

ATTENTION: THIS IS SOVIET PROPAGANDA. From the book KAS IR DAUGAVAS VANAGI. (WHO ARE THE DAUGAVAS VANAGI.) There may be a more than a modicum of truth about persons named in this publication. See desk copy for more info.

[Latvian policemen and Fascist shock-workers arranged them in three rows from which they selected every third man who was shot to death. The others had to bury the bodies. Afterwards they were beaten and taken back to the prison. Only later Latvian Fascists learned from the German S.S. a more "rational" system of murdering: First the victims were required to excavate mass graves and then they were shot to death.]

On 8 July several well known Jews were killed--Kacs, Fraiss, Gurevics, and others. During the following days thousands of Jews in Riga were killed. Lt. Col. Veiss, who was selected as the chief of Latvian police mobilized the whole police force, volunteer Fascist shock-workers and sympathizing officers. It is noteworthy that in Riga almost all jewelers of Jewish nationality were killed. The well known jeweler Vidzers was brutally beaten before his death--the murderers were trying to discover where his collection of valuables was hidden. This testifies to what sort of "enemies within" were searched out by the men under Lt. Col. Veiss. Also killed were about 1,500 Jewesses who were taken to the forest of Bikernieki and the dunes of Jugla from the Term prison.

In the killing of Jews besides Arajs' "kaujinieki" [battlers], special diligence was shown by the supervisor [of the Second Police Precinct of Riga and later Latvian

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S.S. legion officer Ozols, the well-known sprinter Edgars ^ALeipeniks (presently in Chile, working as a coach), the son of the opera singer Kaktins, Zigurds, who later became a well-known Latvian Gestapo leader (presently in Boston, U.S.), Latvian Fascists Cars, Kakis, officer Janis Zemitis, supervisor of the political department of the prefecture Herberts Teidemanis, and many others, some of whom will be mentioned in the following pages of the book.

[Photo. Caption: Jews selected for extermination in the forest of Bikernieki.]

Maksis Kaufmanis, a Jew from Riga, whose son was murdered in 1942 in front of his eyes in the peat marsh of Sloka, lived through the persecutions and exterminations in Latvia and during the later part of the war in German concentration camps. He has related his gloomy memories in a book Die Vernichtung der Juden Lettlands, which was published in 1947 in Munich and was accessible in Western Europe. We shall cite only a few passages from M. Kaufman's book which touches on the earlier period of Jewish persecutions in Latvia--the first ten days of July 1941. This is what he writes:

"...The large prefecture building was full of Jews. Screams were heard all over where Latvians were getting even with their victims. Their sadism did not have any limits. Old and sick people were taken into the court-