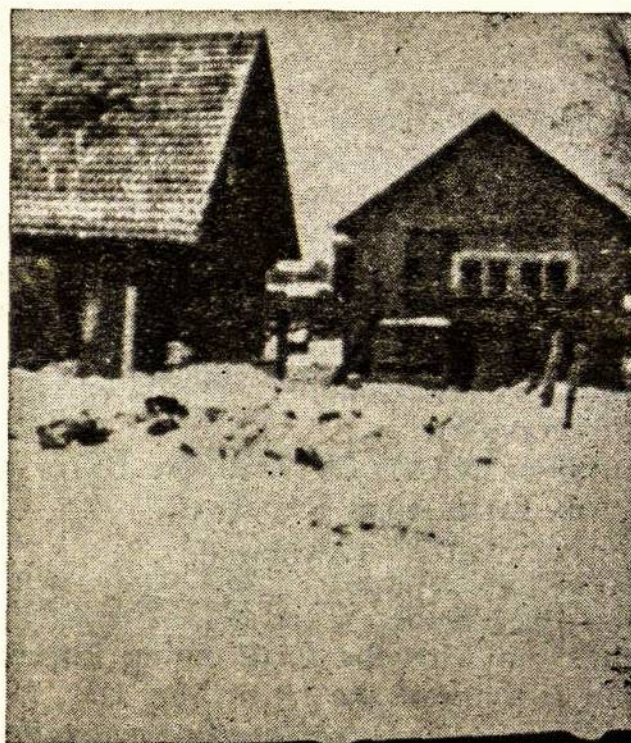
"7" day of April, 1941

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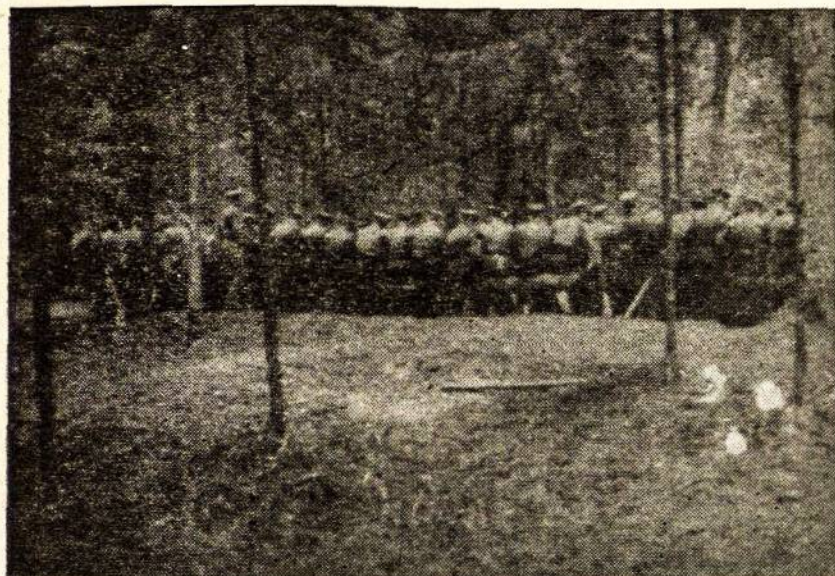
K a u n a s

"Mobilization for Defense of the State"

Comrade Gladkov received for his approval various plans elaborated by his apparatus in the counties. Imagining all sorts of trouble, he and his Russians fearfully prepared for May Day—which used to be devoted to tree planting in the former days of freedom and was to mark the observance of the "revolution" brought on the Red Army bayonets to a defenseless Lithuanian democracy. With his staff busily engaged in drafting daily and five-day summaries of accounts regarding the "counter-revolutionary element," Gladkov probably intended to use May Day



CHRISTMAS IN LITHUANIA UNDER STALIN'S RULE
Naked corpses of Lithuanian Freedom Fighters Diemedis, Šturmas, Teras, Debesis, Žilvytis and Vikis dumped by the Russians on the market place of Gižai—to lie for weeks (1947).



BUT OTHER FREEMEN TRAIN TO FIGHT!

The "Classroom" of Lithuanian Guerrillas.

"mobilization" as a test of his "apparatus" in preparation for the first great genocidal operation. At any rate, he scared the Russian invaders by issuing the following order:

"Strictly Secret

ORDER

OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY
OF THE LSSR FOR YEAR 1941

No. 0024	Contents: Operational duty is declared for state defense during the days of the May Day festival.
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No. 0024 25th day of April, 1941,
K a u n a s.

During the days of the 1st of May festivities, the counter-revolutionary element in Kaunas and throughout the territory of the LSSR will attempt to stage opposition by organizing diversionist and terrorist acts, and local anti-Soviet manifestations.

In order to assure State Security and to provide determined operational measures in the event of necessity.—

I ORDER:

1. The entire operational personnel of the Narkomat of the NKGB of the LSSR and of peripheral organs is deemed mobilized as of the 29th day of April through the 3rd day of May, inclusively.

