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DISPATCH NO. WELA-5198

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, FDW

DATE: 29 January 1951

FROM :

SUBJECT: GENERAL -
SPECIFIC: Lithuanian Resistance Alliance

REDBIRD

Reference: Wash 26514 and

Jan 51
OUT-50367
T.S. Jan 60
IN-20422

Secret
100-1-58-92
750 of London 27 Jan 51

The full text of the letter received from [] is quoted below:

London, S.W.1.
26th January 1951

MACROFILMED
SEP 9 1970
FBI MICRO SER

"Your letter No. 2268 of the 26th January 1951 has been carefully examined here and shows how difficult it is likely to be to achieve our common aim of a union of the conflicting Lithuanian Groups outside Lithuania.

"The tenor of our discussion with Ross C. Lane, both here and in Washington, and recently here with Mr. Ragsdale on this matter of Lithuania, have all been directed to this agreed common end. Let me therefore, before dealing with your letter in detail, assure you that on our part we have not taken, and neither do we intend to take, any action contrary either to the letter or the spirit of our recent agreements and discussions on this subject.

"Now as to the case itself. It would undoubtedly be of assistance to you and Washington if I relate the facts as we know them.

"It is true that a meeting of a few important individuals among the Lithuanian Resistance abroad has been held in London. This meeting, however, took place in early September. It was convened by KUZMINSKAS, and attended by ZAKEVICIUS, NEVERAVICIUS, and Colonel ~~LDUGIRIS~~ LDUGIRIS who are resident in the United Kingdom, and by J. MASIULIS from France. The objects of the meeting were to broaden the base of the former "BDPS Delegation abroad" and to change its name to the 'Lithuanian Resistance Alliance' (L.R.S.) It adopted the following resolutions:

AN *EC*
AB *X*
IN *X*
PS *12*
EX *4*
DES
FI

ATTENDED meeting of Lithuanian Resistance ABROAD IN London IN Early September, 1950

Amended
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-2-

- "(1) To help the Liberation Movement of Lithuania irrespective of faction.
- "(2) To assert that the Lithuanian Diplomats abroad are still the legal representatives of their Country and to assist them in their task of asserting the rights of independent Lithuania.
- "(3) To form within L.R.S. a central section for direction purposes to be composed of the following:

Professor ZAKEVICIUS
NEVERAVICIUS
KUZMINSKAS
Colonel VIDUGIRIS
J. MASIULIS

- "(4) To invite Lithuanians abroad who support the views of this Group, to join them.

"This meeting was not called at British instigation, neither has the L.R.S. any support from us which might be construed as 'British blessing'; as was explained to both Lane and Ragsdale however it is with the former 'BDPS Delegation abroad' that we are linked for operational purposes.

"This meeting was not attended by LOZARITIUS, who indeed did not arrive in London until November 1950. ZILINSKAS did not attend the meeting; he visited London in November to see LOZARITIUS.

"We have no reason to believe that the L.R.S. is attempting, either with or without General PLECHAVICIOUS' support, the launching of any expeditions to Lithuania in the near future with personnel secured in the United States. We also have no reason whatsoever to believe that the L.R.S. proposes to issue any claims of any sort which might include privileges of sovereignty and precedence over VLIK. In our view, it is also incorrect to describe L.R.S. as anti-VLIK although there are individuals in L.R.S. who are opposed to VLIK methods. In its attitude towards VLIK the L.R.S. adopts the standpoint that the differences between the two Groups are by no means insoluble, and that the two Organisations could well give a lead by sinking their differences in helping forward a united front abroad for the representation of the Lithuanian Resistance at home.

"It is becoming increasingly clear, that if we are to avoid misunderstanding between ourselves, and if we are to attain more quickly our common purpose, we must find ways and means of assisting the L.R.S. and VLIK to work together.

"During his visit here in January, Mr. Ragsdale agreed with us that the first step in this direction should be the convening of a meeting at which both L.R.S. and VLIK should be represented, together with British and American officers. The object of this meeting would be a serious attempt to iron out the existing differences and to pave the way for a united front

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-3-

abroad. It was agreed with Mr. Ragsdale that the venue of such a Conference might well be Brussels. We regard the convening of this Conference as a matter of urgent importance and would be glad to hear whether such a meeting has the support of 'OGIVE'.

"In connection with the last paragraph of your letter, I am grateful for the indication that organisational changes in VLIK are pending. We would be glad to discuss with you how any such changes might best help the union of VLIK, L.R.S. and the other Groups, and we suggest therefore that we discuss this matter in advance of the proposed Brussels meeting.

Signed/ SMILAX

"P.S. I promised to tell you when we first heard of the meeting in question. The first indication we had was in a report from the Continent dated 19th January, which suggested that such a meeting might have been held. It was however, only after receipt of your letter that we began to make inquiries of our Lithuanian contacts, when we obtained the facts as given in my letter."

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