

8 March 61

SUBJECT: Structure of Latvian Central Organizations
and their Relations with Other Groups
(translation from Latvian in draft)

Question
1. The Free Europe Committee (FEC) has never issued guidelines for the work of national committees, considering them independent bodies. The only request made to all national committees is to report on their activities to the FEC on a monthly basis.

It can be noted that the FEC Vice President, Mr. Ro. W. Minton (Director of Organizations and Publications) participated in the ACEN General Committee's conference on February 1, 1961. He pointed out that since the anti-Communist front has been sufficiently stabilized in Europe, more attention should be paid to anti-Communist work in Latin America, Africa and Asia. This suggestion brought up sharp debates: Members of the ACEN General Committee stressed that the centre of gravity regarding captive nations' activities is still in Europe.

Mr. Minton also mentioned the great role of Radio Free Europe with its programs in six languages. The idea exists, he said, to organize Baltic and Albanian language broadcasts in the future.

Mr. L. V. Baldwin usually participates in ACEN General Committee's sessions as observer.

Meetings were held on March 6 and 7, 1961 separately for each national committee (March 6) and then for all committees combined, including all members of the ACEN General Committee plus the heads of FEC (March 7). The FEC was represented by Messrs. B. Yarrow, R. W. Minton, L. V. Baldwin, Henry McNulty and Theodore Hunsbedt. Agenda: Establishment of closer relations between representatives of subjugated nations and members of Afro-Asian delegations at the UN.

The national committees as well as the ACEN General Committee are presently preparing the basis for Afro-Asian contacts in this perspective: To strengthen the anti-Communist attitude among Afro-Asian nations.

The recommendation to take up the above outlined activities is considered the only important suggestion made by the FEC to representatives of captive nations.

Question
2. Major aims and tasks of the Committee for a Free Latvia:

a. To follow events in occupied homeland, to evaluate them and to render appropriate information to interested persons. The Committee must maintain the position of an expert with regard to all spheres of life in the homeland.

b. To inform the free world society (directly or via Latvian exile organizations) on Communist techniques in occupied Latvia, the factual situation in the homeland as well as the general Communist threat to the West.

c. To inform compatriots at home on the true situation in the free world, especially the cultural, economic, political and other achievements in the USA and European countries.

d. To maintain the spirit of hope in the subjugated homeland and to stimulate the inner resistance of the people in Latvia, who are not forgotten by the free world; to strengthen the people's morale.

e. To maintain the national spirit in exile; to attempt to bring about general unification of all emigrants, thus concentrating all assets on anti-Communist work.

f. To fight against Russian imperialist and colonialist policies and the Russification in Latvia and other subjugated countries.

g. To cooperate closely with the Assembly of Captive European Nations

realizing that nine nations can achieve more in a combined effort than one nation on an individual basis.

The Committee for a Free Latvia prepares a special plan of action for each year.

2-a. Outline of the activities of the Committee for a Free Latvia for the year 1961:

A. United Nations.

1. Attaining of a favourable attitude towards our cause by the majority of the nations represented in the United Nations.

2. Bringing up of the Latvia, i.e. the Baltic question before the United Nations.

B. Homeland.

1. Of great importance are broadcasts in Latvian language to the homeland through the facilities of the FER.

2. Infiltration of anti-Communist literature to Latvia.

C. The Free World.

1. Strengthening of the anti-Communist morale by means of publications, radio and TV; lectures characterizing our fate as the most impressive example of Communist aggression.

2. Reminding the public of facts such as Latvia's incorporation, colonialism and Russification by submitting memos to governments of free countries as well as their organizations.

3. Approaching of local press and leading circles by Latvian exile organizations.

D. Our Compatriots in the Homeland.

1. Activation of Latvian organizations and leading circles in all free

countries to produce more energetic work on the anti-Communist front. This is to be achieved by the participation of CFL members in the work of Latvian organizations, contributions to the Latvian exile press and visiting of Latvian settlements for the purpose of delivering lectures or participation in conferences.

2. Within the frame of the above mentioned activities, also trips to other countries such as Canada, Europe and eventually Australia seem necessary from the viewpoint of collecting information.

3. The younger Latvian emigrants should be carefully selected and trained for political activities.

Question No. 3.

During 1960, greatest attention was paid to combat Russian imperialism, colonialism and Russification. Activities are being continued in the same direction, seeking better results in the future. After the Communist Party's conferences in Moscow and Riga (in the end of 1960 and beginning of 1961) much material was gathered. This requires careful evaluation and analysis as well as preparation for printing and distributing in the West. Another task is to infiltrate the Committee's material into the homeland.

