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- 1. The town of Kretinga (55 54N,21 15E), Lithuanian SSR, was seriously bombed during the war and the entire western part of the town is in ruins. Since there is no forced labor camp or prison in town, there is no one to rebuild it.
- 2. In the center is a well-kept square, in the middle of which is an area surrounded by an iron fence. This fence formerly enclosed a monument to Lithuanians who fought for freedom in the time of independence. In 1947 this monument was dismantled and in its place was erected a pole on which the flag is raised on Bolshevik holidays. The whole square is paved with stones, as are all the streets in the town. Kretinga's rectangular central square has five streets running into it. One of these is Stoties Street, but the others, including Laukininku and Vilnius Streets, have had their names changed and source does not know the new ones. At the end of one of them, a small street, is the Kretinga Military Commissariat. Another one runs eastward and joins the road to Kartena (55 55N,21 28E).
- 3. Names of streets are fixed to the walls of houses at intersections. Street signs in Kretinga (as well as in other Lithuanian towns) consist of a tin plate about 20 cm wide and 50 cm long. The color varies: sometimes white plates with blue writing; sometimes blue plates with white writing.
- 4. There are four street lights (wooden poles with electric bulbs) on the central square. The inadequacy of the light on the square can be judged from the fact that in 1948 on the night of 16 February (Lithuanian Independence Day) two Lithuanians climbed the flagpole in the center of the square and raised the Lithuanian flag. This was possible even though militiamen guard the square all night. Other street lights are found only in front of certain office buildings, at the Military Commissariat, the bank, the rayon agricultural office, the secret police office, the hospital, the militia office, etc.

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- 5. In going from the low to the high numbers, even house numbers are on the right, odd on the left side of the street. Numbers appear either on simple black wooden rectangles about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cm thick and measuring about 6 x 6 cm with numbers marked in white or on tin plates of the same measurement with white writing on blue plates or vice versa.
- 6. The types of buildings in Kretinga vary in form and color. Only 40 percent of them are built of brick or concrete. There are brick buildings in the center of town only. Wooden houses have a maximum of two or three floors; many are of only one floor. Concrete houses have as many as five floors. Privately owned houses are small and only one or two floors high. All large houses are government property, of town are yellow; some are red brick. Some roofs are shingled or tinned; others are covered with red pantiles. Away from the center of the town, the number of concrete buildings decreases and one finds more and more old, dark-looking wooden
- 7. The north and south sectors of Kretinga were partly damaged, while the western part was completely destroyed during the war. Only 35 percent of the houses in the center of the town remained safe; the rest were completely destroyed. On Laukininku Street only the few houses needed for accommodating the army were rebuilt. No other reconstruction has been done. A small, red brick public toilet was built for the town from material in the ruined west sector.
- 8. Vilnius Street is the most important street in Kretinga; other important streets are Stoties Street and Laukininku Street. Automobile and horse wagon traffic is particularly heavy on Mondays and Thursdays. Traffic begins at about 7 am and lasts usually until 9 pm. At night it is usually quiet, with only an occasional automobile passing on Stoties Street.
- 9. The following sites are located on Vilnius Street in Kretinga and appear in the order listed as one goes away from the center of town:
 - a. Kretinga bakery. This is the first small one-story brick building on the street and has a red chimney and shingled roof.
 - b. Bank of Lithuania. This building was built by the Bank of Lithuania during the time of independence. When coming from town, one can still see the sign "Lietuvos Bankas" on the back wall of the building. It is a large, four-story brick building with white walls and a tin roof and is on the left side of Vilnius Street. At present the building houses the bank and a few other offices for the sale of various tax stamps, such as those to be placed on registration forms and tax stamps for trade union fees.
 - c. Kretinga House of Culture. This is a two-story, red brick building next to the bank. Activities here are similar to those in every town's House of Culture. There are parties every evening at which there is dancing. There are always more girls than men at the parties.
 - d. Kretinga Catholic Church. This is on the right side of the street, opposite the House of Culture.
 - e. Kretings gymnasium and progymnasium. The school building is on the right side of a small street which turns east beyond the church and can be seen from the intersection at Vilnius Street. It is a large, long, triangular cement building which looks gray in the distance. It has five floors and large concrete stairs. The gymnasium is in one part of the building, the progymnasium in another. During elections, election point #2 is established here.
 - f. House of St. Anthony. Past the Catholic Church, there is a small cement bridge, 15 meters beyond which is this large building known to every Lithuanian as the House of St. Anthony. The building is large, yellow in color, and has

