

LTS-1805

COPY No. 1

FSRO-1628

HGMH-72

17 April 1947

TO: FBM, for SC
FROM: SC, AMZON ^{ASST}
SUBJECT: Reports on Lithuania
REF: X-9372; MGH 602 (MSC 422)

1) Attached in duplicate are copies of the following reports:

- a) Union of the Combatants for the Freedom of Lithuania
- b) The Underground Government of Lithuania
- c) The Government of Lithuania

2) We are also forwarding a recent report prepared by the CIC Production Group, EUCOM, on Lithuanian anti-Soviet organizations - VLIK, VLAKE. This report contains additional information on many of the personalities mentioned in referenced RIR and in the attached reports.

Distribution:

- 2 - SC, Washington (Attach)
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DATE 2006

SCI TWELFTH ARMY GROUP
MUNICH

ETS-1885

Form No. 2

FSRO-1638

19 June 1945

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SUBJECT: "Union of the Combatants for the Freedom of Lithuania"

TO : CO, X-2 Germany

PRELIMINARY REPORT

1. Existence of this "Union" was discovered while following a lead in connection with the so-called "Government of Lithuania" in Würzburg.

2. The "Union" was created sometime in 1941 in order to combat German efforts of making Lithuania a part of the Axis forces fighting the "Bolshevism". It was not an anti-Bolshevistic organization, but this for only one reason: the leaders of the "Union" were convinced that Russia would eventually manage to come on top, since Germany now had also America to contend with. This was a realistic approach to the subject, but there also was a sentimental one: Lithuania has always had the warmest feeling for the United States and it simply would not get involved in any activity directly or indirectly aimed against the United States. The Lithuanian friendship for America is not a matter of temporary convenience, but is of very long standing, its roots being the great number (considering this as a comparison to the population of Lithuania) of people of Lithuanian descent now in America.

3. Head of the "Union" is (Professor) Stasys ZAKEVICIUS alias ZYLIANTAS, before the war a teacher at the University of Wilno, Poland. He taught Administrative Law in both the Lithuanian-Polish languages. (He also knows German.) He was born 22 April 1908 in Kiev, Russia. His father and mother were living there because as Catholics, the father could not hold any official job in Lithuania (this was in accordance with the Czarist Russian policy of not allowing educated men to live in the smaller countries like Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Finland and Poland for fear that they engineer some rebellion against Russian rule there). In 1922 ZAKEVICIUS returned to Wilno which was considered to be part of Lithuania until Poland's seizure of the city. He is man of great intelligence and very forceful personality, is frank, is considered to be a leader among his own people, has organizational ability, is an admirer of America and the American system.

4. Members of the "Union" are chosen for their youth, patriotism, reliability. Most of them, if not all, are very strongly anti-Bolshevistic. This feeling is based on history (the Russians always tried to exterminate Lithuania as a nation,

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and persecuted them for their patriotic feeling), dislike of the Soviet system of government which they tried to impose upon Lithuania after over-running it in 1939, and persecution of those who dared to disagree with the Soviet plans. Most of the members of the "Union" have lost relatives: some having been exterminated, some taken to Siberia.

5. This anti-Soviet feeling has been eliminated from the official policy of the "Union", pending future developments, the reason being that Russia is America's ally: the "Union" did not want to embarrass America, because America is their only hope for a future independent Lithuania.

6. In order to deserve that help from America the members of the "Union" are willing to make any sacrifice: a) enlist in the American army to fight on the Jap front, b) be dropped in Lithuania as our agents, or c) in general act and work in any way that we might instruct them.

7. These people are not dreamers only, but also men of great courage, willing to sacrifice themselves, men that can plan, e.g. they have left three men with radio sets in Lithuania in case that would be the only possible way to get information out of the country - they have not tried to establish any contact with these men, but have codes, frequencies and personnel to do so any time we ask them to.