Highlights of the Committee's activities in 1960:

- a. Representatives of the Committee participated in 105 international congresses and conferences.
- b. 47 formal meetings and 60 informal gatherings were attended.
- c. 43 articles, letters to the editor and other items were published.
- d. In 30 cases material for radio and TV programs was provided.
- e. 5 publications were issued; special material was sent to 31 institutions and persons.

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f. Members of the Committee participated in 156 ACEN meetings, sessions, etc.

It is believed that the Committee for a Free Latvia accomplished its tasks in 1960 satisfactorily.

This can be said about major setbacks:

(1) The pamphlet "Latvia under the Yoke of Soviet Occupation" in English was prepared for the 20th anniversary of Latvia's incorporation into the Soviet Union. The FEC did not provide the necessary funds and the pamphlet was not published.

(2) Recommendations made by the Latvian and other Baltic committees to organize Baltic sections with Radio Free Europe had no success.

Special trips abroad are still in the planning stage because of lack of funds. Trips were planned in two directions: First to Europe (this would be significant with a view to the further widening of sea transportation between Swedish ports and Riga) and, secondly, to travel in the US in order to interview Latvians who recently left Latvia and joined their relatives in this country; this plan pertains to Canada as well. It is believed that much more attention should be given to systematic informative trips. Under the present circumstances information is obtained from time to time from other Latvian organizations primarily from the "Daugavas"Vanagi".

Additional information on ACEN activities:

General Agenda for the Seventh Session (covering activities in 1961):

1. Report of the General Committee on Credentials.
2. Report on ACEN Activities during the Sixth Session.
3. Report on the Constitution of the General Committee.
4. Report on the Election of Officers by the General Committee.
5. Report on the Constitution of Working Committees and the Election of their Officers.

*Left in
a need of
a pamphlet*

6. Captive Nations Week 1961.
7. Misrepresentation of the Nine Captive European Nations in the United Nations.
8. The Question of Hungary.
9. The International Situation and the Captive Nations.
10. East-West Contacts.
11. The Conspiracy of International Communism against the Free World.
12. European Integration and the Captive Nations.
13. The Problem of Refugees from East-Central Europe.
14. Conditions of Labor in East-Central Europe.
15. Persecution of Churches in East-Central Europe.
16. Conditions and the Living Standard in the Captive Countries.
17. Agriculture, Industry and Transportation in the Captive Countries.
18. Foreign Trade of the Captive Countries.
19. Retail Trade in the Captive Countries.
20. Taxes and Investment in the Captive Countries.
21. Soviet Economic Exploitation of the Captive Countries.
22. East-West Cultural Exchanges.
23. Education in the Captive Countries.
24. Impact of Western Cultural Propaganda in the Captive Countries.
25. Exploitation of Sports for Political Ends in the Captive Countries.
26. Struggle for Freedom in the Cultural Life of the Captive Countries.
27. Measures to Safeguard in the Free World the Cultural Heritage of the Captive Countries.
28. Violation of the United Nations Charter by the Communist Regimes of East-Central Europe.
29. Legal Aspects of Recognition and Non-Recognition of Governments and States.

30. Plans for Unification of and in East-Central Europe.
31. The Present Inter-State Treaty System in East-Central Europe.
32. Criminal Legislation and the Principles of the Inviolability of Persons in the Captive Countries.
33. Freedom of Opinion and Expression behind the Iron Curtain.
34. Techniques of Communist Propaganda.
35. Western Broadcasts to the Captive Nations.

Question No. 4.

The new working plan for 1961/62 will be completed in June/July this year. All steps of major significance will be coordinated also in the future with the Latvian Embassy in Washington, D. C. and the Presidium of the World Council for a Free Latvia, resp. its Chairman Prof. P. Lejins. The cooperation with Latvian central organizations in all parts of the world will be strengthened; this pertains in particular to the "Daugavas Vanagi".

Question No. 5.

One of the most important projects aimed at supporting Latvians in the homeland is considered to be a Latvian program via Radio Free Europe. Radio Madrid as well as VoA are official broadcasting stations of the respective governments and not in the position to reflect freely the ideas and the attitude of Latvians in the West. This can be said especially considering anti-Communist and anti-Russian propaganda.

