

British Military Mission.

VILNA.

WARSAW.

18th August, 1919.

1585/92

I am able to confirm reports regarding the composition and intentions of the LIEVAN Forces in Lithuania.

The force is nominally commanded by Prince (?) LIEVAN, late Colonel in the Russian Army.

He has with him, at least 1500 Russians, ex-prisoners of war in Germany, and 3000 Germans, the whole in German uniforms with Russian badges.

The officer actually in command of the Russians, is Colonel VYRGOLICK.

They have with them, artillery and machine-guns.

It was given out that they intended to proceed to the ARCHANGEL front, but this proved to be incorrect.

Their present whereabouts is SCHAVLI-KURSCHANY districts.

They are moving up the line towards KOVNO and are in the KIEDJANY area.

They have been financed as follows:-
17 million marks from German Government sources, and 29 million marks from German commercial houses.

They asked the Lithuanians for part of the line opposing the Bolshevicks, but were refused, and further requested to leave Lithuania.

They help themselves to all they need, and try to compel Lithuanians to join them, urging that they have common interests, ie., to fight the Bolshevicks.

There seems little doubt that their true motive is to assist the Bolshevicks, in fact, one of their less discreet Officers informed a Polish agent, believing him to be Lithuanian, that they were going to help the Bolshevicks against the Poles, and when they had raised sufficient Russians they meant to make things unpleasant for the Entente.

The first part of this report I can vouch for, and have little doubt that the intentions of this force, is detrimental to the interests of the Entente.

Signed. H. B. Mockett. Major.

British Military Representative.

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WACZELNE BOWODZTWO WOJSKOWE
ADJUTANTURA GENERALNA
WARSAWA

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