8. Following is a list of some of their members: a) Capt Ignas VILIUS, leader of the partisans, now in Lithuania. b) Lt Jonas ZIUKAS, knows radio, can get in touch with radio operators to create a net. He is now in Michaladt, to be contacted through a priest named TULARA at camp A10.

c) Povilas ZICKUS, worked with the Lithuanian secret police, knows the ropes, was arrested by the Russians in May 1944, now in Wilno.

d) Povilas KOKULVICIUS, engineer, in Lithuania.

e) Vytautas JURGUTIS, Professor at Wilno University, now in Lithuania.

f) Hutas MISKINIS, had been left in Lithuania with radio.

g) Jonas MURKUNAS, engineer, has knowledge as to who exactly has been left in Lithuania.

h) LAGUCKAS, parachuted into Lithuania together with Capt. VILIUS.

i) (Capt) Stasurs VASIUNSKAS, arrested by the Germans, was in a concentration camp.

j) (Dr. Algirolas) VOKIETAITIS alias Jonas BARTKUS, last heard of in a German concentration camp, has often been in Stockholm, and while there was in contact with an English major working with the Military Attache's office.

k) Antonas VALIUKINAS, not member of the "Union" but has acted as a contact man between the "Union" and the Swedish Military Attache in Berlin, a certain Col DENFELD (phonetic).

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1) Kostas PTASIASKAS (Lt), was in Stuttgart concentration camp with Dr. VOKIETAITIS.

m) Jurgis VALIULIS, arrested by the Germans, organized radio network, engineer.

n) Tomas GREIMAS, journalist, now in Paris (b/G. MATORE, 37 Cours de Vincennes, Paris 20e); can give details as to how the Germans have been used in the work of the "Union".

o) ZILNISKAS, secretary of the Lithuanian Legation in Stockholm.

p) Dr. GERUTIS, secretary of the Lithuanian Legation in Berne, not a member, willing to work for anyone working for Lithuania.

9) The following men are known definitely to have collaborated with the Germans; they are responsible for many arrests:

a) SVEICORIUS, worked with the Gestapo in Lithuania, is now some place in the British Zone of Occupation.

b) ROPPAS, is now in the British Zone parading as a patriotic Lithuanian.

c) PYRAGIUS, maintained close liaison with the Gestapo in Berlin.

d) PAULISTYS, old Gestapo member, member of the German government in Lithuania.

e) TAUNYS, now in Windsheim (70 km. SE of Würzburg, on way to Ansbach), works in American airfield nearby, lives with wife in town of Windsheim.

10) The foregoing information can easily be expanded and supplemented so as to include the details on:

a) History of the "Union".

b) Activity of the "Union".

c) Membership of the "Union".

d) All members now in the American and British Occupational Zones.

e) Each member and his or her activity up to date.

f) Whatever remained of the radio network.

g) The "Union's" contacts with Germany, Russia, the Allies and the neutral countries of Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey; also the London Government of Poland.

11) NOTE: The contact with these people has been established on the basis of friendship (personal) and trust. The people are of very high caliber, intensely patriotic; the money question will not arise at all except, maybe, for expense involved in the actual work.

12) It is suggested that a car be provided for Prof. S. ZAKEVICIUS so that he can move around freely contacting members and gathering information. Capt. H. Collins of the Allied

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Military Government (DET FIA3, Würzburg) can arrange it, and Lt Perignano of the Würzburg CIC, can, if asked, take care of the gasoline problem. Since these people are (so far) the recognized government of Lithuania, the car can be issued to them on that basis. Their representatives in the Seventh Army territory and the British Zone are already provided with transportation.

B. Holtsman
S/A, SCI, Munich

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SCI TWELFTH ARMY GROUP

MUNICH

REF: 7885

REF No. 2

17 June 45

FSR0-1638

SUBJECT: The Underground "Government of Lithuania"

TO : CO, X-2 Germany

A PRELIMINARY REPORT

1. This matter was brought to the SCI attention through the efforts of a Prof. S. ZAKEVICIUS, a personal friend of an American officer (2nd Lt. Anthony Vaivada, member Third Army Research Section) who in turn contacted the undersigned.

2. Lt. Vaivada, who maintains a close contact with DP screening teams, managed to locate his friend, Prof. ZAKEVICIUS, from whom he learned of the existence of a group of several individuals claiming to be the underground "Government of Lithuania".

3. What remains of this "Government" is now located in and around Würzburg. Its members are nominally classified as Displaced Persons. The group is known to consist of the following: - Lith Assoc -

(Prof) S. KAIRYS alias KAMINSKAS, leader of the Social Democratic Party of the pre- 1939 Lithuanian Government.

