

APPENDIX. FATE OF 14 INDIVIDUALS ARRESTED IN ESTONIA IN JUNE AND JULY 1940

SERGEI ZARKEVICH¹⁰
(b. 1907, d. 1941)

Sergei Zarkevich was the son of a Russian Imperial Army officer. After his father's death, his mother married Aleksei Bayov. After the First World War, Lieutenant General Bayov, a former professor at the St. Petersburg Tsar Nicholas Military Academy, was a leader of the White Guards in Estonia. He coordinated the activities of many Russian organisations and ran a bookshop in Tallinn by the name of "Vene Raamat" (Russian Book) from where he distributed expatriate Russian books and periodicals. Zarkevich completed his studies at the Tallinn Russian Comprehensive Upper Secondary School in 1925 and in 1926 was exiled for political reasons to the island of Kihnu for seven months, after which he went to study in the Faculty of Law at Tartu University and belonged to the Russian student fraternity, *Fraternitas Aeterna*. After completing his studies at university in 1931, he worked in Tallinn and in 1935, when Bayov died he took over the management of the bookshop.

It is known that Zarkevich was imprisoned in Tallinn before 23 June 1940, because on that day the deputy head of the investigation department of the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration, State Security 1st Lieutenant Khorsun, drafted the order for his arrest. This was approved by the head of the investigation department, State Security Captain Kozhevnikov and sanctioned by the military prosecutor of the Leningrad Military District, Divisional Military Lawyer, Semenov, and was endorsed by the Head of the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration, State Security 2nd Grade Commissar Sergei Goglidze. On the evening of the same day, Khorsun interrogated him in Leningrad and on 24 June 1940, he was taken to the Leningrad prison. His file does not contain arrest papers drafted by the Estonian Political Police. It is possible that he was arrested directly by the NKVD task force – at this stage the take over of the political police had just begun.

Zarkevich's interrogators were mostly interested in Bayov's contacts with other White Guard organisations in Europe, but also the White Guard organisation agency in Estonia. On 29 July 1940, Zarkevich said that Bayov's anti-Soviet activities had also caused concern for the Estonian powers. In 1926, they had wanted to send Bayov out of Estonia, but the Estonian generals, Johan Laidoner, Nikolai Reek, Paul Lill, Juhan Tõrvand and others, came out in support of him. In 1928, Zarkevich himself joined the Young Russian Party (Младороссийская партия).

On 20 September 1940, he admitted that Bayov's archive was located in Tallinn, at 8 Vana-Posti Street, in the bookshop *Vene Raamat*. On 23 September 1940, the accusation against him was presented and on 22 November 1940, Khorsun compiled an accusation report. This was approved by Kozhevnikov and was endorsed by Goglidze. Zarkevich was sent before the Leningrad Military District War Tribunal, which on 31 January 1941, sentenced him to death by firing squad. His appeal was rejected by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on 22 March 1941 and he was shot on 25 March 1941.

OLEG VASILKOVSKI¹¹
(b. 1879, date of death unknown)

Vasilkovski was a General in the Russian Imperial Army. Before the First World War he served in the Cossack Life-Guard Regiment. From 1914–1916, as Major General, he was brigade commander of the 4th Don Cossack Division. In 1917, he was appointed to form the 6th Cossack Division, but remained in Petrograd without any further orders and on 20 July 1917, was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Petrograd Military District. On 25 August 1917, he retired. In 1918, he was arrested by the Bolsheviks on three occasions and in 1919 he escaped to Finland. From September to October, together with the British he inspected General Nikolai Yudenich's Russian North-Western Army located in Estonia. From May 1920, he lived in Tallinn and worked as a ship chandler. From 1924–1925, on a decision by the Estonian political police, he was sent out of Tallinn and in 1927, was arrested for hiding an activist of the underground communist youth movement, who was sent to Estonia from the Soviet Union. He spent a month in prison and then one year in Hiiumaa in exile. He was a member of White Guard organisations including the Russian Military League (Российский общевойсковой союз, ROVS, which was lead by Aleksei Bayov).

