

Birutė Burauskaitė, director of the Genocide and Resistance Centre of Lithuania, claims that names of Lithuanian partisans who fought against Soviet oppression have been included without grounds on a list of killers of Lithuanian Jews, that has been published on the www.lithuanianjews.org.il website of the Association of Lithuanian Jews in Israel.

The Israeli website claims that famous post-war Lithuanian resistance leaders Juozas Lukša and Adolfas Ramanauskas were brutal sadists, and that they aided the Nazis in the murder of Jews during the Second World War. Lists with their surnames include the settlements where they committed crimes that do not fall under the statute of limitations.

“That list includes the names of our partisan leaders, - said B.Burauskaitė. - Research shows that this

CHECKING LISTS OF JEW-SHOOTERS

is not correct. They really were not connected. The www.lithuanianjews.org.il website indicates a total of 3,000 surnames of Lithuanian residents who ostensibly participated in the Holocaust. But after carrying out a study, scholars at the Centre have determined that not every individual on the list has been included correctly.”

“We have started a comprehensive and detailed study. We aim to compile, in the shortest time possible, a computer base of Holocaust perpetrators, or at least to approximately determine how many Lithuanian citizens aided the Nazis and carried out the killing of Jews”, said B.Burauskaitė in her report to Parliament on September 28, 2010, on the activities of the Genocide and

Resistance Centre of Lithuania.

According to her, work on checking the names of Lithuanian partisans included on the www.lithuanianjews.org.il website list began in the last quarter [of 2009 - ed.], and by then it had already been determined that of the 1,737 listed surnames, only 301 could have taken part in the Holocaust. 885 individuals on the list were researched during the two first quarters [of the following year], and only 322 of them could have taken part in the Holocaust.

“I’m not saying that they were Jew-shooters. Only the court can determine that. But there are facts indicating that they could have been,” - B.Burauskaitė told the members of Parliament.

“If our opponents start to critici-

se us and to say that we are minimizing the numbers, then we will include beside each name the facts - documents of which battalion they served in, which area they were active in, the structure of the battalion. We will ask those critics to present their proof, - said the director. - We cannot agree a priori to the number and say that it is correct, if there was no study. It must be researched, it is too painful to just throw about numbers and names like that.”

She also stated that in analysing documents, the scholars discovered information about new individuals who could have aided the Nazis in the killing of the Jews.

“We hope to be able to say something and to have a moral resistance when we are being accused,

if not by the end of this year, then by the beginning of the next,” - said B.Burauskaitė.

According to her, material that is collected in the future could be published. “There is no point in talking about the punitive responsibility of these individuals, because most of them are dead. We are in no hurry to publish. We will publish the activities of the structures that participated, and those will include names. They will not appear as a list, but directly as information on how those Nazi structures and the structures enlisted to assist worked, what bloody deeds they accomplished,” - stated the head of the Centre.

In carrying out the policy of the genocide of the Jewish nation in Lithuania during 1941-1944, the Nazis, with the active participation of local collaborators, exterminated approximately 212,000 Jews.

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