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many chimneys. The door on the ground floor is the entrance to the cinema. Inside this door large cement stairs lead up to three entrances. The first entrance leads to the offices of the apkomas (district committee). The second entrance leads to a long corridor with many offices. On the corridor doors are signs in Lithuanian and Russian indicating the name of the section concerned. Here are located about eighteen various governmental, union, and town offices, one of which is the Registrar's office. The third entrance leads to the offices of the town administration.

- g. Kretinga cemetery. The cemetery is located on both sides of Vilnius Street.
- h. Primary school teachers' apartment. This is a white building on the right side of the street.
- 1. MGB staff headquarters. Beyond the teachers' residence, a street intersects Vilnius from the right. Past the intersection is a large three-story red brick building which is surrounded by a barbed wire fence. In the square in front of the building there are always many trucks and passenger cars, including seven or eight ZIS trucks.
- j. Kretinga garrison barracks. This is a medium sized wooden house of dark color with a porch entry. The garrison consists of about 40 soldiers and has three dogs. A guard is posted here day and night.
- k. Kretinga primary school. The school is located on the right side of the street, opposite the garrison barracks. It is a large yellow brick building with four floors and a red roof. Political seminars and Party training sessions are often held in the school. Performances of the Vilnius and Klaipeda theater groups are held here.
- 1. Red Army cemetery. Beyond the primary school on the right side of Vilnius Street is a park, about nine hectares in extent, surrounded by a fence. At the end of the park can be seen a monument about eight meters high, topped with a large red five-pointed star. This monument stands in the cemetery for Red Army soldiers killed during the war in the battles for Kretinga. Russians killed while fighting partisans are also buried here.
- m. Kretinga Agricultural School. Continuing along Vilnius Street there is another park surrounded by a high brick wall. Through a high iron gate one can see a large hothouse. Adjacent to this is a large palace, formerly the residence of the Tiskevicius family and now the Kretinga Argicultural School.
- n. Kretinga sovkhoz. Beyond the Agricultural School and past a cement bridge, a street turns to the east. Following this, one soon reaches a block of brick buildings belonging to the Kretinga sovkhoz.

Population

- 10. Although the number of inhabitants of Kretinga has not changed since 1945, the composition of the population has changed. Soon after the war, 15 percent of the Kretinga population was Russian. Later, as the result of deportations, a large number of Lithuanians left the country and were replaced by Russians and Jews from the "brotherly republics." The percentage of Jews from other Soviet republics now in Kretinga is six percent. By July 1951, Soviets of various nationalities, all newcomers, accounted for 35 percent of the population of Kretinga; the rest were Lithuanians.
- 11. Economic conditions in Kretinga are doubtless better for the Russians than for the Lithuanians. Because the Russians have had hard times for many years, they have had to turn on many occasions to friends for help, whether the friends were Russian or not. As long as they lived with the Lithuanians, sometimes under

the same roof, and could borrow from and make use of them, they were good neighbors. Generally speaking the Russians are always happy, talkative, and do not care about all the difficulties they have. Thus, whenever they see a Lithuanian depressed or with an unhappy expression on his face, they hate him and take this as a sign that he is a "bandit", a man who is not satisfied with the "glorious Soviet rule."

12. The rights of Lithuanian and Russian workers are equal before Soviet law. Lithuanian and Russian workers often drink together and exchange cigarettes, only so long, however, as the Russian does not feel that the Lithuanian is dissatisfied with his life or with Soviet oppression. One looks in vain these days for Russians or Jews who do any kind of physical labor in Kretinga or in other localities. At present they all have the best jobs as directors, engineers, brigadiers, work-norm supervisors, or at worst they are salesmen at some shop selling goods to the kolkhozniki and others.