He was arrested, probably on 28 June 1940 (a political police assistant's report about the search of his apartment is dated thus) and was taken to Leningrad. On 1 July, the order for his arrest was issued, having been drafted by the deputy head of the investigation department of the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration, State Security Lieutenant Krivonogov. The order was approved by the head of the investigation department, State Security Captain Kovalchuk. The arrest was sanctioned by the military prosecutor, Semenov and endorsed by the head of the NKVD Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration, Goglidze (in general the orders for arrest made in Leningrad are all similar. Unlike the cases of the Zarkevich and

¹⁰ Sergei Zarkevitch's NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 129-28198; *Album Academicum Universitatis Tartuensis 1918–1944*, #8261.

¹¹ Oleg Vasilkovski's NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 129-28966.

Vasilkovski most of the later arrests of people taken to Leningrad were sanctioned by the deputy prosecutor of the Leningrad *oblast*, Musina).

On 9 May 1941, Vasilkovski was sentenced to death by the Leningrad *Oblast* Court Criminal Council. After an appeal, the USSR Supreme Court changed this to a 10-year prison sentence. His fate is unknown.

MIKHAIL ALEKSANDROV¹²

(b. 1873, d. 1940)

Aleksandrov completed the Pskov Cadet Corps in 1890 and the Tsar Paul Military School in 1892. From 1892–1895 and 1898–1908 he served in the 93rd Irkutsk Infantry Regiment in Finland and Pskov. From 1895–1898 he studied in St. Petersburg at the Tsar Nicholas I General Staff Academy. In 1899, he was promoted to Staff Captain and in 1904, became company commander and gained the rank of Captain. In 1905, his unit took part in the suppression of the first Russian revolution in Cēsis, Vecpiebalga and other Northern Latvian and Southern Estonian towns. From 1908–1914, he served in the 89th White Sea Regiment in Tallinn. In 1908, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, in 1912, Colonel and also appointed battalion commander. In the early part of the First World War, he fought on the Austrian front and from 1914–1916 was the commander of the 332nd Obovansk Regiment. From 1916–1917, he was the assistant commander of the Reserve Brigade in Novonikolayevsk. In May 1917, he was appointed Chief-of-Staff of the 118th Infantry Division in Tallinn, and held this position during the German occupation. In 1919, he served as adjutant to the commander of the Tallinn Russian Home Guard, Major General Wilhelm Hennings. From May to August 1919, he was the chief of the North-Western Army storehouse in Tallinn, and in autumn 1919, North-Western Army General Staff officer, after which he remained living in Tallinn. He was in reserve, and from 1933–1935 worked in McKibben's forestry company in Pärnu, after which he worked as a security guard, gave private lessons and received a pension. In 1922, he joined the ROVS. He also belonged to other White Guard associations, namely the North-Western Army Veterans, the Society for Assisting Former Russian Military Personnel Living in Estonia as well as others. In 1932, he became an Estonian citizen.

Aleksandrov was imprisoned on the basis of an order by the Tallinn commissar of the political police, Aleksander Reinson, on 11 July 1940, in Tallinn and sent to the Tallinn Central Prison. On 13 July, the prison doctor, Bruno Vahtrik, applied to have him

placed in the prison hospital. Some time between 13–22 July he was taken to Leningrad. On 22 July, the deputy head of the Leningrad *oblast* NKVD Administration investigation department, 1st Lieutenant Khorsun, drafted his arrest orders. These were approved by the head of the investigation department, Kozhevnikov, sanctioned by the Leningrad *oblast* deputy prosecutor, Musina, and endorsed by the head of the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration, Goglidze. The arrest order stated that for years he had been involved in work against the working classes, he had assisted bourgeois groups and organisations in anti-Soviet activities and was suspected of spying. Aleksandrov died on 21 September 1940 in Leningrad NKVD Prison No. 1.

