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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY   Lithuania, USSR

SUBJECT   Rules Concerning Circulation and Passports

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1. After the age of 16, every resident must be provided with a domestic
    passport, in which his social status must be listed. If, at this age, the
    resident is listed "without profession", the person or persons with whom he
    lives, must pay a tax for him as for a domestic servant. A passport is
    delivered for only three years, and its issuance involves numerous formalities.
    To procure a passport, one must make at least three trips to the center
    of the district which is often very difficult (especially for the sick, the
    crippled and the old) due to insufficient means of transportation. Few
    areas have train service, and then, there is only one train per day. Most
    frequently, the only means is a truck; people find a space as best they can
    on a truck loaded with wood, beets, turf or cattle. If the driver is
    a Soviet, in nine out of ten instances he is drunk. Thus, accidents are
    much more frequent than one might expect from such a limited circulation.
    At the office where passports are issued, a crowd begins to assemble at
    four o'clock in the morning. Often, one must wait two or three days before
    even presenting the many papers and certificates which are required. These
    are almost always refused in a scornful manner.

2. Foreigners are not allowed to leave the district in which they live without
    special permission from the Foreign Office. A normal wait for this
    permission is two months. Consequently, travel for foreigners is forbidden.

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3. Theoretically, every citizen of the USSR can travel freely within the
Soviet Union. Actually, tourism is impossible. One never finds a room
at a hotel. Furthermore, one cannot travel without a passport, for
checkups en route, are not infrequent. If one does stop at a hotel, he
must leave his passport at the desk. Only excursion trips are possible.
Space is reserved for members of the Party or, rather, to some of the
privileged ones of the Party. The youth in Lithuania organizes
excursions for Riga. To do this, they rent a truck and then write to
a school where they might be assured shelter for the night in a classroom.
They must often wait two or three weeks in order to find a free classroom
during the summer vacation.

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