



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) yesterday ordered Boleslavs Maikovskis deported from the United States. The BIA reversed the decision of Immigration Judge Francis J. Lyons of New York City, holding that Maikovskis could stay in the United States.

Neal M. Sher, Director of the Office of Special Investigations, in announcing the decision stated that Maikovskis served as a Chief of Police in the city of Rezekne, Latvia during the World War II Nazi occupation of Latvia. The BIA found that Maikovskis' police force acted in concert with the German police in carrying out Nazi policies in occupied Latvia.

The BIA held that, in his position as police chief, Maikovskis personally assisted the Nazis in the persecution of innocent civilians. Specifically, Maikovskis admitted and the BIA found that he gave orders to arrest all of the inhabitants of the village of Audrini, and to burn down the entire village. All of the inhabitants of the village, 200 to 300 men, women, and children, were later shot, most of them in Maikovskis' police precinct. Maikovskis' role in the destruction of Audrini was also established by documents that the Justice Department obtained from the U.S.S.R. Maikovskis admitted the authenticity

of a number of these documents, after first having claimed that they were forgeries.

The Germans awarded Maikovskis the Iron Cross, 2nd Class, with swords, for his service to the Nazis.

The BIA also found that Maikovskis had lied about his World War II employment when he sought to obtain a visa to enter the United States. Maikovskis had claimed that he was a bookkeeper in Latvia, concealing from U.S. immigration officials the fact that he had actually been the Chief of Police.

Immigration Judge Lyons had ruled that neither Maikovskis' lies about his World War II employment nor his role in the destruction of the village of Audrini should result in deportation. The BIA reversed the Immigration Judge on both of those issues.

Maikovskis was born in 1904 in Latvia. He was admitted to the United States in December 1951.

The case against Maikovskis was tried by Jeffrey N. Mausner of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations.

The decision of the BIA in the Maikovskis case was released on the same day that Archbishop Valerian Trifa was deported from the United States for his participation in the persecution of Jews in Romania. These two cases establish the continued resolve of the Justice Department to remove Nazi criminals from the United States.