ARSENI ZHITKOV¹³

(b. 1884, date of death unknown)

From 1910–1918, Zhitkov was an officer in the Russian Imperial Navy. In 1918, he was imprisoned for a month by the Bolsheviks in Petrograd, after which he escaped to Estonia. From 1920–1929 he worked at the British Legation in Tallinn as a secretary in the passport department and also had dealings with agents who were spying on the Soviet Union. When interrogated he claimed, among other things, that the British paid the Russian socialist revolutionary party, via the agents working in Estonia, approximately 100 pounds sterling a month, and that during his time at the legation, the British intelligence budget in Estonia was 3200–3400 pounds sterling a year, etc. On 9 July 1940, Vasilkovski said that he had heard that Zhitkov was a British spy even before 1914. In 1929, Zhitkov left the British Legation because of conflict with the new head of the passport department and then started work as a metal (sheet metal, tubing etc.) supplier. Zhitkov became an Estonian citizen and his file contains Estonian identification papers issued in 1935.

Zhitkov was imprisoned on 11 July 1940, in Tallinn, on the basis of an order by Tallinn commissar of political police Aleksander Reinson. He was immediately sent to Leningrad where he was placed in the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration prison on 20 July 1940. On 22 July, the head of the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration investigation department, Kozhevnikov, drafted an order for his arrest, which was sanctioned by Musina, the Leningrad *Oblast* Deputy Prosecutor and endorsed by the head of the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration, Goglidze. In spring 1941, an accusation report was compiled and Zhitkov was sent before the Leningrad Military District war tribunal. On 24 April 1941, the deputy head of the Leningrad *Oblast* and city NKGB Administration, State Security

¹² Mikhail Aleksandrov's NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-3800.

¹³ Arseni Zhitkov's NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 129-26760.

Senior Major Kuprin, wrote to the chairman of the Leningrad Military District War Tribunal asking, “[...] the tribunal, for operational reasons, to consider sentencing Arseni Fyodorovich Zhitkov, with a form of punishment which would enable us to carry out a number of necessary operative measures through him”. On 10 May 1941, the war tribunal sentenced Zhitkov to 20 years imprisonment.

The three volumes of material on Zhitkov comprise evidence of the continued interest the NKVD and NKGB had toward him. Until 1943, he was kept in prison in Leningrad, in 1947 he was ordered to Moscow where he was once again interrogated thoroughly. In 1949, he was brought to Tallinn where he was also questioned. On 10 July 1956, when Zhitkov was in Angara camp, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium committee decided, on the basis of his appeal, to release him. Zhitkov was released on 12 July 1956 and went to Stalingrad, where he was still living in 1960. To what extent Zhitkov’s claims about the activities of British agents and agents from other countries in Estonia are true and to what extent these were just clever fabrication to maintain the interest of the NKVD and NKGB and thereby ensure that he stayed alive, would need further study.

VADIM-VALENTIN KHRUSHCHEV-MAIKÄFER¹⁴

(b. 1878, date of death unknown)

Khrushchev-Maikäfer, the son of a gunpowder factory official of noble birth, was born in St. Petersburg. In explaining to NKVD investigators the reason for his later settlement in Estonia, he said that some of his great-grandparents were Estonian. In 1898, he completed the Tsar Nicholas Higher Education Engineering School in St. Petersburg and after that served in the railway battalion in Ussuriysk. In 1905, he was a member of the Socialist Revolutionary Party, was arrested and spent 1905–1909 in exile on the island of Sakhalin, where he worked as a gold miner. From 1909–1911, he served in the army again, from 1911–1914 he studied at the Liège Polytechnical School in Belgium, and from 1914–1918 he once again served in the Russian Imperial army. In 1920, he came to Estonia, was involved in astrology and worked as an official. In 1925, he was imprisoned by the Estonian political police for suspected communist activity and was released a month later. He took Estonian citizenship. In 1934, he was a member of the War of Independence Veterans League and distributed their propaganda among Russians living in Estonia. He was apparently invited by the Estonian army captain, Nikolai Trankmann to join the War of Independence Veterans Association. Khrushchev-

