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KALINIS, Bruno

22 August 1956

RI Document #200-7-1102-2 (WPA-8840) is a dispatch dated 13 August 1951 to Chief, FDN from [redacted] subject, "Free Trade Unions in Exile" and indicates that one Bruno KALINIS, former secretary-general of the Trade Union Central, was a delegate in July 1951 to the Third Congress of the International Center of Free Trade Unions in Exile at Paris.

RI Document #74-4-2-171, State F, Stockholm, dated 5 January 1951, subject, memorandum entitled, "National Resistance and Purges in Soviet Latvia", prepared by Mr. Bruno KALINIS, Latvian Emigre resident in Stockholm. This document indicates that Subject is a well known Social Democrat who has resided in Sweden since 1944, after having escaped from Latvia just prior to the re-entry of that country by the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union. He also serves as Stockholm correspondent for The New Leader published in New York City. This document also indicated that the Subject memorandum referred to the Communist purge in Latvia starting with disturbances against the leaders of non-Communist labor, particularly Social Democrats Bruno KALINIS and V. BASTJANIS.

RI Document #201-2670-28 (DFB-22434) is an FBI report dated 31 October 1952 made at Chicago, Illinois entitled, "Valdemars LAMBERGS, aka, Valdemars LAMBERGS", character of case: Internal Security- R & LA, which was forwarded to this Agency on 13 November 1952. This document indicates that a confidential informant of unknown reliability, but who has furnished reliable information in the past about Latvian matters, advised that any information furnished by Bruno KALINIS (KALINIS) should be questioned because it was a well known fact that KALINIS was elevated to the rank of a general in the Latvian Army from a Reserve Lieutenant when the Russian Army occupied Latvia in 1940; that KALINIS was made head of political education and security for the Latvian Army; that KALINIS was head of the Politruks (phonetic) Political Education for a period of approximately four to six months; and that KALINIS was an ardent student of MARX-Lenin.

The confidential informant further stated that KALINIS was instrumental in keeping the Latvian Army intact when the Russian Army

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attempted to consolidate all forces; that KALINIS is presently residing with his mother in Stockholm, Sweden where he is an exponent of the Latvian Social Democratic Party abroad; that KALINIS's attitude toward the Russian Communist system appears to have changed since he has now taken up the fight against the Communists; and that KALINIS adheres to the teachings of MARI and LENIN and any information furnished by KALINIS should be questioned as to its reliability.

Another confidential informant, of unknown reliability, but familiar with the Latvian element in the Chicago area and abroad, advised that Bruno KALINIS was not a trustworthy individual and that any information furnished by him should be carefully evaluated and that he had seen a photograph of Bruno KALINIS in a Latvian publication which reflected that Bruno KALINIS, who was dressed in a Russian uniform, was a member of the Russian Politruks (phonetic) in 1940 during the Soviet occupation of Latvia.

Another confidential informant furnished similar type information on Subject as the other two confidential informants.

RI Document () (DFB-24795) is an FBI report dated 6 February 1953 made at Boston entitled, "Valdemars LAMBERGS, aka, Valdemar LAMBERGS, wa V. VACERONIS, SATURNIS", character of case - Internal Security - R & IA, which was forwarded to this Agency on 2 March 1953. This report reflected that a confidential informant stated that he regarded Subject (KALINIS) as a Marxist and a Communist who left Latvia prior to the Soviet occupation, but returned when Russia came to Latvia and, at that time, the Russians gave him a high position as the political head of a section of the Latvian Army. Another confidential informant submitted similar type information as the previous informant, however, he added KALINIS's attitude toward the Russian Communists appears to have changed since KALINIS has now taken up the fight against Communists. Two other informants advised in the above report that any information that was furnished by KALINIS should be questioned as to its reliability.

RI Indices reflects that a file on one Bruno KALINIS is maintained in Graphics Registry.

RI Indices reflects that a file on Subject is contained in Biographies Registry.

RI Document () is a file on Subject which contains a summary of information concerning Subject (OSDE-27331) dated 27 October 1954. A copy of this summary is attached to this report.

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KALNINS, Bruno

27 August 1956

Archives File #100-13Y-5.13 contains a report dated 12 March 1952 which outlines an article appearing in the Swedish Eesti Post dated 17 February 1951. The article explains that Bruno KALNINS, identifiable with the Subject, berates the right-wing Baltic collaborators of the Voice of America.

Archives Files #74-B-129-1 and #74-B-129-1 dated 24 January 1952 and 21 November 1951 state that the Subject was roundly censored by Latvian exiles for his role in cooperating with the Soviets during the Communist take-over of Latvia during June - July 1940. It was asserted that, for a period, the Subject acted as a Communist-controlled political commissar to the Latvian Army after the coup d'etat. His picture also appeared with a group of Soviet staff officers concerning plans for a new Latvian Army. He also reportedly accuses his present conservative exile opponents in Sweden of being "Fascists".

Archives File #74-B-129-1 contains a report dated 11 May 1951 which quotes an article appearing in La Tribune De Geneve on 5 March 1951. This article stated that after the Soviet conquest of Latvia, the Subject, then a Lieutenant in the Reserve Army, put on a General's uniform and was considered as a Soviet collaborator from the Socialist Party camp in that country. His chief assignment was reportedly to be to disperse the Latvian National Army and to create a "People's Army" to be placed under the Soviet command. At the present time, the Subject is one of the leaders of the Socialist Latvian Exile Group in Sweden.

Otherwise, no pertinent identifiable information.

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Special Agent
Headquarters Field Office

RI Document #74-6-3-59 is a study of "Latvian Resistance and Emigre Activities" dated 16 November 1950. This document contains the following information on Subject:

"KALNINS, Bruno, Chairman, Central Council of Latvia; leaders, Social Democratic Party in Exile; member, Provisional Executive Committee, LNCEM; member, Bureau of Socialists in Exile; believed to work for the Swedish Aliens Commission and the Swedish Foreign Office on all matters concerning Baltic refugees; son of Paul KALNINS, the former speaker of the Latvian Parliament; accused by some of having been a Soviet collaborator because he accepted the position of Chief Political Advisor or "Politruk" of the Latvian Army in 1940; according to other persons, believed to be reliable, he accepted the post at the request of the Commander-in-Chief BALODIS with the approval of the executive of the Latvian Social Democratic Party and resigned it when it became clear that the Soviets would not keep their promises; his opponents admit that he is definitely anti-Soviet today."

Special Agent
Headquarters Field Office

Attachment.

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