2. State Security Lieutenant comrade IVANOV, Chief of Part One of the NKGB of the LSSR, to place outposts in accordance with the chart of locations approved by me, on April 30th (the ceremonial session in the City Theater) and May 1st (the parade and demonstration); the operational personnel of the Narkomat [People's Commissariat] is to be assigned in compliance with this order.

3. Comrade TODES, Chief of SPO [Secret Political Department], and State Security Captain comrade CHERNONYBOV, Chief of KRO [Counter Intel-

ligence Department], to provide the reinforced servicing, throughout the days of May Day festivities, around the principal industrial and transportation installations in conformance with order No. 0015 of March 5th, 1941, of the NKGB of the USSR. For this purpose, the SPO and the KRO are to form special operational groups composed of:

THE SPO

1. Part chief, State Security Lieutenant—comrade SHEPELEV.
2. Deputy Part chief, State Security Junior Lieutenant—comrade OVSEYENKO.
3. Operational plenipotentiary—comrade DEMBO.
4. Deputy operational plenipotentiary—comrade TSELKOV.

THE KRO

1. Part chief, State Security Lieutenant—comrade GAVRILIN.
2. Deputy Part chief, State Security Lieutenant—comrade MESHALKIN.
3. Deputy Part chief, State Security Lieutenant—comrade BOGODUKH.
4. Senior operational plenipotentiary, State Security Lieutenant—comrade RODIONOV.
5. Chief of Secretariat, State Security Junior Lieutenant—comrade MASKIN, to provide Officers On Duty at the Norkomat and Departments of the NKGB of the LSSR throughout the dates of April 29th through May 3rd.
6. Commandant of the NKGB of the LSSR—comrade VILIMAS, to place the Kommandantura personnel on barracks status from April 29th through May 3rd, after providing a reinforced guard over the Narkomat.
7. Chiefs of the City Board for Vilnius, county branches and precincts of the NKGB of the LSSR, and commanders of railway units and operational points, in conformance with my circular No. 16 of April 7th, are to report every two hours regarding the progress of the festivities by telephoning to the responsible Officer on Duty at the NKGB of the LSSR, dialing telephones 20432, 20763, 20773, 22857, reporting every event *without delay*.
8. The following automobiles of the departments of the NKGB of the LSSR are placed at the disposal of the responsible Officer on Duty throughout the days of festivity:

- | | | |
|----|------------------|------|
| 1. | Auto machine No. | 0078 |
| 2. | “ “ “ | 0084 |
| 3. | “ “ “ | 0090 |
| 4. | “ “ “ | 0089 |
| 5. | “ “ “ | 0067 |
| 6. | “ “ “ | 0073 |
| 7. | “ “ “ | 0060 |
| 8. | “ “ “ | 0085 |
| 9. | “ “ “ | 0083 |

Blp(LKA) 1331
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GOVERNOR THOMAS E. DEWEY WITH THE OFFICERS OF THE LITHUANIAN AMERICAN CONGRESS AFTER A SPEECH ON AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY.

Left to right: Vice-Chairman Peter Pivaronas, President Leonard Šimutis, Governor Dewey of New York, Secretary Dr. Pius Grigaitis, Vice-Chairman Anthony A. Olis, and Treasurer Michael Vaidyla.

Rear row: Aldona Valaitis, Lygija Dirkis and Rev. Dr. Joseph B. Koncius, President of the United Lithuanian Relief of America.

The location chart of operational service outposts of the NKGB of the LSSR servicing the solemn gathering at the theater, the parade, and the roster of Officers on Duty at the Narkomat and departments, are contained in the enclosed supplement.

ENCLOSURE:

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF STATE SECURITY OF THE LSSR
SENIOR MAJOR OF STATE SECURITY /GLADKOV/

BOOKS

Available at the Lithuanian American Information Center,
233 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y.

Jurgėla, Constantine R.—HISTORY OF THE LITHUANIAN NATION, 544 pp., illustrated, published by the Lithuanian Cultural Institute's Historical Research Section, New York 1948. Price \$5.00.

Pakštas, Dr. Kazys A.—LITHUANIA AND WORLD WAR II, 80 pp., published by the Lithuanian Cultural Institute, Chicago, 1947. Price 80c.

Baltrušaitis, Dr. Jurgis—LITHUANIAN FOLK ART, 80 pages of text and 256 illustrations, published by "Lithuania—Country and Nation," Munich, Germany, 1948. Price \$2.50.

Klimas, Petras—GHILLEBERT DE LANNOY IN MEDIEVAL LITHUANIA. 96 pp., illustrated, published by the L.A.I.C., New York 1945. Price \$1.00.

LITHUANIA IN A TWIN TEUTONIC CLUTCH—A Historical Review of German-Lithuanian Relations by Constantine R. Jurgėla, Rev. Kazys Gečys and Simas Sužiedėlis, 112 pp., 5 maps, published by the L.A.I.C., New York 1945. Price \$1.