Maikäfer was arrested in Tallinn on the basis of an order issued by Aleksander Reinson on 11 July 1940. On 13 July, he was questioned and then sent to Leningrad, where he was questioned on 20 July. On 22 July, the Deputy Head of Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration investigation department, State Security 1st Lieutenant Tushkin drafted his arrest order, this was approved by the head of the investigation department, Kozhevnikov, sanctioned by the Leningrad *Oblast* Deputy Prosecutor, Musina, and endorsed by the Head of the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration, Goglidze. On 5 August, he was accused of providing support for an anti-Soviet international bourgeois (movement) while also belonging to a fascist organisation in Estonia (meaning the War of Independence Veterans League). At his interrogation, his connections with White Guard organisations and people spying on the Soviet Union were investigated. Apparently, the information received from him was not very important because on 16 October 1940 an accusation report was compiled and his case was sent to the NKVD Special Counsel. On 30 December 1940 the Special Council sentenced him, as a “socially dangerous element”, to 8 years at a prison camp and a short time later he was sent to Onega prison camp (*Onegalag*). The subsequent fate of Khrushchev-Maikäfer is unknown.

VALTER RÕIGAS¹⁵

(b. 1902, d. 1942)

Valter Rõigas served in the Estonian Political Police from 1925–1927 in the Tartu station as an office worker. In 1927, he completed the highest level at the Police School, and in 1927 was a political police assistant in Võru and Petseri, and then in 1928 in Tallinn, in Kuressaare in 1929, and from 1930–1936 again in Tallinn. From 1936–1940, he was a political police senior assistant in Tallinn.

Rõigas was arrested in Tallinn on the basis of an order issued by Aleksander Reinson on 15 July. He was questioned for the first time on 18 July. On 20 July, he was questioned by the investigator, Sokolovski, and on 25 July, investigators, Moisei Mamiyev and Tuha. They were mostly interested in Rõigas’ secret service work and involvement in intelligence against the Soviet Union. On 20 September, the ESSR NKVD investigation department investigator, State Security 2nd Lieutenant, Pyotr Kirilenko, presented the accusation, that while working in the political police he had for many years actively worked against the working class and revolutionary movement. Approval of the accusation was provided by the deputy head of the ESSR NKVD investigation department, Johannes Kivi. The accusation was

¹⁴ Vadim Khrushchev-Maikäfer’s NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 129-1492.

¹⁵ Valter Rõigas’s NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-10687; M. Krikk, p. 235.

endorsed by the deputy of the ESSR People's Commissar for Internal Affairs, Aleksei Shkurin. After this, besides Kirilenko, Rõigas was also questioned by Yakov Pinson, Konstantin Udalov and others. After the start of the war, Rõigas was sent to prison camp in Russia. On 16 March 1942, the State Security Sergeant Kokori, the Molotov (or Perm) *Oblast* NKVD Administration investigator, compiled an accusation report and the matter was passed on to the NKVD Special Counsel. On 15 April 1942, the Special Counsel sentenced Rõigas to death by firing squad. By this time Rõigas was already dead — he died on 20 March 1942 in Solikamsk Perm *oblast* (*Usollag* prison camp).

GUSTAV LAANEKÕRB¹⁶

(b. 1874, date of death unknown)

The Tallinn Circuit Court judge, Laanekõrb, was arrested on 19 July 1940 in Tallinn on the basis of an order issued by Aleksander Reinson on 20 July. On 26 July 1940, Laanekõrb was questioned by the (NKVD task force) investigator Bolkhovitin, who later as State Security 2nd Lieutenant became senior investigator of the ESSR NKVD investigation department. At later interrogations and in the accusation report, Laanekõrb, as a member of the Tallinn Circuit Court (he had been the head of the appeals department), was accused of passing sentence on individuals accused of participating in communist activities. The cases of Aleksander Aben and Johanna Veeberman, who had been sentenced to imprisonment for 5 and 4 years for distributing anti state leaflets in 1939, were highlighted even though they had actually been sentenced by the Military High Court.¹⁷ In the first accusation report, endorsed on 27 September 1940 (according to the Soviet Union penal code § 58-4), Laanekõrb was accused of being a judge in Tallinn for 20 years, having accused workers of revolutionary and communist activities and having sentenced them to different terms of imprisonment. On 14 January 1941, the ESSR NKVD investigation department senior investigator, State Security 2nd Lieutenant Konstantin Udalov, re-qualified the accusation, and the accusation report was endorsed on 21 January 1941 by the ESSR People's Commissar for Internal Affairs, State Security Senior Major, Boris Kumm. On 3 April 1941, a sitting of the Baltic Special Military District NKVD Forces war tribunal was held. The tribunal was comprised of regiment commissar Kabunov, 2nd grade military Technician Fokin and 2nd grade Technical Superintendent, Velichenko. Laanekõrb was sentenced to 10 years in prison. His date of death is unknown.

