

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Staff C
Attn : Staff C/SPB
FROM : Chief, Special Security Division

DATE: NOV 5 1952

SUBJECT: C-15842
#80436

1. Reference is made to your request dated 28 October 1952 for a recommendation as to whether an Operational Clearance should be granted to permit the Subject's use as agent in Europe under cover of a political organization.

2. The indices of this agency reflect the following information as supplied by the Subject in September 1949. Subject identifies himself as a former Lithuanian, a former Army General from 1935 to 1940, and Commander-in-Chief of the Lithuanian Army. Because of his resistance to the U.S.S.R. in 1940 he was read out of the Army and stripped of rank. He later became active in the Lithuanian underground working against both the Germans and the Communists. In 1944 he and his wife escaped to the U.S. Zone of Germany where they lived in DP camps until coming to the United States in May 1949.

3. The above information is not entirely consistent with the information noted in the NEW YORK TIMES as of 31 March 1943. This article indicated that the Subject was summoned by the Germans to help set up a new puppet government in Lithuania. On 5 March 1944 an article appearing in the WASHINGTON POST reported that Gregory MEIKSINS, in a letter attacking J. KAJECKAS, the Lithuanian Attache in Washington, states that KAJECKAS defends such Lithuanian quislings as the Subject and Colonel SKIRPA. (J. KAJECKAS is the present Lithuanian Counselor of the Legation in Washington, D.C.)

4. An intelligence report dated 3 February 1947 indicated that Subject was visited by two men in Scheinfeld, Bavaria, who tried to persuade the Subject to return to Russian Occupied Lithuania by displaying letters allegedly written by the Subject's daughters.

5. Further biographical data on this Subject is contained in the indices of this agency which are available to your office, parts of which are of a contradictory nature but are believed not to have any security significance.

6. The above information and the attached investigative data regarding the Subject are furnished to you as an aid in determining whether or not the Subject should be used under the authority of an Operational Clearance in the capacity set forth in your request.

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DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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CASE NO. 80436

22 October 1952

SYNOPSIS:

SUBJECT was born 13 September 1896, at Karsenai, Lithuania. He was an officer in the RUSSIAN IMPERIAL ARMY 1915 to 1921, and was imprisoned after the Bolshevik Revolution. He graduated from KAUNAS UNIVERSITY, Lithuania, in 1929. He was appointed an officer with an Infantry Regiment Command and subsequently served on the military staff on diplomatic missions from Lithuania to the Balkan countries, Russia and England. He was appointed Chief of the General Staff in 1935, and from 1935 through 1940, he was Commander-in-Chief of the LITHUANIAN ARMY, with the rank of Lieutenant General. He is married, has three daughters, who were seized by the Russians in 1941 and sent to Siberia, Russia. From 1941 to 1944, he was Headmaster of the KAUNAS NATIONAL MUSEUM, Lithuania. Came to United States, with the intention of becoming a citizen, as a displaced person in 1949. He was instructor of Russian Language and Military subjects at SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY from March 1951 until 30 September 1952, resigning to accept a position with the U. S. STATE DEPARTMENT, at London, England. His services at SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY were excellent. Informants state SUBJECT is a man of excellent character, reputation, of military prominence and literary distinction in Lithuania. He is a devout practicing Catholic. A neighborhood investigation was favorable.

SUBJECT has no credit or police record at Syracuse, New York.

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CASE NO. 80436

22 October 1952

BIRTH AND CITIZENSHIP:

At Buffalo, N. Y.

On 22 October 1952, a source of information, reliable and confidential, revealed that the SUBJECT was born 13 September 1896, at Karsenai, Lithuania.

EDUCATION:

At Syracuse, N. Y.

On 21 October 1952, a reliable source of information disclosed that the SUBJECT graduated from KAUNAS UNIVERSITY, Lithuania, in 1929. He also attended the ACADEMY OF GENERAL STAFF, Germany, in 1932. He has an excellent reading, writing and auditory comprehension of Lithuanian, Russian, Polish and German, but speaks, reads and understands English "fair."

EMPLOYMENT:

At Syracuse, N. Y.

On 21 October 1952, Confidential Informant R-1 stated that the SUBJECT was employed as a Special Instructor of Russian and "Organization and Problems of the Infantry." He commenced his duties in March of 1951, and resigned 30 September 1952, when his contract terminated.

SUBJECT was employed under a Special Contract between SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY and the UNITED STATES AIR FORCE INTELLIGENCE TRAINING PROGRAM to instruct AIR FORCE officers and men in training.

