

**INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE CRIMES OF THE  
NAZI AND SOVIET OCCUPATION REGIMES IN LITHUANIA**

**The Nazi Occupation of 1941 – 1944. The Holocaust and Other Nazi Crimes.  
The Persecution of Non-Jews**

**Lithuanian Roma During the Years of the Nazi Occupation**

**CONCLUSIONS**

*(Approved on 19 June, 2002)*

1. The greatest responsibility for the persecution, deportation, and mass annihilation of the Roma people (the Gypsies) falls on the National Socialist occupation regime in Lithuania, above all on the SS and SD.
2. Those Lithuanian Roma who lacked a permanent place of residence were considered antisocial, politically unreliable and socially useless elements and, as such, were to be isolated from society.
3. The Roma were arrested, gathered at places of detention and escorted by the Lithuanian auxiliary police.
4. When the Third Reich occupied Lithuania, repression against the Roma was initiated after the mass shootings of Jews had already taken place. Mass arrests began in the summer and fall of 1942. However, there were villages near the German border where Roma people were shot during the first weeks of the war.
5. The Roma to be deported were lodged temporarily at police detention cells or prisons, then sent to the Pravieniškės labor camp which served as a distribution point. Later on, they were transported for work to the Stuthoff and Buchenwald concentration camps, the Brandenburg airplane factory in Germany, as well as the Boiling, Faring, and Versailles camps in France. At the end of the war part of the Roma were brought to mass extermination camps in Europe, then under Nazi occupation. Approximately one thousand Roma were deported from Lithuania to Germany and occupied France.
6. Most of the Roma were executed at the Pravieniškės camp. It has now been determined that, in one action alone, fifty Roma – small children and old people – were gunned down as unfit for physical work. There were also killing places in the Šalčininkai District, near Kirtimai – Porubanka. The Killings of Roma took place at the Ninth Fort in Kaunas and Paneriai as well. A estimated total of five hundred Roma were killed during the Nazi occupation of Lithuania.

Chairman

Emanuelis Zingeris

Executive Director

Ronaldas Račinskas