LUDVIG PARKAS¹⁸

(b. 1900, d. 1942)

From 1933–1940, Parkas was the head of the foreign department of the Bank of Estonia. Since he was involved in Estonian sporting associations, his arrest may have been provoked by the nationalist demonstrations during the football match between Estonia and Latvia on 18 July 1940 in Tallinn.

The order for Parkas' arrest was issued by Aleksander Reinson on 19 July 1940. On 26 November 1940, the accusation was presented by the ESSR NKVD investigation department investigator Aleksander Ukk, it was approved by the deputy head of the investigation department, Johannes Kivi, and endorsed by the head of the investigation department, Nikolai Kuzminov. He was accused of having been a member of the Defence League, in the Bank of Estonia platoon from 1927, and for having been the head the Defence League Bank of Estonia armoury from 1931. During the interrogation, through references to Parkas' trips abroad, the Italian Order of Merit given to him by the Italian envoy and contacts with foreign missions in Estonia, attempts were made to accuse him of espionage but the accusation report does not reflect this. On 2 December 1940, Kumm endorsed the accusation report. On 24 March 1941, the Acting Prosecutor of the Department of Special Issues in the ESSR Prosecutors Office, Ivan Isayev, sent the matter, at the approval of the ESSR Deputy Prosecutor in Special Matters, Sergei Nikiforov, and the endorsement of the ESSR Prosecutor, Kaarel Paas, to the NKVD Special Counsel. On 28 May 1941, the Special Counsel sentenced Parkas, as a "socially dangerous element", to 8 years in prison. Parkas died on 26 March 1942 in the village of Lesnoi in Kaiskiy region, Kirov *oblast* (*Vyatlag* prison camp).

¹⁶ Gustav Laanekõrb's NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-13416.

¹⁷ See ERA 927-1-125; court decision published in 1940. *aasta sotsialistlik revolutsioon Eestis : Dokumente ja materjale* (The Socialist Revolution in Estonia in 1940 : Documents and Materials), edited by Viktor Maamägi, compiled by V. Gussarova, H. Hartmann, E. Jaanvärk, A. Matsulevitš, A. Saarniit, H. Saarniit, Tallinn, 1960, pp. 50–52.

¹⁸ Ludvig Parkas's NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-10371; *Album Academicum Universitatis Tartuensis 1918–1944*, #4070.

SERGEI KLENSKI¹⁹

(b. 1879, date of death unknown)

Sergei Klenski completed St. Petersburg University and went to work in Narva as a lawyer. He was one of the leaders of the Russian Peasants Labour Party (Трудовая-крестьянская партия). In the latter part of the 1930s, he was a member of the Fatherland League and his job was to popularise the Fatherland League among Russians.

Klenski was imprisoned on the basis of an order from the Narva political police commissar on 22 July 1940. On 22 July, he was placed in the Tallinn Central Prison from where he was taken to Leningrad. He was taken to the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration internal prison on 27 July 1940, and his arrest order was drafted on 29 July 1940. On 9 August, the investigator of the Leningrad *Oblast* NKVD Administration investigation department, State Security 1st Lieutenant Falin, presented him with an accusation. This was endorsed by the head of the investigation department Kovalchuk. Klenski was accused of belonging to the Russian Peasants Labour Party and the Fatherland League. The interrogators were interested in Klenski's contacts in the Soviet Union and also his contacts with the Russian Peasants Labour Party working in Prague and other Russian organisations in Europe. The information gained from Klenski was probably not considered to be very important. On 8 October 1940, an accusation report was compiled and he was sent before the NKVD Special Counsel. On 19 November 1940, the Special Counsel sentenced him to 8 years in a prison camp. His fate is unknown.