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According to Confidential Informant R-1, SUBJECT's services were entirely satisfactory at SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY and he was reported to be a very competent instructor.

REFERENCES:

At Syracuse, N. Y.

On 21 October 1952, Confidential Informant R-2 stated that he had been an associate of the SUBJECT during the past year and knew of his background as a high ranking Lithuanian officer and a man of military prominence and no little literary distinction in Lithuania.

SUBJECT impressed informant as entirely trustworthy, a man of good moral character and habits, and knows he is an implacable foe of Communism.

On 21 October 1952, Confidential Informant R-3 stated that he had known SUBJECT many years in Lithuania. SUBJECT left the LITHUANIAN ARMY as Commander-in-Chief with the rank of Lieutenant General. He is married, has three children, and came to this country in 1949 as a displaced person, and visited with friends in Los Angeles, California. SUBJECT took out his first papers at Los Angeles and for a short period of time he resided in this city with his friends at 1788 1/2 Northwestern Avenue. Informant described SUBJECT as a man of meticulous habits and "a hard positive character." He does not drink alcoholic beverages or smoke. He lives very simply with his wife in a fairly nice neighborhood at Syracuse.

R-3 further advised SUBJECT is a man of military distinction, some literary ability and was politically prominent in Lithuania for many years. He served on the military staff on diplomatic missions to all the Balkan countries, England and Russia many years ago. During the early 1920's, he was a RUSSIAN IMPERIAL ARMY officer and was taken as a prisoner-of-war for a few years during the Bolshevik Revolution.

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R-3 stated that in June 1941, SUBJECT's three children, all daughters, were deported to Siberia by the Communists in his and his wife's absence.

Informant advised that the SUBJECT resigned his position at SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY on 30 September 1952, to accept a position with the U. S. STATE DEPARTMENT at London, England.

R-3 concluded the interview by stating the SUBJECT is a man of excellent character, good moral habits, and that he has never heard anything derogatory concerning him.

NEIGHBORHOOD:

At Syracuse, N. Y.

On 21 October 1952, Mr. WILLIAM CAPOUSIS was interviewed at his home, 117 Miles Avenue.

Mr. CAPOUSIS stated that SUBJECT and his wife have been living in his home for approximately the past year and a half occupying the first floor. Informant stated he had the highest regard for the SUBJECT and his wife, that they lived very simply and are devout practicing Catholics. Neither the SUBJECT nor his wife speak English too fluently and as a result they lead a simple life and entertain little. He stated SUBJECT's wife is a simple woman who is utterly devoted to her husband.

On 21 October 1952, Mrs. CHARLES HANEY of 119 Miles Avenue stated that she knew little or nothing of the SUBJECT or his wife except that she sees him being driven home from the University every evening by a man in uniform. Informant knew that SUBJECT taught at SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY but knew nothing else about SUBJECT.

Neither the SUBJECT nor his wife were known by anyone else in the vicinity.

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CREDIT AND CREDIT REFERENCES:

At Syracuse, N. Y.

On 21 October 1952, the CREDIT BUREAU OF GREATER SYRACUSE, Warren and Fayette Streets, reported no record in the name of the SUBJECT.

POLICE (CRIMINAL AND SUBVERSIVE RECORDS):

At Syracuse, N. Y.

On 22 October 1952, the Bureau of Criminal Identification of the POLICE DEPARTMENT of the City of Syracuse, Police Headquarters, 125 West Willow Street, reported that their files contain no record in the name of the SUBJECT.

GENERAL:

At Syracuse, N. Y.

On 21 October 1952, the reliable source of information, previously mentioned, disclosed that the SUBJECT from 1932 to 1934 was Commander of an Infantry Regiment with the LITHUANIAN ARMY. He was Chief of Staff of the Infantry Division in 1935. From 1935 through 1940, he was Commander-in-Chief of the LITHUANIAN ARMY. The SUBJECT has had military experience in the War between Lithuania and Russia in 1919.

SUBJECT has written hundreds of articles in Lithuanian military magazines and newspapers and, in 1933, he had published a book, "Military History of Lithuania." Another book entitled, "Instructions and Commissions for a Military Arbitrator," was published in 1934. In the same year he wrote, "Lithuanian Red Cross in Exile."

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22 October 1936

During the German and Russian occupation in World War II,
SUBJECT was Headmaster and Teacher at the NATIONAL SEMINAR at
Kaunas, Lithuania, from 1942 to 1944.