(Monsignor) M. KRUPAVICIUS, leader of the Catholic faction in Lithuania.

(Mr) V. SIDZIKAUSKAS, former envoy to London.

(Miss) M. AVIETENAITE, section chief of Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lithuania.

(Mr) Bornius BIELIUKAS, leader of the Liberal elements of the Lithuanian Underground.

(Prof) V. KAMANTAUSKAS, graduate of Yale, and educator in the U.S.)

(Prof) S. ZAKEVICIUS, fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation and member of Justice Frankfurter's Seminary at Yale.

4. This group of people are only the official representatives, "spokesmen", for a much greater number of people at present scattered throughout Germany and Russia and some of the neutral countries (e.g. Sweden), these can be located through the "spokesmen" once they are convinced of the genuineness of

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our interest in their affairs. They are obviously striking for an independent Lithuania, and, since nobody but America (and, possibly England) is in position to be of any help in attempting to reach their goal, they are willing and anxious to work for the Americans. Hope in America and fear of the Soviet regime appears to be the dominating motive in the thinking of the entire group.

5. The "spokesmen" state that they are known and can be vouched for by:

the US State Dept, Eastern European Section;
the British Foreign Office (particularly Messrs.
Anthony Eden, Colier, Cadogan, Preston);
the last US envoy to Lithuania Aren C. Norem; and
the US and British Embassy in Sweden.

Their identities can be further checked by the Polish Government in London, and the Swedish and Turkish military attaches in Berlin, through whom the "Government" kept partial contact with the outside world during the German occupation.

6. That these people are in this particular sector of Germany is no mere coincidence; they have planned it so. Since the Soviets have blotted out Lithuania as an independent country, and since the US (and Britain) continues to recognize the Lithuanian independence and still retains accredited representatives - the "Government" decided to escape from Lithuania into Germany late in 1944 and made its way into the Würzburg-Regensburg-Munich region (which even then was considered the likely territory to be overrun and occupied by the American Armies).

7. The underground "Government of Lithuania" was established some time in 1941 after the Soviet Government occupied the Baltic States of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia and incorporated them into the Soviet Union. In June 1941 Lithuania was occupied by Germany. The "Government" continued operating, always underground, and carried on throughout the entire period of German occupation until the late part of 1944. By that time, however, only a skeleton remained in Lithuania proper because of the recurring arrests by the Germans. Its ranks were particularly heavily depleted in series of mass arrests which occurred in May 1944 after the capture of an agent of the underground who was on his way to Sweden with important documents and information.

8. Leader of the Underground Army is a Mr. BIELIUKAS. His contact man in the American Zone of Occupation is a young Lithuanian patriot, presently employed at a US Military Hospital. His name is DEKSNIS. DEKSNIS will supply us with more detailed and up-to-date information.

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NOTE: It appears that "Monsignor M. KRUPAVICIUS" is the same as the subject of a letter from SAINT, Paris, dated 7 May 1945: "Canon Nykolas KRUPAVICIUS, leader of the Christian Democratic Party, former minister".

B. A. HOLTSMAN
S/A, SCI, MUNICH

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1865
COPY No. 2
FSRO-1638

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
INTELLIGENCE CENTER
RESEARCH SECTION
APO 403

3 June 1945

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: "The Government of Lithuania".
(Supreme Lithuanian Committee of Liberation)

TO : G-2, Intelligence Center
Lt. Col. Schmuck

1. In the course of screening displaced persons and German held inmates of prisons and Concentration Camps this officer encountered several individuals claiming to be members of an "Underground Government" of Lithuania, a Baltic state in the region to the East of Germany now occupied by the Russian forces.

2. Limited questioning of individuals concerned revealed the following details:

3. What remains of this "Government" is now concentrated in the Wurzburg area (coord: N 5335). It was originally established some time in 1941 after the Soviet Government occupied the Baltic States, disbanded the existing authorities and incorporated Lithuania together with Latvia and Esthonia, the other two Baltic States, into the Soviet Union. In June 1941 the country was occupied by Germany. The "Government" continued operating, always underground, and carried on throughout the entire period of German occupation until the late part of 1944. By that time however but a skeleton group remained in Lithuania proper because of recurring arrests as the Nazi authorities discovered members of the "Government". Its ranks were particularly heavily depleted in a series of mass arrests which occured in May 1944 after the capture of an agent of the "Government" who was on his way to Sweden with important documents and information.