It is worth noting that the Special Counsel decision was calculated from 29 July 1940, which was the time that the arrest order was drafted in Leningrad. Others arrested and taken to Leningrad were treated in the same way. The sentences of those who were in Estonia at the time of their sentencing were calculated from the date they were arrested by the Estonian political police.

ADO ANDERKOPP²⁰

(b. 1894, d. 1941)

Anderkopp was 1919–1920 a member of Estonian Constituent Assembly, 1920–1934 (1937) a member of all the *Riigikogu*, and 1st vice-chairman of the 1938–1940 *Riigivolikogu*; he had been a minister five times. From 1925–1940 he was the president of the board of governors of the Defence League, as well as a leader of several sporting organisations. In

1921, 1923, and from 1934–1940 he was chairman of the sports association “Kalev”, from 1933–1934 he was chairman of the Estonian Sports Association, and from 1934–1940 its vice chairman, in 1916 and from 1930–1940 the chairman of the Football League, and from 1920–1940 a member of the Estonian Olympic Committee.

Aleksander Reinson gave the order for Anderkopp's arrest on 22 July 1940. He was first interrogated on 27 July 1940. At the interrogation on 6 August (the NKVD task force) investigator (in subsequent documents State Security 2nd Lieutenant) Konstantin Udalov questioned Anderkopp regarding his role in the sport association “Kalev”, attempting to extort a confession that “Kalev” was a counter revolutionary organisation. On 22 September 1940 Udalov accused him of being of a leader of counter revolutionary organisations, political parties and the state, and was active in suppressing the revolution. This charge was approved by Idel Jakobson, deputy head of the investigation department of ESSR NKVD, and endorsed by Boris Kumm.

On 21 November 1940 Aleksei Shkurin, the deputy of the People's Commissar for Internal Affairs of the ESSR, and Nikolai Kuzminov, head of the ESSR NKVD investigation department, sought information about Anderkopp from the 2nd Administration (the Secret Political Administration) of the Main Administration for State Security of the USSR NKVD). The reply received on 13 December 1940 stated that “Reps”, the secret agent for the 5th Administration (the department of foreign intelligence) of the Main Administration for State Security of the USSR NKVD had reported that Anderkopp regarded the pact between Estonia and USSR as only a temporary diplomatic manoeuvre, and that in the winter of 1940 while on a visit to Finland, together with Anderkopp, the latter had, in private conversations, expressed anti-Soviet sentiments and sympathised with White Guard Finns. This report was signed by State Security Captain Shevelev, deputy head of the 2nd Administration of the Main Administration for State Security of the USSR NKVD, and State Security 1st Lieutenant Zhukov, head of the 2nd department of the 3rd Administration (Counterintelligence Administration).

On 25 February 1941 Anderkopp's case was handed over to State Security Sergeant Pinson. On 12 March 1941 Pinson compiled an accusation report which was approved by Idel Jakobson, and endorsed by Boris Kumm. At the end of June 1941 Anderkopp was sentenced to death by the Baltic Special Military

¹⁹ Sergei Klenski's NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-10142.

²⁰ Ado Anderkopp's NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-15336; *Eesti biograafiline leksikon* (Estonian Biographies), editors: prof. A. R. Cederberg (editor-in-chief), prof. H. Koppel, prof. J. Köpp, prof. A. Saareste, assoc. prof. P. Treiberg, F. Tuglas, 2nd edition, Saku, 2001, pp. 23–24 (Ado Anderkopp); *Eesti biograafiline leksikon*, updated edition, editors: P. Tarvel (editor-in-chief), H. Kruus, J. Olvet, 2nd edition, Saku, 2002, p. 10 (Ado Anderkopp).