Approximately two years ago the Baltic broadcasts-problem was discussed with General W. D. Crittenberger, at that time President of the FEC, In a joint meeting, participated by all Presidium members of the three Baltic committees, Crittenberger stressed the lack of funds as the obstacle preventing the realization of Baltic radio programs.

The last discussion of Baltic broadcasts via RFE between the source and Mr. A. S. Alexander (FEC President at that time) as well as Messrs. E. Yarrow and Cl. K. Huston was conducted on June 10, 1960. The attitude of FEC representatives seemed again negative. Source is not in the position to suggest any other steps to be taken on this problem in the future.

Question No. 6.

Contacts with the FEC are maintained only through the Committee for a Free Latvia. This committee has the full support of the organized Latvian community in exile. Source considers Letts, also those who are citizens of other countries.

Question No. 7.

Source does not see any possibility or necessity to change the role of Latvian organizations cooperating with the FEC. It is an internal matter of the Committee for a Free Latvia to win over other Latvian central organizations to take part in the Committee's work. Although the Committee's effectiveness is somewhat limited because of lack of personnel, still too much is expected from this organization. Three of the six Committee members do more work on the outside: Mr. K. Dzilleja lives in Sweden, Mr. A. Berzins is employed with the FEC and Mr. V. Masens spends more time at the ACEN than at the Committee.

The only wish is to obtain more understanding and material support for the above sketched plans. Whether or not it will be possible remains a big question. The present economy drive seems to limit the possibilities of FEC at a time when anti-Communist activities should be expanded in proportion to the Communist drive against the Western world.

Question No. 8.

The structure of central Latvian organizations is shown on sheets attached.

The Baltic States Freedom Council is not a permanent institution. The Council was founded in the beginning of 1960 with the aim to publicize the 20th anniversary of Estonia's, Latvia's and Lithuania's incorporation into the Soviet Union.

The Council was composed of:

Chairman Mr. V. Sidzikauskas (Lithuania)

Deputy Chairmen - Mr. A. Berzins (Latvia)
Mr. L. Vahter (Estonia)

Members - Mr. Jaan Tiivel (Estonia)
Mr. Eduard Vallaste (Estonia)
Mr. A. Blodnieks (Latvia)
Mr. V. Hazners (Latvia)
Dr. V. Masens (Latvia)
Mr. Juris Slesers (Latvia, Chairman of the Latvian Youth Association in the US)
Mgr. Jonas Balkunas (Lithuania)
Col. Jonas Slepety's (Lithuania)
Dr. A. Trimakas (Lithuania)

Source believes that the Baltic States Freedom Council could have worked more efficiently and actively. The greatest handicap resulted from the incapability to form in time a "Honorary Council", consisting of leading American politicians and statesmen. Source suggests to reactivate the Council's work this spring in connection with the 20th anniversary of the mass-deportations from the Baltic countries to Siberia. (June 1940). This event could be widely publicized and utilized as a free world's demonstration against Communist terror in the Baltic area and the captive countries in general. Source moreover believes that the Council should be converted into a permanent institution and should elaborate a detailed program for its activities.

The Free Europe Press ignored the Baltic countries and Albania during the past years (similar to RFE). Its main publication "East Europe" analyses satellite

countries' problems only. Suggestions to include into this publication Baltic material as well have failed. The Balts will continue their efforts to change this publication's attitude.

The Baltic Institute consists of three representatives of each Baltic nationality: Mr. Alfreds Berzins (Latvia), Vincas Rastenas (Lithuania) and Victor Roosaare (Estonia). The Baltic Institute is supposed to inform the peoples of Africa and Asia about the Baltic complex. This is done with the help of special or local publications in the respective countries. Especially in the past few months, the Institute spotlighted Soviet imperialist and colonialist methods. According to source, the Institute was able to produce sufficient results.

Question No. 9.

The Latvian Section of VoA functions independently. The Committee for a Free Latvia and other central Latvian organizations made maximum possible use of VoA broadcasts in order to inform the people in Latvia about various events and developments. The last special Committee's broadcast to Latvia via VoA was performed in the beginning of 1957. Individual members of the Committee used this media from time to time also after 1957. Relations between the Committee and the Latvian VoA Section are good.

"Daugavas Vanagi" as a veterans' organization is active within the framework of all Latvian groups in the free world. Relations between the Committee for a Free Latvia and the "Daugavas Vanagi" are very close. The veterans assist the Committee in the field of propaganda and information, etc.