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5 Feb 1952

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21 October 1952

GENERAL:

At Los Angeles, California:

The SUBJECT'S Immigration and Naturalization file was made available on 20 October 1952 by EDWARD J. SMITH at his office at the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 458 South Spring Street. An examination of the file revealed the following: STASYS --- was born on 13 September 1896 at the town of Kursevai, district of Siauliai, Lithuania and his nationality is presently Lithuanian. The SUBJECT'S mother, ANASTAZIJA --- (nee: VILKAIKALIS) and his father, J. NARONIS --- are both deceased. On 29 June 1929, the SUBJECT married ELENA MARJA --- (nee: KUCIENA, also spelled KUCIENAITIS), born on 14 July 1903. The application gave her birthplace as Liepaja, Latvia, but the marriage register showed Kaunas, Lithuania. She is a national citizen of Lithuania. ELENA MARJA ---'s parents were listed as MARTINUS SUKROMA and ANTONIA GERICAS KALITE.

The file revealed that the SUBJECT had three daughters, namely, LA MUNE JELIJA ---, born 13 April 1930; VIKIUTE MARJA ---, born 5 February 1917; and ANTONA JOANA ---, born 19 April 1940. The SUBJECT stated that his three daughters were deported to Siberia from Lithuania by the Russians on 14 June 1941 in the absence of their parents. However, it might be noted that a history of the SUBJECT'S residences revealed that from 1940 to 1941, he was residing at Kaunas, Lithuania.

The Application for Immigration Visa and Alien Registration, dated 29 April 1949, revealed the SUBJECT'S education to be eleven years primary and secondary schools, four years of university education, and one year at a military school. However, the report of the Displaced Persons Commission revealed that the SUBJECT attended primary school at Dukstas, Lithuania from 1906 to 1909 and secondary school at Zarasai, Lithuania from 1910 to 1914. He attended a military school at Tiflis, Russia from 1916 to 1917 and the University of Kaunas, Lithuania from 1927 to 1931.

The SUBJECT served with the Lithuanian Army from 1918 to 1940, and during the period of from 1930 to 1940, he was an army officer for the Ministry of War at Kaunas, Lithuania. From 1940 to 1941, the SUBJECT was unemployed and living at Kaunas, Lithuania. He was employed by the Direction of Education at Kaunas from 1941 to 1944. The SUBJECT worked in a wood processing factory at Regensburg, Germany from 1944 to 1945 and was employed by UBRRA-IRO at Schiefeld and Regensburg,

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Germany from 1945 to 1949. From late 1949 to approximately mid-1951, the SUBJECT was employed as a laborer by the Robert Manufacturing Co., 9035 Venice Boulevard, Culver City, California.

The SUBJECT first went to Germany on 1 August 1944 but there was no record available relative to the reason and circumstances of displacement into Germany. The SUBJECT and his wife entered the United States at New York on 18 May 1949 aboard the S. S. Marine Marlin, having boarded the ship at Bremerhaven, Germany. They entered under Public Law 774 and were sponsored by the National Catholic Welfare Conference. Their passage was paid by IRO, Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D.C. and their passports were waived by the Secretary of State.

A history of the SUBJECT'S residences since the age of 14 years disclosed that from 1910 to 1915 he resided at Dukstas, Lithuania. From 1915 to 1918 his address was listed as "Car" army, and from 1918 to 1940 Lithuanian Army, Kaunas, Lithuania. From 1940 to 1944 the SUBJECT was still residing at Kaunas, Lithuania. From 1944 to 1945 his address was Regensburg, Germany and from 1945 to 1949 he was at Schienfeld, Germany. The SUBJECT and his wife resided at 1723 North Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California. On 3 May 1951, the SUBJECT'S address was changed to 213 Beecher Street, Syracuse, New York.

According to the file, the SUBJECT speaks, reads and writes Lithuanian, Russian, Polish, some German, and some English.

The SUBJECT listed as his only friend in the United States one MR. DRABICKAS at 3605 Rugby Drive, Los Angeles 46, California.

The SUBJECT filed a Declaration of Intention on 2 August 1950. When the SUBJECT filed his third semi-annual report in the first half of 1951, he claimed not to be receiving prevailing wages at the Robert Manufacturing Co., located at Culver City, California.

The file contained the following physical description of the SUBJECT: race, white; hair, bald; eyes, blue; height, 5' 8"; weight, 155 pounds, complexion, fair.

The SUBJECT'S police record at IRO area No. 3, Displaced Persons Camp, was negative. His medical record was favorable.

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