District NKVD Forces war tribunal (consisting of Divisional Military Lawyer Goryachev, Senior Political Commissar Nikitin, and Valentin Ots, Public Assessor (who in the summer of 1940 was a member of the Peoples Home Guard, and thereafter head of the 1st division of the staff department of ESSR NKVD), the minutes were recorded by Maletski. Anderkopp was shot in Tallinn on 30 June 1941.

OSKAR SUURSÖÖT²¹

(b. 1893, date of death unknown)

Suursööt was a businessman, the manager-director of the insurance company “EKS-Maja” and the chairman of the board of directors of the Farmers Central Bank. During the early years of 1920 he worked in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and in 1925–1928 was the Commander of Harju County Defence League territorial regiment. In 1932 he was the Minister for Economic Affairs in the Jaan Teemant government, during 1929–1934 a member of the 4th and 5th *Riigikogu* and during 1938–1940 a member of the *Riigivolikogu*. During 1935–1937 he was the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Fatherland League, and in 1926–1940 a member of the Board of Governors of the Defence League.

The order for the arrest of Suursööt was given by Aleksander Reinson on 24 July 1940. On 17 September 1940 senior investigator of the ESSR NKVD investigation department, the State Security Sergeant Aleksandr Pudichev, presented to Suursööt an indictment in which he was accused of being in 1918–1919 the Commander of the Defence League 4th Battalion in Tallinn and as such, repressed revolutionary minded workers. The accusation was approved by the deputy head of the investigation department, Vladimir Markov, and endorsed by the head of the investigation department, Idel Jakobson.

On 12 February 1941 with the approval of the head of the investigation department of the ESSR NKVD, Nikolai Kuzminov, Pudichev compiled the accusation report, which was approved by Boris Kumm. On 10 April 1941 the acting prosecutor of the ESSR Prosecutor’s Office department of special matters, Ivan Isayev, sent Suursööt, with the approval of the ESSR deputy prosecutor in special matters Segei Nikiforov and the endorsement of ESSR prosecutor Kaarel Paas, before the NKVD Special Counsel.

On 28 May 1941 the Special Counsel sentenced Suursööt, as a “socially dangerous element”, to 8 years imprisonment. On 29 December 1989 the senior assistant of the ESSR prosecutor A. Kessler and head of the investigation department of the ESSR

KGB, U. Ojamaa, informed his relatives that the fate of Suursööt after that date is not known.

ADO ROOSIORG²²

(b. 1887, d. 1942)

The warrant for Roosiorg’s arrest was issued by Aleksander Reinson on 29 July 1940. On 25 September Boris Kumm endorsed the order for the extension of the period under arrest, where there is a brief summary of Roosiorg’s “guilt”: he was a large landowner, with 360 hectares of land, a 70 head herd of dairy and other cattle and 2 tractors; and he employed 16 families. He was commander of the Defence League unit at Lihula and from 1938–1940 a member of the *Riigivolikogu*. On 2 December Kumm endorsed the accusation report, where the main accusation was that Roosiorg was the commander of the Defence League in Lihula. On 7 January 1941 the ESSR Special Prosecutor of the NKVD matters Leonid Legostayev directed Roosiorg’s case before the USSR NKVD Special Counsel. On 19 April 1941 Special Counsel sentenced Roosiorg as a “socially dangerous element” to 8 years imprisonment in a prison camp. Roosiorg died on 15 August 1942 in Dolinskoye village in Karaganda *oblast* (*Karlag* prison camp).

ENDEL ARPO²³

(b. 1907, d. 1943)

Arpo was the head forester in Valga County, South Estonia. He had graduated in forestry from the Faculty of Agriculture at the Tartu University. He was a one of the leaders of the Defence League local unit.

On 30 July 1940 the senior assistant of Valga political police Jaan Madal gave the order for Arpo’s arrest, on the basis of an order by telephone from the police department in Tallinn. He was taken from Valga to the Tallinn Central Prison. The arrest was due to an informer, which is evident from testimony in his supervision dossier dated 22 July 1940. The dossier contains testimonies against him from several informers. His case differs from the aforementioned in that the penalty for the “crime” he was incriminated for, was in summer 1940 still under the jurisdiction of the Chief of Internal Security.

