

From an article about Lithuanians in DP camps by Frank Passic and Steven A. Feller:

"Two distinct themes emerged regarding the "repatriation" of DPs, most of whom were housed throughout the western zones of Austria and Germany. First, many Jews who survived the Nazi holocaust wished to migrate to Israel, then known as Palestine. However, the British Mandate allowed only 1,500 Jews to enter Palestine each month, thus delaying the relocation of Jewish DPs.

"The control of Jewish DP camps rested with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (AJDC) which, although organized in cooperation with UNRRA, encouraged migration to Palestine.

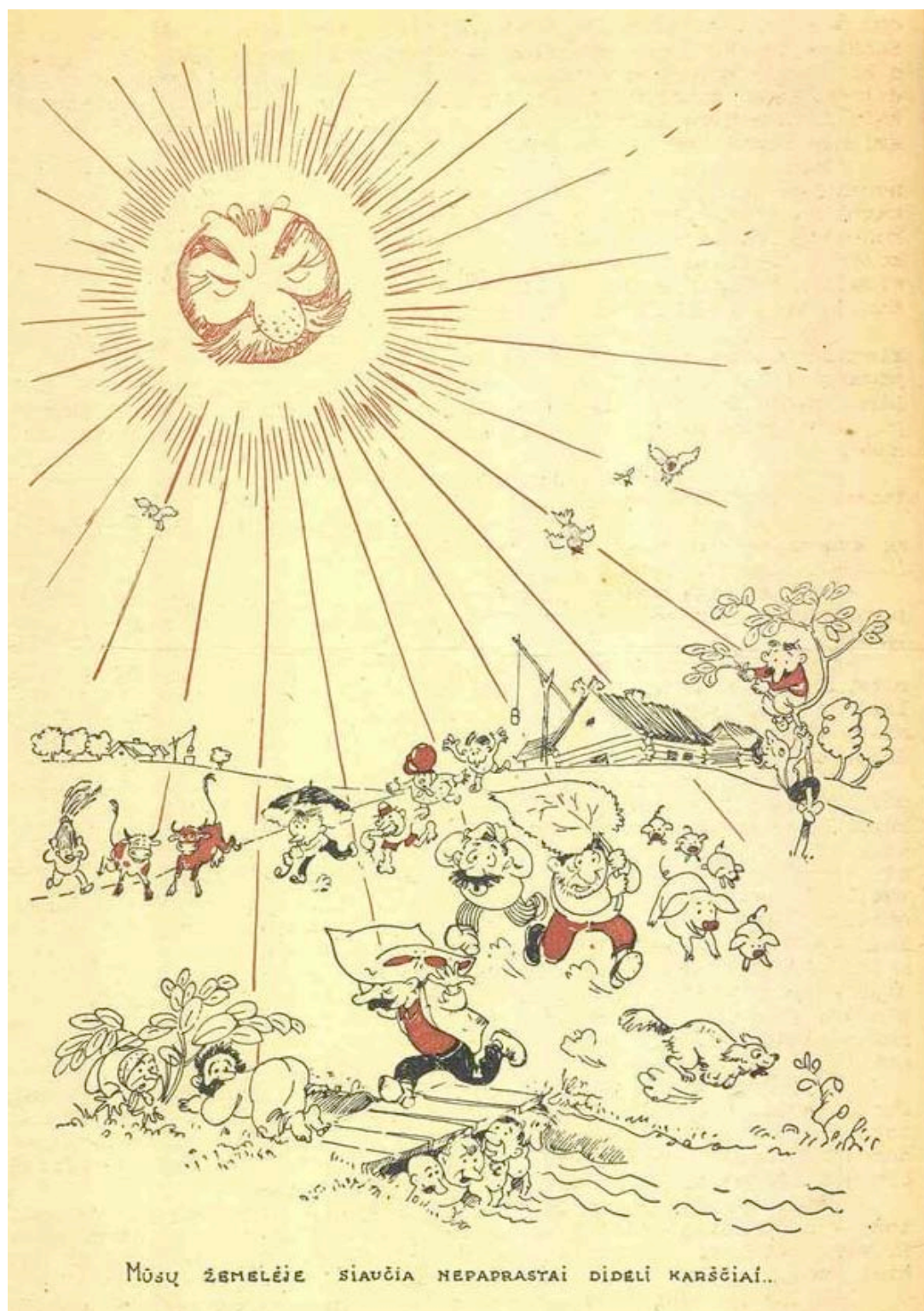
"Second, while the Jewish people knew where they wanted to be relocated, Eastern Europeans, particularly Lithuanians, had definite ideas about where they did *not* want to relocate. When the Nazis retreated from Lithuania in 1944, thousands of Lithuanians fled their country in advance of the occupying Soviet army, knowing of the terror to come.

"By the end of the war, roughly 70,000 Lithuanians had made their way into Germany and Austria. At first, the Allied powers thought these people took up residence in western Germany against their will and that they would prefer to return to their homeland, but such was not the case.

"The Allies, including the United States initially accused Lithuanian DPs of being former Nazi sympathizers. They later realized that the actual reason for their reluctance to return to their country was based on the fact that because they witnessed the Soviet annihilation of Lithuania in 1940-41, they certainly would be executed or deported to Siberia if they set foot on their native soil. Still, to the horror of many, some were forcibly sent back by the Allies, never to be heard from again.

"Accordingly, suspicion and distrust ran high in DP camps housing Lithuanian refugees. A large percentage of the inhabitants were professional--physicians, engineers, jurists, teachers, public officials, artists and clerk--and would have been targeted instantly by the Soviet occupational regime if they returned home."

"Gradually, western nations accepted the reality of the situation and opened their doors to large numbers of immigrants from DP camps. Many DPs made their way to new lives in the US, Canada, Australia and Great Britain,"



http://www.lithuaniaworld.eu/images/Userfiles/In_our_land_there_is_still_Big_Heat.jpg

The caption translates: “In our land there is still Big Heat”

Lithuanian DP's – Group 4

Name _____

1. What part of Europe is Lithuania located? _____
2. Why did some many Lithuanians flee their country? _____

3. What did the Allies accuse the Lithuanian DPs of? _____

4. Why did the Lithuanian DPs not want to return home? _____

5. Where did many of the Lithuanian DPs eventually settle? _____

6. Describe what you see in the cartoon. Who does the face in the Sun represent? What do you think the artist is trying to show? What does the caption mean?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.