Controls

- In Kretinga there are offices of the Military Commissariat, the secret police, MGB, MVD, passport section, People's Court, the prison with its supervisor, the prosecutor, trade section, agricultural section, rayon administration (P C K), and the health section. The militia maintains order in the streets according to the directives of the militia commander. For example, before Bolshevik holidays, militia points and patrols are reinforced and return to normal only after such a festival. Usually streets are guarded by two militiamen posted at distances of 1.5 km per patrol. On election days, patrols are reinforced to five or more men and public buildings are guarded.
- 14. Movement of inhabitants is not in any way restricted either by day or night. If a person's behavior arouses suspicion, he is stopped and asked for documents. he does not give sufficient explanation, he is taken into custody by the militia and held in a prison cell until he can explain where he was going and for what purpose.

Rail Transportation

- 15. The Kretinga railway station can be reached by walking west on Stoties Street. The old station was completely destroyed during the war and has not been rebuilt. The northern end of a nearby warehouse now serves as a ticket office, while the other part is still used as a warehouse. The ticket office is a small room with three counters. Purchased tickets indicate the number of the car that the passenger must occupy.
- 16. The platform of the Kretinga station is not surrounded by any fence. Before the arrival of the train, the platform is crowded and at least four railroad militiamen appear to patrol the platform in pairs. One of them is in charge of preventing quarrels and misunderstandings and must see that those waiting stand in an orderly line, etc.

Electricity

17. Kretings is supplied with electric power from Klaipeds. Source does not know what kind of current is provided. Bulbs of 25 and 30 watts are used; source tried to light a 100-watt bulb, a short circuit resulted. There are no electric meters in private homes or elsewhere; the amount of electric current permitted is expressed in number of bulbs. One family unit is permitted to have three 25-watt bulbs. Rates are charged according to the number of bulbs in use. Inspections often take place to see that no one uses 40-watt bulbs or in any other way violates electricity regulations. The fine for violation is 500 rubles. If this cannot be paid, the current is disconnected.

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18. Bulbs burn normally and without flickering. The current is weak until 1 pm, after which time the power increases. Most of the old bulbs become defective after this power increase. There are two types of bulbs in use: one burns for about three

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months; the other, manufactured at Vilnius, gives better light but does not last longer than two or three weeks. Kerosene lamps are used everywhere.

Marketing and Blackmarketing

- 19. The market place is the central town square. Market days at Kretinga are Mondays and Tuesdays. The kolkhozniki come to town by horse wagon or by truck. Sometimes trucks from the cooperatives of Skuodas and Klaipeda come to sell goods like stockings, sewing material, women's akirts, aprons, and shawls. The farmers sell eggs and baron. The dairymen of the kolkhozy sell butter, cheese, curdled milk, etc. Those who come on foot sell onions, garlic, apples, cucumbers, carrots, etc. Thus, additional small food items are frequently obtainable. Potatoes are scarce. At certain times when the sale of grain, wheat, and corn is prohibited, it is difficult to find out who has such for sale. Workers who want to buy these items cannot even find them on the black market.
- 20. Kolkhozniki who want to sell their produce at the market place have to pay a certain fee. The fee for a wagon with one horse is 25 rubles; that for a wagon with two horses is 50 rubles. The fee for selling products from a satchel is 5 rubles. Selling from a sack or similar container standing on the ground costs 10 rubles. Traders visit restaurants and bars near the square but also eat their meals on their wagons. They can leave town whenever they want; the market place, however, has to be cleared at 5 pm. Places in the market area can even be occupied the night before market day, since there is no specific opening time for trading.
- 21. There is no rationing in the sale of textile or food products, even though certain restrictions would be much in the people's interest. For example, a shipment of perhaps 50 pairs of shoes may come to a shop. Customers line up for hours to buy them. The first man may very well buy three pairs while another person, after waiting in line for several hours, may not get any. If there were proper restrictions, distribution would be more even and the time spent in useless waiting could be used for working.
- 22. The shortage of all products is tremendous. When, occasionally, some meters of woolen cloth are received, the Estimate Commission has to fix a price. However, the members of the commission usually buy the goods themselves. This also happens to most of the other goods like shoes, sweaters, underwear, silk material, galoshes, etc. There is no shortage of towels, poor quality material for underwear, lining, work clothes, combs, knives, buttons, sewing material, etc. It is impossible, without the use of the black market, to get sufficient material for clothing.
- 23. Black market operations flourish on a large scale in town. Main articles of speculation are materials for suits, leather for shoes or coats, new and old clothes of all qualities and quantities. Prices, however, are much too high and living off the black market is possible only for high Party officials. Chief black market operators are the wives of the istrebiteli, wives of Party officials, and individuals who have only part-time jobs. Combatting the black market is the duty of a special section of the MVD. These officials travel and guard suspected areas in civilian clothes. They watch the arrival of trains and check suitcases and packages which the passengers carry. Also, searches of automobiles and trucks entering town are made. This special MVD black market section, as well as the uniformed militia, patrols the market. Whenever it is observed that someone is selling goods which are obviously not of his own production, the person is arrested and brought to the militia station.

