Translation of the Delfi .lt report at:

http://www.delfi.lt/news/daily/lithuania/tyrimu-centro-vadove-izraelio-tinklalapyje-zydsaudziu-sarase-partizanu-vadai-irasyti-be-pagrindo.d?id=37004395

Head of Research Center: Partisan Leaders Named on Israeli Website List of Murderers Without Foundation

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The names of Lithuanian partisans who fought Soviet oppression have been listed without foundation on a list of murderers of Jews on a website created by the Association of Lithuanian Jews, the director of the Center for the Study for the Genocide and Resistance of Lithuanian Residents Birute Burauskaite says.

The Association of Lithuanian Jews, located in Israel, says on their webpage that famous post-war Lithuanian resistance leaders Juozas Luksa and Adolfas Ramanauskas were also Nazi collaborators who murdered Jews during World War II.

"That list also contains the names of our partisans. After researching them it became clear that this was unjustified. They really weren't connected," Burauskaite told BNS Tuesday.

The website, www.lithuanianjews.org.il, lists around 3,000 Lithuanian residents who allegedly took part in the Holocaust. But after the Center for the Study of Genocide conducted research, it turned out that not all these people were included justifiably.

"A complete and detailed study has been started. We are attempting to create a computerized base of holocaust perpetrators as quickly as possible, to determine at least an approximate number of Lithuanian citizens who collaborated with the Nazis and carried out the extermination of Jews in Lithuania,

Burauskaite said Tuesday when presenting an account of the center's work to parliament.

She said that this work was begun in the fourth quarter and that it has already been determined that of the 1,737 names listed, 301 might have participated in the Holocaust. Over two quarters this year, 885 names on the list were studied, of which 322 could have participated in the Holocaust.

"I am not saying they were Jew-shooters, only a court can say that. There is information, however, that they could have been," Burauskaite stressed.

"If our opponents begin to criticize and say that we here are lowering that number, then next to every one of our names there must be facts recorded, documents, which battalion, which location it operated in, the structure of the battalion. We will also ask those critics to supply their proofs," the director said. "We can't approve of an a priori number and say that it is correct, if there hasn't been a study. In any event research is needed, it is too painful to throw around just numbers and names."

She also admitted that academics in studying the documents had met with new people who might have collaborated with the Nazis contributing to the extermination of the Jewish people.

"We expect, if not by the end of this year, then at the beginning of next, to be able to say something and to have a moral support when we are accused," Burauskaite said.

She said the material collected might be made public in the future. According to her, it's pointless to talk about prosecuting these people, since most of the people named are dead.

"We won't rush to publish, we will publish the activities of the structures which collaborated, and there will be the names. They will figure not as a list, but simply as the activity of those structures created by the Nazis and drawn into collaboration, what bloody deeds they did," Burauskaite said.

It is calculated that about 200,000 Lithuanian Jews were murdered during the execution of the genocidal policy during the Nazi occupational period from 1941 to 1944.