Lithuania's form of Holocaust denial: "The Jews were the murderers"

BY JOSEPH A. MELAmed

Special to the Intermountain Jewish News

THE LITHUANIANS

The Lithuanians were among the Nazis' cruelest collaborators

The committee's composition did not earn it much esteem around the world... The Lithuanians realized this, they decided to contact Yad Vashem and ask to be included. This was a highly respect ed institution in the international arena... They had so much power, that the committee, and additionally attract other important personalities to join as well.

Upon gaining independence, and despite their hate of the Soviets, the Lithuanians continued with the Jewish issue... The Lithuanians deliberately invited the Nazis and Soviet periods in order to legitimate the Lithuanian version of the “symmetry” between the two regimes.

When we look back at the Lithuanians' conduct in this regard, we cannot but reach the conclusion that they planned their actions in reverting to their murderous image — step by step, ruse by ruse.

For example, the “Inter national Committee” to construct a defensive strategy that would divert the accusations away from them onto the Germans and Soviets by introducing the idea of the “two genocides” and by holding the Front Line of the day.

The International Committee generated material to be used by the Soviets as a means of locating the mark of Cain for their horrifying crimes against the Jews. The Lithuanians' purpose was to “evaluate the events of the Soviet and Nazi period, namely 1941-1944.” The Lithuanians deliberately invited the Nazis and Soviet periods in order to legitimate the Lithuanian version of the “symmetry” between the two regimes.

When we look back at the Lithuanian government at the outset of the 1940s, they wanted to cooperate with the Nazis in an attempt to eradicate the Jews... The Lithuanians deliberately invited the Nazis and Soviet periods in order to legitimate the Lithuanian version of the “symmetry” between the two regimes.

The “experts” published 18 books, out of which 17 dealt with the murder, exile and atrocities allegedly committed by the Soviets. Only one book covered the relations between the Lithuanians and Jews during the WWII, and it contains many inaccuracies and inexactitudes.

The Lithuanians were successful in introducing an amount of utterly false material into the readers' minds, and the material

Lithuania proposed the theory that Jews killed the Lithuanians

A few steps away form the “two genocides” idea. After filling 17 books with accusations against the Soviets who had allegedly deport ed, murdered, raped and abused them, etc., they were now “certain” that the Soviets had committed genocides.

If this was so, then they had their own genocide. Genocide was no longer exclusive to the Jews. They didn't care that the Soviets had done it to their people (they had done it). True, the Soviets, especially under Stalin's regime, had a murderous government. It murdered and deported, but this was done not only to the Lithuanians but also to the Poles, Czechs and Yugoslavian peoples, to name a few. They murdered more Jews than Lithuanians, by the way. But this was a crime, not genocide.

I am certain that the Lithuanians understand this very well. But the “two genocides” version is dear to their hearts, allowing them to become “victims” just like the Jews. If not, why are they becoming “victims”?

The Prague Declaration
despite the illegality in the Jewish activity, they persisted and even found those who would share their opinions, mostly nations with their own “cans of worms” in the Balkans, in Estonia, but also some“humanes” peoples like the Czechs.

Then, in May 2008, people mostly from Eastern Europe assembled to discuss these issues. On June 3, the Prague Dec laration was published, signed by some 20 personalities who had participated in the convention.

It asserts, inter alia, “the crimes of communism are equivalent to the Nazis' crimes.”

Joseph A. Melamed