Political

24. The secretary of the Communist Party in Kretinga is Maciulis (fnu). The deputy of the Kretinga Executive Committee chairman is Mikalauskas (fnu).

Radio and Newspapers

25. Radio programs in Kretinga can be heard from 6 am until midnight. News from Moscow

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is followed by programs from Vilnius, reports from kolkhozy, etc. There is no local radio station. Loudspeakers carrying Soviet programs blare out in all work establishments, streets, offices, and other public places, and are a source of annoyance to Russian workers, as well as Lithuanian. Privately owned radios are mostly in Russian hands. Of the strictly Lithuanian population, some 15 percent may have private radios. Nearly all inhabitants have loudspeakers which transmit the programs from Moscow, Vilnius, and other stations. Radio sets available in shops are of Soviet type, mostly manufactured in Riga.

- 26. There is no official order prohibiting listening to foreign stations. Everyone does, however, fear being observed by agents of the secret militia, knowing that a report of such listening would result in imprisonment. Thus, no one will admit having heard any programs other then those from Moscow, music programs, or reports from the kolkhozy. The number of persons who listen regularly to the foreign news services is very small. Source believes that long hours of hard labor prevent the population from having an interest in radio listening.
- 27. The inhabitants of Lithuania watch newspapers, especially for all news about international conferences and the war in Korea.

Partisan Activities

28. It can be said that at least 70 percent of all inhabitants for Kretinga are anti-Soviet. There is, of course, no organized resistance because in the past the Soviets have reacted promptly and have killed all who tried to resist them. The same would happen to anyone organizing any resistance now. There are a few famous Lithuanian "Combattants for Freedom" who are with their people in the woods. There is no chance whatever for them to exist in town.

Employment

- 29. Directors of the various offices and installations in Kretinga can hire as many employees as are necessary to do the work, provided, however, the job openings have been confirmed by the appropriate ministry. No director can hire more workers then are indicated in the plan.
- 30. It is nearly impossible to get a new job without receiving an orderly discharge from one's previous job. Salaries are paid to employees according to the norm affixed to the job opening by the ministry plan. Workers are paid according to their actual working norms.

Typical monthly salaries are the following:

College directors - 1,200 rubles Town Deputy - 1,300 rubles

Town administrative official - 1,300 rubles

College teachers - 500 to 700 rubles Militiamen - 700 to 800 rubles - 400 to 600 rubles Istrebiteli

Senior bookkeepers- 500 to 650 rubles

- 450 rubles Cashiers

Various office employees - 360 to 500 rubles

- 350 to 400 rubles

These salaries are gross, prior to tax and other deductions. For the State Loan alone everyone has a monthly deduction amounting to 10 to 15 percent of each 100 rubles gross earnings. A family of four, even if living as modestly as possible, would require minimum of 700 to 800 rubles for the most essential needs such as housing, electricity, heating, and food.

