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General Information on Partisan Activity

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1. Although formerly the Lithuanian partisans moved in large groups, since about 1947 they have operated in groups of two to five men. [] All partisans have assumed names and only a very few persons know their real names.
2. In spite of the fact that deserters from the Soviet Army, escapees from deportation shipments to Siberia, and other individuals are constantly joining partisan ranks, the total number of partisans has become considerably smaller than in the early days as the result of large-scale persecutions.
3. For a dead partisan the istrebiteli receive 300 rubles, but, because they receive even more for a live one, they try to capture the partisans alive. Such efforts very often enable the partisans to escape, sometimes from apparently hopeless situations. Until 1948, bodies of partisans in Panevezys were thrown in the square next to the church on Smelyne Street, not far from istrebiteli headquarters.

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4. The underground has had its own newspapers. Sometime in 1946, [redacted] an underground proclamation [redacted] printed by gymnasium students; after the appearance of the proclamation several students were arrested and the proclamations stopped appearing. There were more proclamations later, until 1949, when they ceased completely to appear. These underground publications printed news from the BBC and propaganda to the effect that Lithuanians should resist the occupation as much as possible, should not enroll in the Party, should not join the istreibiteli, etc.
5. That the partisans have their own communications network is evidenced by the fact that members of cooperatives are attacked while on their way to a bank with deposits. Moreover, railroad stations and dairies are attacked when they have large monetary receipts on hand. When such an operation is being planned, several small groups of partisans may meet at an indicated place and, after the work is accomplished, separate and return to their hideouts.
6. The dress of the partisans is extremely varied. Very often they appear in Lithuanian Army uniforms. There are times when partisans wear MVD uniforms without insignia or with Lithuanian insignia.
7. In general, the Lithuanians approve of partisan activity and like the partisans. However, they do not like to be visited by partisans, since such visits result in repressive action by the MGB.
8. Various Lithuanian government officials and Lithuanian activists often do not exert pressure on the natives for fear of being punished by the partisans. If, after having been warned by the partisans, these officials and activists continue to carry out their activities of collaborating with the Soviet occupation and oppressing collective farm workers, they are punished by death by the partisans. [redacted] partisans in the Panevezys area punished collaborators by scratching their buttocks to the extent of drawing blood and then pouring salt on the wounds. In Panevezys a song became popular which told of the tribulations of a Communist youth who had received this method of punishment from the foresters.
9. The Lithuanian partisans have a great many difficulties because of a lack of weapons and ammunition. They have old weapons from the year 1944, the barrels of which are already shattered. The reserves of ammunition brought and hidden by the followers of General Plechavicius and other persons could not last forever; what ammunition they do have very often does not detonate and their grenades often do not explode. Formerly the partisans were able to buy weapons and ammunition from the istreibiteli and other armed forces for liquor. Now the only method for them to augment their supply of arms and ammunition is to capture them from Soviet forces.
10. The partisans also need medical supplies. In countries occupied by the Soviets it is generally very difficult to obtain good medicines; for the partisans it is almost impossible. Good camouflage clothing and foot gear are needed. The German camouflage clothing is by now worn out and torn from constant hiding in forests and swamps. Money would be of great help to the partisans.

Location of Partisan Activity

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11. Following is a list of all the Lithuanian district towns and communities known [redacted] together with an indication of the extent of partisan activity there. The coordinates given are approximate. [redacted] received this information about partisan activity [redacted]

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- a. Skuodas (56-15N, 21-32E) area - fairly many partisans
 b. Surroundings of Darbenai (56-02N, 21-15E) - many partisans
 c. Surroundings of Kretinga (55-54N, 21-14E) - many partisans
 d. Surroundings of Mazeikiai (56-19N, 22-21E) - many partisans; they published a small newspaper with radio news from London and New York.
 e. Surroundings of Priekule, Latvian SSR (56-27N, 21-35E) - not many partisans
 f. Surroundings of Telsiai (55-59N, 22-15E) - few partisans
 g. Surroundings of Siauliai (55-55N, 23-19E) - a number of partisans hiding in very small groups because many MVD units are stationed in Siauliai.