4. In view of the facts that (a) the Soviet government does not recognize Lithuania as an independent state, but considers her a part of Russia; (b) United States and Britain continue to recognize Lithuanian independence and still retain accredited representatives both in Washington and London, the "Government" decided to escape from Lithuania into Germany late in 1944 and made its way into the Wurzburg - Regensburg-Munich region which, it was thought, would most likely be overrun by the American Armies. As a further argument for this move was given the fact that the majority of the members of the "Government" were in Nazi custody. It was reasoned that, as the Allied Armies liberated prisons and Concentration Camps, it would be possible to restore contact with such members and reconstitute the "Government".

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5. The group presently consists of the following individuals:

Prof. S. Kairys, alias Kaminskas - Leader of the Social Democratic Party.

V. Sidzikauskas - former envoy in London

Prof. V. Kamantauskas - graduate of Yale and educator in the U.S.

Miss M. Avietenaite - section chief of Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lithuania.

Bernius Bieliukas - leader of Liberal underground movement in Lithuania.

Monsignor K. Krupavicius - leader of Catholic faction in Lithuania.

Some members are still unaccounted for, while others have died in Concentration Camps. One died of tuberculosis a short time ago in an American military hospital in Meiningen.

The above state that either jointly or separately they are known and can be vouched for by the U.S. State Dept., Eastern European Section the last U. S. envoy to Lithuania Aren C. Norem of Minneapolis, Minn; the British Foreign Office, particularly Messrs. Anthony Eden, Collier, Cadogan, and Preston; also the United States and British embassies in Sweden (period 1941 - 1945). Their identities can further be checked by the Polish Government in London and the Swedish and Turkish military attaches in Berlin, through whom the "Government" kept partial contact with the outside world during the German occupation.

6. The "Government" now known as the "Supreme Lithuanian Committee of Liberation" bases its case for legality on the following:

- a. It has been constituted by all Lithuanian political parties and underground groups representing the people of Lithuania.
- b. It has directed the underground movement in Lithuania all through the Soviet and particularly the German occupation.
- c. It has refused to recognize, submit to, and declared traitor a "Quisling" Government set up by the Germans, headed by Gen. Kubiliunas who is now believed to be in the British Zone together with a pro-German diplomat Kazys Skirpa.
- d. It has been given the mandate by the constituting political parties and underground groups to speak for the people of Lithuania and carry on the functions and the continuity of the last independent Lithuanian Government.
- e. It is recognized as the only government by Lithuanian envoys in Washington, London, Stockholm, Vatican, and other capitals which continue to recognize Lithuania.

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7. The members of the Committee stated an earnest plea that they be given an opportunity to present their case to authorized American representatives. They explain that in view of the international factors involved they do not wish to embarrass United States and Britain vis-a-vis Soviet Russia. At this juncture a request for a hearing is motivated by the sole desire (a) to make the Committee's (is the "Governments") existence known to the responsible authorities, and (b) to be permitted to present a plea on matters of welfare on behalf of some 300,000 Lithuanian displaced persons in the Anglo-American Zones.

8. Comments: It is believed that the statements in the preceding paragraphs, related as given by the individuals concerned, in general reflect true facts. Various spokesmen for the group appeared to be men of unusually high calibre. It was noted that all entertain violently anti-Soviet feelings and state categorically that neither they nor Lithuanians in general will return to Lithuania because to some that would mean certain death, to others Siberian exile. They appeared bitter that "American D.P. authorities" did not appreciate their plight that the Lithuanians have no country to return to and accused them of pro-Nazism, because of their anti-Russian attitude. Fear of the Soviet regime appears to be a dominating motive in the thinking of the entire group.