Arpo’s first interrogation took place on 6 August 1940. The interrogator was investigator Jakob Hait (later a Sergeant of State Security) and the interrogation took place in Estonian because Arpo was of a generation which had not learned to speak Russian at school. An excerpt from the record of the interrogation on 22 August 1940 says:

²¹ Oskar Suursööt’s NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-10120; *Eesti biograafiline leksikon*, updated edition, p. 262 (Oskar Suursööt).

²² Ado Roosiorg’s NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-10127.

²³ Endel Arpo’s NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-10100; *Album Academicum Universitatis Tartuensis 1918–1944*, #7761.

[...]

“Question: The investigation has information that you have incited rebellion against the Estonia’s people’s government and against the Red Army. Explain.

Answer: I have not incited rebellion against the government, but having looked through the candidates for the *Riigivolikogu*, I have mentioned that some of them are not adequately literate, and I did say that Ruus, the Minister for Social Affairs is too young to be in the cabinet. A couple of days later, after the elections, I did say it was improper that the opposition candidates were taken down.

When the Red Army arrived in Estonia I commented that the clothing of the troops is of poor quality, that the tanks are not in good order, and that the military units are inferior to the units in the Estonian army.

The arrival of the Red Army, an army of a foreign power, who has invaded Estonia by force, has caused me deep sorrow.”

[...]

Arpo was accused of not voting at the ESSR *Riigivolikogu* elections in July, even though he had been repeatedly urged to do so. On 26 September the following accusation was put forward by Hait, approved by Idel Jakobson, and endorsed by Boris Kumm: “display of hostility towards Soviet authority” sedition against the Red Army and the people’s government of Estonia.” On 6 December 1940 Hait complied the accusation report, this was endorsed by Nikolai Kuzminov and Boris Kumm. On 8 March 1941 the Special Counsel of the USSR NKVD sentenced Arpo, for anti-Soviet activity, to 8 years imprisonment in a prison camp. He died in Vorkuta on 24 April 1943.

RICHARD VEERMAA²⁴

(b. 1901, d. 1942)

Veermaa was between 1925–1935 Deputy Commander of Võru County Defence League and 1927–1935 lawyer in Võru. 1935–1938 he was the director of Police Administration in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and 1938–1939 the Minister of Internal Affairs. 1926–1934 (1937) he was a member of the three *Riigikogu*. The warrant for his arrest was given by Aleksander Reinson on 31 July 1940. His first interrogation took place on 1 August, the interrogator showed special interest in his involvement in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, in police and as the Minister of Internal Affairs. On 28 September the ESSR NKVD investigation department investigator Yakov Pinson presented, with the approval of Idel Jakobson and the endorsement of Boris Kumm the indictment against Veermaa: he was Police Director and Minister of Internal Affairs, his work was anti-Soviet and anti-communist, he supervised the work of the political police, organised the recruitment of agents for activities against USSR. From 28 September 1940 to 16 April 1941 this case was being investigated by State Security Sergeant Filipenko, a senior operative in the counterintelligence department of State Security Administration of the ESSR NKVD, after that the case was again passed to Pinson. 9 May 1941 the head of ESSR NKGB investigations department, Nikolai Kuzminov, attempted to interrogate Juhan Sooman and Konstantin Kirsimägi, who had been taken to Moscow, in connection with the Veermaa case. On 24 May 1941 despatched the Assistant Head of the USSR NKGB Investigations Department, State Security Captain Rodos to Estonia the copies of minutes of Sooman’s interrogations to Estonia. On 29 May 1941 Pinson compiled the summary of accusations. After the beginning of war Veermaa was taken to Russia, he died 19 February 1942 in Solikamsk in Perm *oblast* (*Usolag* prison camp).

²⁴ Richard Veermaa’s NKVD interrogation file, ERAF SM 130-3432; *Album Academicum Universitatis Tartuensis 1918–1944*, #3641.