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- h. Surroundings of Kelme (55-37N, 22-56E) - uncertain number of partisans
- i. Surroundings of Raseiniai (55-22N, 23-08E) - some partisans who were very active until 1948 but now their activity is diminished.
- j. Surroundings of Panevezys (55-44N, 24-27E) - a great many partisans, especially in the raions of Ramygala and Raguva.
- k. Surroundings of Seduva (55-44N, 23-45E) - a great number of partisans
- l. Surroundings of Kedainiai (55-17N, 23-58E) - many partisans, but especially active in the raion of Lauciunava.
- m. Surroundings of Jonava (55-03N, 24-17E) - many partisans
- n. Surroundings of Marijampole (54-32N, 23-21E) - few partisans
- o. District of Alytus (54-24N, 24-05E) - very many partisans. They were very active until 1950, sometimes occupying whole communities and keeping them under their control for a whole week; they even had small tanks. After the arrival of a great number of MVD units, many of the partisans retreated to Poland.
- p. Surroundings of Ukmerge (55-13N, 24-47E) - unknown number of partisans
- q. District of Utena (55-29N, 25-37E) - a great number of partisans, especially active in the surroundings of Uzpaliai and Daugailiai. They occupied several dairies and tried also to occupy the county town Uzpaliai but did not succeed because there were too many MVD units. Before their retreat, however, the partisans shelled and destroyed the buildings of the MVD and the militia. When the partisans were informed about the movements of MVD units in the surroundings of Daugailiai, they used to mine the roads and disperse along fringes of woods, attacking the approaching units with machine guns and thus killing MVD personnel. The authority in this district changes from one hand to the other: Bolsheviks supported by MVD units control the district, but as soon as the MVD unit are withdrawn the district is occupied by the partisans.
- r. Surroundings of Anyksciai (55-31N, 25-07E) - not so many partisans because of the great number of local Russian inhabitants
- s. Surroundings of Zarasai (55-44N, 26-15E) - very many partisans, especially active in the raions of Antazave, Dusetai Baltriskiai, and Antaliepts. Their activity is very secret since there are whole villages of Russian inhabitants. The partisans can easily hide in the surroundings of Zarasai as there are many swamps and forests.

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Specific Examples of Partisan Activity

12. Following are several examples of partisan activity
- a. In 1947 a partisan leader from Vilnius reportedly visited the partisans in Zemaitija (low Lithuania), who were concentrated in the Plokstysne forest. It was said that the leader came by automobile and wore an MVD officer's uniform.
- b. In July 1947 more than ten partisans stopped a truck going from Alsedziai to Seda (56-10N, 22-05E). They rode in it to Zem. Kalvarija (56-06N, 22-00E) and, before entering the town, cut the telephone wires. The police and istreibiteli in Zem. Kalvarija fled. The partisans left the truck driver in Zem. Kalvarija and went on to a town near the road to Barstyciai (56-09N, 21-52E), where they attacked a dairy. The dairyman returned their fire but was killed by the

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partisans, who took butter and bacon and cut the belts on the dairy machinery. The truck was found the next day near Telsiai (55-59N, 22-15E).

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- c. The wife of an istrebitei with whom he had been friendly in the gymnasium [redacted] in 1950 a Vilnius partisan leader visited the Panevezys partisans. [redacted] set out with members of the Panevezys and other nearby garrisons in an unsuccessful attempt to capture this partisan leader.
- d. At dawn (date unstated) two partisans went to the railroad station in Lieplaukiai (55-58N, 22-06E). From liaison individuals they had learned that there were 25,000 rubles in the station. The persons in the stationmaster's office were told to put up their hands and the stationmaster was requested to hand over the money. This he did, and the partisans told him that as soon as they left he could telephone the MGB. Later, thirty men from the local garrison participated in the search for these partisans. The latter stopped at a farm about eight kilometers from the scene of the robbery and divided the money. Subsequently, one of these partisans was shot by the MGB and 12,000 rubles were found in his possession. The other partisan escaped.

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