Source stresses that the Committee was supported by all Latvian organizations and established a good reputation. No opposition against the Committee so far has been noticed. It can be said that the Committee is trusted in occupied Latvia.

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The name alone - Committee for a Free Latvia - conveys hope and strength. The people at home learn that things are being done for free Latvia's sake. Some people in Latvia even assume that the Committee is doing more than it actually is able to perform within its set limits.

7 Incls: Information about personnel and the structure of Latvian central organizations

Incl. No. 1

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR A FREE LATVIA

1. Chairman - Vilis Hazners
 2. Treasurer - Alfreds Berzins
 3. Members - Adolfs Blodnieks
 4. Karlis Dzilleja
 5. Adolfs Klive
 6. Vilis Masens
- (Office Manager - Paulis Ramans)

Incl. No. 2

BOARD OF THE LATVIAN WORLD FEDERATION

Chairman - Mr. P. Lejins (residence - USA)

Deputy Chairman - Mr. V. Janums (Germany)

Vice Chairman - Mr. A. Berzins (USA)

" " - Mr. A. Dukats (Australia)

Members - Mr. E. Dundurs (USA)

- Mr. A. Kripens (Australia)

- Mr. J. Malitis (Sweden)

- Mr. G. Meierovics (USA)

- Mr. V. Upeslasis (Canada)

Incl. No. 3

LATVIAN DELEGATION TO THE ASSEMBLY OF CAPTIVE
EUROPEAN NATIONS (1960)

1. Alfreds Berzins - former Cabinet Minister, former MP, member of the Committee for a Free Latvia, Vice Chairman of the Latvian Free World Federation, Deputy Chairman of the Latvian-American Association, Secretary General of the Latvian Peasants Union. 121 West 92nd St., New York City, N. Y.
2. Adolfs Blodnieks - former Prime Minister, former MP, former member of the Presidium of the last Latvian Parliament, member of the Committee for a Free Latvia, President of the Latvian New-Farmers and Smallholders Party. 278 - 19th Street, Brooklyn 15, N. Y.
3. Karlis Dzilleja - lawyer, Board member of Latvian Reconstruction Committee's European Center, Chairman of the ACEN Delegation in Stockholm, Secretary General of the Latvian Soc.-Dem. Party. Eskadervägen 22/IV, Näsbypark, Sweden
4. Peteris Eglitis - lawyer, Board member of the Latv. Evang.-Lutheran Church Council 333 East 81st St., New York 28, N. Y.
5. Dr. Olgerts Grosvalds - Minister Plenipotentiary in France, member of the Latvian Reconstruction Committee's European Center. 3, Villa George-Sand, Paris, 16-e, France
6. Vilis Hazners - former officer of the Latvian General Staff, Chairman of the Committee for a Free Latvia, Chairman of the Former Latvian Army Officers Association, Vice Chairman of the Board of the "Daugavas Vanagi". 4 Summit Street, East Orange, N. J.
7. Adolfs Klive - former MP, former Chairman of the Council of the Latvian Bank, member of the Committee for a Free Latvia, President of the Latvian Peasants Union. 2317 Morris Ave., Apt. 4C, Bronx, N. Y.

8. Arvids Kripens - former officer of the Latvian General Staff, former Director of the Latvian Military Academy, Board member of the Latvian-Australian Federation. 40 Farnell Street, Merrylands, Australia, NSW
9. Roberts Liepins - former Cabinet Minister and diplomat, former Mayor of Riga, Board member of the Latvian Reconstruction Committee's European Center. 4 Elbe Str., (14a) Ludwigsburg, West Germany
10. Boleslavs Maikovskis - lawyer, Vice Chairman of the Latvian-American Association. 232 Grant Ave., Mineola, L. I., N. Y.
11. Dr. Vilis Masens - diplomat, lawyer, Chairman of the Latvian Delegation to the ACEN, former Chairman of the ACEN, member of the Committee for a Free Latvia. 2194 Andrew's Ave., Bronx 53, N. Y.
12. Dr. Peteris Norvilis - Vice Chairman of the Latvian American Association, Chairman of the Latvian Humanitarian Association. 1988 Davidson Ave., Bronx 53, N. Y.
13. Dainis Rudzitis - member of the Board of the Latvian-American Association. 18480 Fenmore, Detroit 35, Mich.
14. Viktors Upeslasis - lawyer, Chairman of the Board of the Latvian National Federation in Canada. 147 Hendon Ave., Willowdale, Ont. Canada
15. Janis Vinters - teacher, member of the American-Latvian Association, Chairman of the Board of the Latvian National Center. 104-75 114th St., Richmond Hill, L. I., N.Y.
16. Arvids Zageris - member of the Board of the Latvian-American Association. 5549 Illinois Ave., NW Washington 11, D. C.

