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~~John E. Horner~~

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AMERICAN EMBASSY  
Paris, France, March 12, 1956

Dear Mr. Stevens:

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Enclosed herewith are some observations made by Mr. John F. Mazionis, of this office, concerning the formation of the Lithuanian Delegation to the ACWU session at Strasbourg. Some pertinent remarks concerning this matter were transmitted on page 2, under the heading "ACWU", of the enclosure to my letter of February 8, 1956.

Sincerely,

John E. Horner  
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure:

Observations, as stated.

Copy to:

L. Randolph Higgs, Esquire.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3826  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2008

Francis B. Stevens, Esquire,  
Director, Office of Eastern European Affairs,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D. C.

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FORMATION OF LITHUANIAN DELEGATION TO COMING ACEN CONFERENCE AT STRASBOURG

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Information has been received that Mr. Vaclovas SIDZIKAIUSKAS of the Lithuanian Section of FIC has approached both Mr. Symantas and Mr. Storas, of the Lithuanian Resistance Alliance, and Mr. Storas, Chief of the Lithuanian Diplomatic Service, concerning the formation of the Lithuanian Delegation to the ACEN Conference at Strasbourg, scheduled to take place in the middle of April.

It might be pointed out right away that Mr. Sidzikauskas does not enjoy the confidence of many Lithuanians in Europe, neither for that matter in the United States. Some of the reasons are: 1) His uncanny past (thrown out of the Lithuanian Foreign Service for taking bribes); 2) Ambiguous political dealings with different groups to further the interests of his 3-10 member Unkininku Partija; vague commitments which he knows he will not be able to meet, especially when he is contacting people for forming a Lithuanian Delegation for the ACEN sessions. His statements and assurances must always be taken with a good pinch of salt. Apparently, he is not the best choice in the world to carry out the assignment of forming the Lithuanian delegation to the ACEN.

In his approach to Mr. Symantas, Mr. Sidzikauskas offered Mr. Symantas the post of observer for the entire Liberals. Mr. Symantas, who treats Mr. Sidzikauskas with the utmost caution and suspicion, wrote a letter to the latter on March 3, 1956, of which the following is a translation of the pertinent parts:

"I have not received a reply from you concerning the question I brought up about the formation of the European part of the Lithuanian Delegation to the ACEN session in April. I suggested that this part of the delegation be formed on a wider basis and should include all those Lithuanian groups that have political contacts in Europe and participate in international and national activities (Committee of Exiles - London -), Liberal International, Lithuanian European Communities and the Lithuanian Independence Alliance (Lietuvos Nepriklausomybes Tauta). It is my proposal that the Lithuanian Delegation to the ACEN session at Strasbourg include:

"1) Pronas RUIDE, President of the Lithuanian Community in Germany and Secretary of the European Lithuanian Community;

"2) Karolis DRUNGA, Lithuanian resistant, par

excellence

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excellence and Acting President of the European Section of the Lithuanian Independence Alliance;

"3) Stasys ZYMAITIS, Member of Committee of Representatives (London) and of the Lithuanian Resistance Alliance.

"It would also be more appropriate that I be a member of the Lithuanian Delegation and not just represent the Committee of Liberal Exiles, whose representative would only be an observer. In any case it would be the affair of that Committee and not of the Lithuanians.

"Excuse me for writing so frankly on this matter, but this is not a matter of some personal ambitions, but first of efficiency and usefulness in the work of the Lithuanians on such an important organization as the ACEN. On the other hand, we spoke on the same lines during your last visit to London."

As may be seen from the above, Mr. Zymaitis makes a definite proposition concerning the formation of part of the European Section of the ACEN Lithuanian Delegation. Mr. Lomonosov, the Chief of the Lithuanian Diplomatic Service, considers that unless the Lithuanian Delegation is formed from a wider strata of Lithuanian organizations, other than VLIK, the delegation will again be formed of incompetent "stage actors" as it was in the past. Mr. Lomonosov does not feel that the Lithuanian diplomats should become involved in the political squabbles and disputes that are raging around VLIK or become in any way associated with them. Unless such changes are made, he does not feel inclined to delegate any Lithuanian diplomat, nor himself to such ACEN Lithuanian Delegation, neither would he accept to act as chairman for such delegation.

Under the existing circumstances, it would seem most proper for the Chief of the Lithuanian Diplomatic Service to form the European Section of the ACEN Lithuanian Delegation and independently of the services of Mr. Sidzikauskas, who could be retained on the U. S. Section of the Delegation. It would add to the prestige of the whole Delegation if Mr. Lomonosov could be induced to accept the chairmanship and raise thereby the standards and authority of the statements made by the delegation as a whole. Any change from the pitiful crew that Sidzikauskas threw together last year would be an improvement. On the other hand, the inclusion of such incompetents as Mr. ZYMAITIS, Dr. J. KURVELIS, Mr. GELMIS, or J. KATULIONIS would be just a waste of money and a loss to the ACEN Session.

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