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PINGER REPORT (COVER SHEET)

LTS-1805
COPY No. 1

Report No. 192

M6117-92

DATE: 11 March 1947

SUBJECT: Lithuanian anti-Soviet organizations/VLIK, VLAJ,
Lithuanian Refugee Society, Lithuanian Red Cross,
Central Lithuanian Student Representation/

SOURCE: BENITO

SUBSOURCE: - - -

INFORMATION DATE: February-March 1947

DATE OF SOURCE'S REPORT: 6 March 1947

EVALUATION B-3

COMMENT: /Reference is made to TOP SECRET PINGER Report No. 164,
dated 12 February 1947, SUBJECT: Organization of Lithuanian
Committee and Lithuanian Red Cross./

get!

Source visited TUBINGEN/L4 9-"99/ as previously scheduled
and brought back additional information regarding the Lithuanian
Headquarters in the French Zone.

Some information contained in the last report has proved
to be inaccurate and is here revised. The organization previously
referred to as the "The Lithuanian Committee" is actually "The Lithuanian
Refugee Society".

Source intends to visit an old friend of his, Professor
KAIRYS, VLIK member, about once monthly in order to keep "a jour"
with the activities of this organization.

VLIK/VYRIAUSTAS LIETUVOS APLISVINIMO KOMITETAS/
Chief Lithuanian Liberation Committee.

Background:

VLIK was formed as a Lithuanian anti-Soviet underground
movement during the first occupation of the Baltic Countries by
the USSR. It virtually ceased functioning after Germany began her
initial offensive into Russia.

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About 1940 or 1941 the LITAUISCHER VERBAND was organized in GERLIN to take care of the problems of Lithuanian nationals living in Germany. The leading man in this organization was a Dr. SIPZIKAUSKAS. As the War progressed, the German Authorities drastically curtailed the activities of the VERBAND and forbade it to publish any periodicals or printed matter.

In 1944, as German Troops retreated from the East, a mass exodus of Lithuanians who had been active up until the former Soviet Administration in Lithuania followed. In 1945, when it became obvious that Russia would occupy Eastern Germany, all politically-active Lithuanians moved to the Western Zone.

SIDZIKAUSKAS and several others went to WURZBURG/L50-N53/ and started organizing Lithuanians in exile in spring 1945. Due to good relations with the Military Government Officer and the tactical commander of WURZBURG, SIDZIKAUSKAS was helped somewhat in his work. He was given a house at Memmingerstr. for Lithuanian ex-concentration-camp inmates and slowly started bringing former political leaders and members of the Lithuanian Government to WURZBURG. About May 1945 he opened the "Lithuanian Association". An American Army Officer, a CIC Lt. MAIVADA/from CHICAGO/ showed great interest in the Association, helped establish contact with Lithuanians in the US and transported several Lithuanian Leaders to WURZBURG.

The following main figures gathered in WURZBURG:

*Engineer BRUNIUS

*Colonel VEBRA

✓*STANAVICIUS, well-known underground leader, at one time went to revolt in support of one VOLBIARENS/Lithuanian statesman now in a concentration camp in the CAUCASUS/.

*Professor AMBRAZEVICIUS, former prime-minister

/* former concentration-camp prisoners/

— Dr. BIELULAS

— Professor ZAKEVICIUS

— Professor KAIRYS, former leader of Lithuanian Social-Democratic Party.

Dr. VOLIETAITIS, came to WURZBURG from STOCKHOLM to assist in Association work; later returned.

— Father KRUPAVICIUS, formerly active Christian Democrat, transported from REGENSBURG/L50-U15/ by Lt. MAIVADA.

The Association opened offices in the US, British, and French Zones and took up contact with Lithuanian representatives abroad. Memoranda outlining the aims of the Organization/a free and independent Lithuania/ were sent to General EISENHOWER, Mr. ATTLEE, and others.

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C O P Y

In the Summer of 1945 VLIK was secretly reorganized as a twelve-man executive council, the supreme authority of Lithuanians in exile.

The political activity of the Association, however, caused considerable attention and brought with it the disfavor of US Authorities in WURZBURG. Several "unpleasant incidents" /such as the removal of a Lithuanian Flag by an American Officer/, the difficulty in carrying out political work in the US Zone, transportation troubles, and the fact that Soviet Agents were beginning to observe the Association in WURZBURG, emphasized the need for a move to different locality.

