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FROM :	HICOG Bonn	DESP. NO.	
TO :	DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON	DATE	October 7, 1954
REF :	HICOG Bonn's despatch No. 244 of July 30, 1954 Department's CA-1524 of August 31, 1954		D 95052
CLASSIFICATION	EX-9	DATE	10/11
REVISION	0	DATE	10/11
SUBJECT: Baltic Representation in the German Federal Republic			see also CS 34, 238 EBMA 9153

Dr. Otto Braeutigam, Chief of the Eastern Division of the Foreign Ministry, informed the reporting officer on October 6 that it had been the consensus at a recent meeting in the Foreign Ministry that no change should be made in the Federal Republic's existing policy of not according formal recognition to any Baltic representative as officially representing his country. Although the issue has not yet been closed, Dr. Braeutigam again indicated his opinion that it would be far preferable not to permit Baltic representatives to establish any kind of official or semi-official representation in Bonn. He again cited the need of the Federal Republic to avoid a move with Baltic representatives that might complicate the eventual establishment of German-Soviet diplomatic relations, and also referred to the antagonisms which might be stirred up in the Baltic emigration by a German decision to give official recognition to one or another group.

This occasion was taken to review for Dr. Braeutigam United States policy toward the Baltic exile groups as set forth in the Department's CA-1524 of August 31, 1954.

On the day previous, October 5, the subject of Baltic representation had arisen in a conversation between the reporting officer and Dr. Gerhard von Mende, Chief of the Federal Bureau of Foreign Refugees, at Dusseldorf. Dr. von Mende also indicated that the problem, at least insofar as the Lithuanians were concerned, was still before the Government and said he was pushing hard for a decision to permit a Lithuanian representative to establish either a passport office or consular agency in Bonn.

Dr. von Mende said this would accomplish two purposes. It would signify Germany's non-recognition of the Soviet annexation of the Baltic states, and it would provide a means of strengthening the Lithuanian emigration financially. The latter objective would be accomplished by turning over to the Lithuanian mission certain former Lithuanian properties in Berlin and by releasing to it blocked Lithuanian accounts in Germany which he estimated at 300,000 Marks. He also referred to the strong trend which he felt was in motion in West Germany toward the early resumption of full-scale relations with the

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Soviet Union, and said he desired to accomplish the recognition of a Lithuanian mission to serve as a "brake" on this trend by reminding Germans that there were other important factors to be considered in the organization of Soviet-German relations.

Dr. von Mende said it was his recommendation that the former Lithuanian Ambassador in Germany, Skirpa, should be asked to designate the representative who would be accepted in Bonn. He thought Skirpa presently resided in the United States. He said he felt this not only was a logical method of selecting the representative, but also had the advantage of compromising between the opposing claims of Dr. Petras Kervelis of the Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania and Mr. Stays Lozeraitis, Chief of the Lithuanian Diplomatic Service Abroad.

Constance R. Harvey, Chief
Division of External German Affairs
Office of Political Affairs

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