31. Citizens who suffered from the war are not usually compensated. In exceptional cases and with tremendous difficulties, however, some compensation may be obtained. If a woman whose husband was killed as a Soviet soldier can prove with ... documentation down to the slightest detail where, how, and under what circumstances her husband was killed, and if, further, a much-detailed analysis of her

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own poor financial state has been completed, the government may grant her a small financial allowance or some aid in looking for a new room. The majority of those who really suffered from the war, however, have been deported with their families to Siberia.

Housing and Restaurants

- 32. Houses of factory workers do not differ in any way from the houses of other workmen or from those of militiamen, istrebiteli, etc., with the exception of those houses built by certain factories for their own employees. Such houses are always white or yellow in color, are built of concrete, and have several floors. They are called bendrabuciai (common dwelling houses or dormitories) and are under the jurisdiction of the factory which built them. It is possible that an artisan might have better accommodations than have militiamen, teachers, or agricultural workers. Better housing facilities are enjoyed by all those working for the Party. If a person is of particular value to the Party, he is supplied with the best housing facilities available.
- 33. There are three large restaurants in hotels in Kretinga. There are a certain number of restaurants with bad reputations which are guarded by the militia patrol of the area concerned. The patrols do not remain at these restaurants all the time but visit them occasionally.

Communications

- 34. Private telephones are very rare. There is no prohibition against having a private telephone installed, but the cost is prohibitive. The fee is 300 rubles for the telephone set and 30 rubles as a minimum monthly bill. Such sums are unavailable to the average citizen. Telephones are in offices and plants and in the homes of Party members and officials. If the average citizen must make a call, he goes to the post office and can telephone from there for a fee of one ruble.
- 35. Telephone conversations are monitored at certain intervals but not at all times. When conversations are controlled, civilian policemen visit the post offices and check who calls and who is called.
- 36. There are two kinds of telegrams in use in Lithuania: the normal telegram and the so-called zaibo telegrama (blitz telegram). The normal telegram is paid for according to the standard fees but the recipient does not receive it by special delivery. It therefore takes longer than the blitz telegram. A blitz telegram costs about 20 rubles and the recipient may receive it within one or two hours. Money orders are primarily sent by blitz telegram. A blitz money order from Kretinga to Lvov would take about six hours. The fee for money transmitted by this means is eight percent of the sum sent.
- 37. All post offices and sub-offices in Kretinga can communicate by telephone with all points in Lithuania and, via Vilnius, with other localities in the Soviet Union. Communication with other parts of the Soviet Union is, however, better completed by telegram, since telephone connections take too long to be established. It sometimes takes half a day to place a phone call from Kretinga to Vilnius.

Medical Facilities

- 38. There are two hospitals in Kretinga, one for communicable diseases and the other a general hospital for the town. In addition, there is a health section (sveikatos skyrius) and a lying-in home.
- 39. Those who can afford it obtain private medical treatment, but it is very expensive, and to find a physician who has private patients is difficult. One can visit doctors in private at their homes either early in the morning or late after working hours. It is, however, forbidden to bring a patient directly to a physician's house. In other words, only someone still capable of walking can visit a physician privately. Most persons are treated in hospitals or lie in bed at home, being visited by the physicians officially. Patients often pay the doctors something extra so that they will be more careful and sensitive in the treatment.

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40. The method of medical treatment depends solely on the state of health of the patient rather than on his social position. The physician decides whether or not hospital treatment is necessary and, if it is, the patient receives it. If hospitalization is not needed, the doctor may give the person a prescription for medicine. In cases of accident, an injured person is brought to the hospital in an ambulance and treated there until his recovery or death. A newcomer to some town who falls ill may apply for medical consultation even though he is not registered there. A visitor from Vilnius or Moscow who falls ill in Kretinga will be brought to a hospital immediately.

Religion

41. There are two Christian churches in Kretinga: one Roman Catholic and the other Protestant. Persons who go to church are laughed at by the Communists, considered unreliable, accused of being culturally backward, and accused of disloyalty to the Communist regime. Furthermore, the churches are burdened with heavy taxes. There is no antagonism among the faithful, but there is a large schism between the faithful and the Communists.