The Association Headquarters were officially transferred to DETMOLD/L52-B77/British Zone/, but only as a diversionary action. As assured the Soviet Agents followed the Association to DETMOLD. VLIK, however, moved in great secrecy to a town about 15 km from REUTLINGEN/L49-X08/-/possibly PFULLINGEN L49-X18, Goethestr./, where it is now operating disguised as a rest-home for former Lithuanian concentration-camp inmates.

The Association Headquarters in DETMOLD was allowed to die a natural death. However, the Association as such did not cease to function. In order to more easily function unobstructed by occupation authorities the name of the Association was changed to "The Lithuanian Refugee Society"/LITHUANIAN REFUGEE SOCIETY/-more commonly known as the "Lithuanian Committee".

The Society is led by Professor VILKAITIS, with its main office for all three Zones at HANAU/L51-N97/. VILKAITIS was formerly professor agriculture in Lithuania. Before moving to HANAU, the Society was located in WIESBADEN/L51-N76/. A move to SCHWEINFURT/L51-N76/ in the near future is contemplated. Offices of the Society have been established in all principal and secondary Lithuanian colonies:

Principal Offices/Under HANAU/

In US Zone:

MUNICH/L49-Y85/
AUGSBURG/L49-Y37/
STUTTGART/L49-S02/
SCHWEINFURT/L51-N76/

/Secondary Office: ERLANGEN/L50-O71/Under Principal Office/
SCHEINFELD/L50-N92/

/Secondary Office: REICHENBERG/L50-U15/Under Principal Office/
In British Zone:

HANNOVER/L53-X32
DETMOLD/L52-B77/
UCHTE/L53-W73/

In French Zone:

TURINGEN/L49-W99/, Karlstr. 11

/Secondary Office: REUTLINGEN/L49-X08/Under Principal Office/

/Note: All offices are not available/

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VLIK when in need of information will either contact VILKAITIS or directly approach a trusted individual in whatever locality the information is desired from.

Connections between VLIK and LOZORAITIS:

LOZORAITIS: /Background/, studied law in France, worked in Lithuanian Foreign Office, activist in Nationalist Party, became Lithuanian Foreign Minister in 1938 or 1939 due to political influence, in 1940 Lithuanian envoy to Italy; recalled after Soviet occupation in 1940, did not return.

On 15 June 1940, ELTONAY before fleeing Lithuania, announced "The agreement of KYBARTAI" /made in the village of KYBARTAI/ whereby LOZORAITIS was declared acting President of Lithuania.

In 1943 fearing that action might be taken against him by the Germans in Italy LOZORAITIS went to the Vatican and managed to obtain a Vatican diplomatic passport; since that time he has worked very closely with Papal Authorities.

On 23 January 1946 LOZORAITIS made a special trip together with a Lithuanian prelate from ROPE to the US Zone to visit Canonikus KAPOCIUS, appointed Nuncio and chief-representative for Lithuanians in Germany and Austria by the Pope. KAPOCIUS was a priest in FAUNAS who received a Vatican order to leave Lithuania prior to the entry of Soviet Forces. His activities since are not known.

It is significant that LOZORAITIS did not contact VLIK when he visited KAPOCIUS. The nature of his business with KAPOCIUS is not clear.

Shortly before the PARIS Conference, VLIK invited LOZORAITIS to attend a meeting in Switzerland/GENEVA or ZURICH/, termed the "ALBU/mountain/Conference". Members of VLIK, as well as Lithuanian delegates from the United States, Great Britain, France, and Sweden were present. LOZORAITIS here turned over his rights as Lithuanian President to VLIK and pledged VLIK his support. All delegates agreed that VLIK was to be the only authoritative head of Lithuanians in exile.

At the time of the PARIS Conference, VLIK dispatched four emissaries to contact leaders of VIAK/VIRIAURIAS LIPTUVOS ATVADAVINO POKALBTAS, the underground movement in Lithuania as liaison men between VLIK and VIAK.

DEKUNYS - 422

VALIULIS, Jurgis

STAS VICIUS, went to Lithuania twice; second time returned with his family via DANZIG and STOCKHOLM.

VIAK until that time was totally unaware of current world situation /it was not even known that an atom bomb existed/ and the state