Note: The 16 delegates are usually selected as follows:
5 delegates represent the Committee for a Free Latvia; 6 delegates - Latvian organizations in the USA; 3 delegates - Latvian organizations in Europe;
Canada and Australia have one delegate each.

Incl. No. 5

LATVIAN DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES

Europe:

London - Envoy K. Zarins (Dean of the Latvian Diplomatic Corps)

Paris - Envoy Dr. O. Grosvalds

Madrid - Envoy R. Kampus

Bonn - Representative R. Liepins

Geneva - Representative A. Skrebers

Stockholm - Representative J. Tefers

Holland - Consul General E. Pavasars

Norway - Consul General A. Wannag

Brussels - Representative K. Gulbis

Hamburg - Consul P. Apmanis

Overseas:

Washington - Envoy Dr. A. Spekke

Montreal - Consul V. Tomsoms

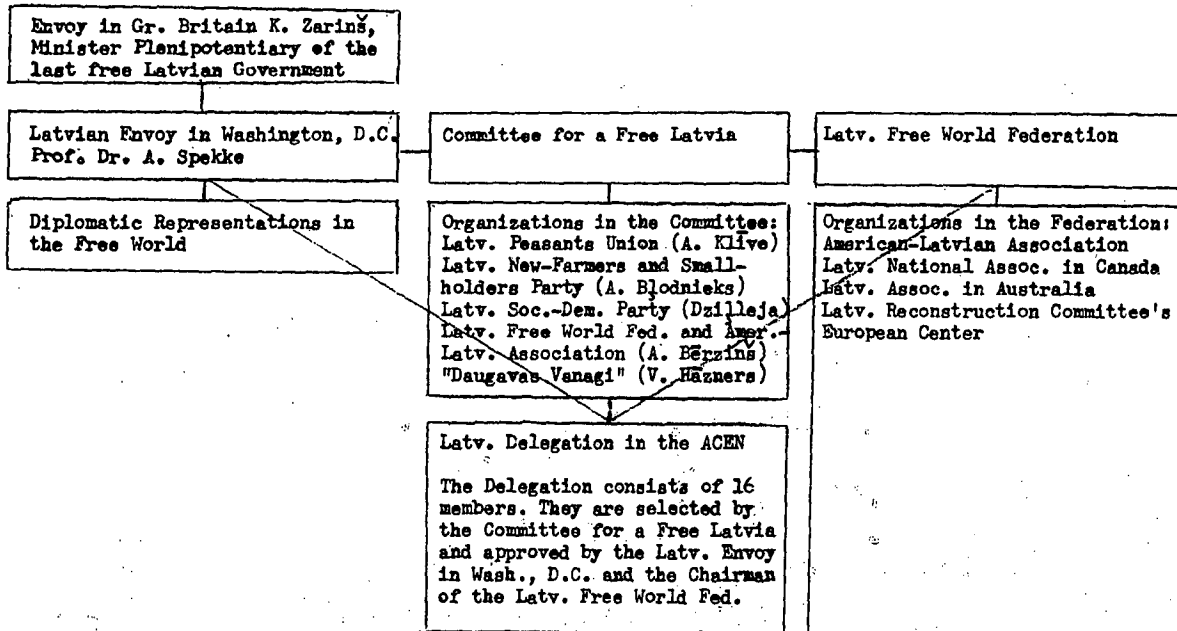
Melbourne - Consul O. Rozitis

Rio de Janeiro - Consul General Stals

Brazil - Envoy Dr. P. Olins (the Government of Brazil closed Baltic
diplomatic representations in March 1961)

Incl. No. 6

STRUCTURE OF LATVIAN CENTRAL ORGANIZATIONS



Incl. No. 7

BALTIC STATES FREEDOM COUNCIL

Committee for a Free Estonia
Estonian World Council
Estonian National Committee in the USA
League of Estonian Liberation, Inc.

American-Latvian Association, Inc.
American-Latvian Youth Assoc., Inc.
Committee for a Free Latvia

American-Lithuanian Council
Committee for a Free Lithuania
Lithuanian World Community
Supreme Committee for Liberation
of Lithuania